

February 2017

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Support PDK

PDK Membership Newsletter

Notes from Josh's Desk

Happy Valentine's Day! I hope each of you get to take a moment with the people you love. I think taking small moments to enjoy, will help us get through this tumultuous time in the United States.

As 2017 unfolds, the team has been working hard to meet our strategic goals. I'll be making some speeches and presentations during the next few weeks, including:

- WT Grant foundation event on Democratizing the Evidence Movement in Education
- Magnet Schools of America annual policy conference
- UC Berkeley event on Social Emotional Learning
- Three events at AASA:
 - Thought leader session on systems change
 - Educators Rising
 - Invitation only dinner hosted by American Reading Company featuring me and Pedro Noguera

You may have seen my comments in the [Washington Post](#) and the [Atlantic Monthly](#) regarding the turmoil surrounding the DeVos nomination.

Joshua P. Starr, CEO PDK International

PDK Scholarships

The 2017 PDK Scholarship Program Application is now open and will close on April 1st. Those interested in becoming volunteer scholarship readers please contact Katrina Breese, Sr. Director of Development and Engagement at kbreese@pdkintl.org

Kappan 2017-2018 Themes

Kappan has just published its themes for the 2017-18 volume of the magazine. You can find those at kappanonline.org. We will be doing a lot of outreach to share these with potential writers. We invite you to distribute this through your networks as well.

9 days in Germany with PDK

The journey begins July 7, registration opens Feb. 15



Educational Partnerships

Southbridge Public Schools — Gislaine and Josh visited schools with the Superintendent to work with and learn from Principals and their instructional leadership teams. We focused on the implementation of the action plans that were started during our visit in December. The next step is to engage the Superintendent in a robust design process that will enable her to refine and lay out her vision, expectations, structures and processes based on emerging learning and assessment of how the work is currently unfolding in schools.

Huddle Up Kansas City — Gislaine and Josh worked with the Kansas City Huddle Up schools to implement a set of activities in observance of the National Day of Racial Healing designated by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (Huddle Up financial sponsor). The Huddle Leadership Team also continued efforts of using human-centered design to engage stakeholders at multiple levels.

Harvard Graduate School of Education — We hosted and engaged 25 education leadership

doctoral students from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in a deep dive of 5 problems of practice. The students are now collaborating with their assigned PDK leaders and other parties to recommend solutions. Deliverables are due at the end of March; findings and updates will be shared.

Emerging Partnership with AESA — We are currently in the process of exploring the possibility of a partnership with the Association of Education Services Agencies (AESA). AESA approached PDK at the conclusion of our January 19th event Bridging the Divide: A Convening of Advocates for Public Education. The purpose of the event was to create a space where individuals could come together to engage in difficult but necessary conversations about the future of public education in our nation. AESA has elevated equity, inclusion and social justice as guiding tenets for their work in the upcoming year(s). Given these shared values, we are excited to explore potential partnerships.

Career Confidential

Kappan has added another blogger to kappanonline.org. Phyllis Fagell, who is a school counselor in suburban DC and also blogs at the Washington Post, is writing [Career Confidential](#). In Career Confidential, she will answer questions about work when the school is your place of work. Why? Because kids aren't the only ones who come to school every day. The adults working in schools have their own unique challenges. And not all of them are related to students. How do you navigate the rocky shoals in the relationships between adults in the building, between educators and parents, between educators and the community? How do you balance work and family issues? How do you decide when a new career option is right for you? Anyone can submit questions to her at careerconfidential@pdkintl.org. *All names and schools will remain confidential. No identifying information will be included in the published questions and answers.*



Chapters Call to Action

We want to recognize active chapter each month in the membership newsletter. If you would like your chapter to be recognized, please have your President submit a proposal to CEO@pdkintl.org and include a brief explanation on what your chapter does and any other materials, like newsletters.

New Vehicle Donation Program: PDK now provides another convenient way to support our work. Those interested in donating a vehicle can visit pdkintl.careasy.org or call 855-500-RIDE. Since the program began about a month ago – we have already received 3 vehicle donations.

AmazonSmile: During the holiday season PDK began its participation in AmazonSmile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations selected by its customers. To participate: visit smile.amazon.com and select Phi Delta Kappa International as your charity of choice. To ensure your purchases are counted, make sure you visit smile.amazon.com every time you make your purchases (rather than just www.amazon.com)

Educators Rising

Membership—Educators Rising membership continues to climb, with 28,506 members and students of color comprising 50% of membership.

Candidates for National Student Office—Tamir Harper (PA), Abigael Dillon (TX), and Lennon Audrain (AZ) are candidates to be 2017-2018 Educators Rising National Student Officers. A national online election for all Educators Rising student members will take place in April.

Membership Task Force

The second PDK Membership Task Force call happened on February 9, we are still looking for interested members to participate. The task force was tasked with looking at what young members wanted in a PDK membership, results were discussed. If you are interested in joining the task force, please email Nicole David at ndavid@pdkintl.org.

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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