

Support PDK



PDK Membership Newsletter

Notes from Josh's Desk

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving; I made my annual trek to Brooklyn where we saw lots of old friends and family. Below are some links to recent media appearances I've made. In addition to all of the great work the team is doing, I've been trying to get out there and weigh in on current issues. In addition to the links below, I'm giving a few presentations this month which include:

- NCUEA Annual Conference: a workshop on using the poll results to drive local conversations and a general session speech on the Architecture of Equity.
- NCES conference: presentation on the poll.
- NY Ed Tech week: moderating a panel on tech in the K-12 space.

Throughout this week, I will be guest blogging on [Rick Hess's Ed Week blog](#). I have recently been on the [Kojo Nnamdi show](#) and was on [Fox 5](#). I wrote an article for the Aspen Institute, "[Taking SEAD to Scale: The Educator Perspective](#)."

As this will be our last communication for the year, I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year.

Our CFO for the past 7 years, Cathy Ruf, is leaving PDK. We wish Cathy the best during her next endeavor.

Past PDK President (1997-1999) and current Director of Development, James Fogarty has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2016. Jim has been a part of the PDK fabric for many, many years and has contributed greatly to our efforts. I know I speak for everyone in saying that I can't thank him enough for his service.

We received word that Ray Tobiason, PDK Past President 1981-1983, [has passed away](#). A celebration of his life was held on December 11th.

Joshua P. Starr, CEO PDK International





THE GRADE

A closer look at education news

ALEXANDER RUSSO

Starting this week, THE GRADE, will be published in partnership with PDK International.

For 2017, THE GRADE is being funded through grants and awards from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, and the Collaborative for Student Success. THE GRADE retains complete editorial control.

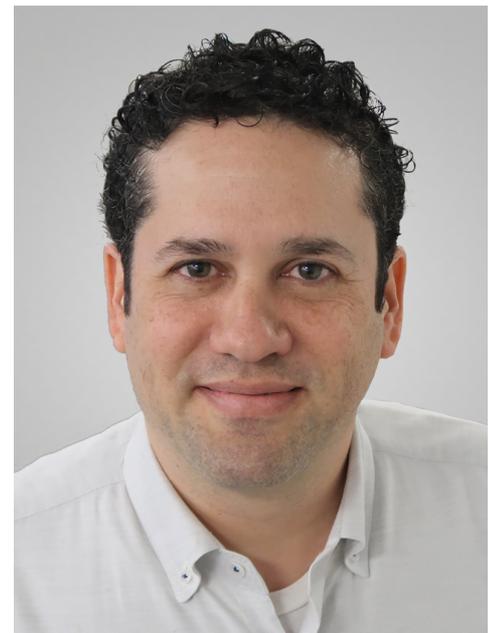
Now hosted at KappanOnline.org.

New Kappan managing editor

Rafael Heller, a longtime writer and editor based in Washington, has joined [Kappan magazine](#) as managing editor/content.

"Rafael brings a great depth of knowledge about education and impressive skill in both writing and editing to Kappan. I've been familiar with him and his work for many years, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work closely with him as a colleague at Kappan," said Joan Richardson, Kappan editor-in-chief.

Heller has a bachelor's degree in English from Oberlin College, a master's degree in teaching and curriculum from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and a Ph.D. in English and education from the University of Michigan.



Educational Partnerships

Southbridge Public Schools— On November 29th, Gislaine and Josh were in Southbridge working with the Superintendent, her cabinet and the high school administration on several areas of leadership, including the refinement and testing of the system's Theory of Action.

Huddle Up: Kansas City— On December 6-8, Gislaine and other members of the Huddle Up leadership team will be in Kansas City facilitating a series of conversations with leaders, teachers/staff, parents and community partners on the topic of trauma and mental health.

Huddle Up: Baltimore City — Two weeks ago, we were able to come to agreement with the Baltimore County Public Schools on the two schools that will be a part of the Huddle Up work this year.

Harvard Graduate School of Education — PDK has partnered with the Harvard Graduate School of Education to leverage the expertise and skills of 25 education leadership doctoral students to provide support for five identified problems of practice we would like to accelerate progress around. We are excited about this mutually beneficial partnership because it provides us with much needed capacity while giving the doctoral students tremendous learning opportunities. The problems of practice we have selected fall under several of our primary programs and services: organizational/ business development, Educators Rising, the PDK Poll, S3, and Kappan/knowledge publication. The work will span 6-8 weeks and will culminate in the production of deliverables that we hope will help accelerate progress in our work.

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Educators Rising Micro-credentials

Educators Rising, powered by PDK International, is a national network that supports high school-based teacher pathway programs that provide students with opportunities to learn more about the teaching profession and gain hands-on experience through clinical internships. As our rising educators develop teaching skills, they deserve recognition for their growth. Micro-credentials (or digital badges) are competency-based recognitions that students can earn to boost their résumés and showcase their growing skills. To earn a micro-credential, students submit portfolios of artifacts — such as classroom videos, work they produce in their internship, or project plans — that demonstrate their competence in a particular skill.

In January 2017, Educators Rising will debut five [Educators Rising micro-credentials](#) focused on:

- Classroom culture
- Collaboration
- Anti-bias Instruction
- Learner Engagement
- Formative Assessment

Learn more at <https://www.educatorsrising.org/what-we-offer/micro-credentials>.

If you would like to share your story as an educator, email CEO@pdkintl.org, subject line "My Impact on Education."

We want to know your plans! Please send chapter communications, newsletters, or yearly agendas to CEO@pdkintl.org or mail to 1525 Wilson Blvd, Suite 705, Arlington, VA 22209.



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