TOGETHER
WE’RE GROWING AND CONNECTING EDUCATORS

IMPACT REPORT 2018-2019
TOGETHER

WE’RE GROWING AND CONNECTING EDUCATORS

Established in 1906, PDK International supports educators throughout the arc of their career, from guiding young people on the path to becoming accomplished educators, to supporting leaders and academics who seek to leave a lasting legacy. Through our programs, we’re working to elevate and change the narrative about public education, inform the national discourse, and bridge research and practice. Our core values are grounded in social justice and equitable access to a high-quality education for every child.

PDK International and the PDK Educational Foundation thank each of you who, over the organization’s rich, 114-year history, has worked together with us to engage educators and strengthen schools, so that all students thrive.
PDK AT A GLANCE

PDK International is a social sector organization for public educators who are committed to improving schools so that all students thrive.

OUR VISION

We envision an American public education system where students are supported by exceptional educators who know why they do what they do (what motivated them and what their story is), what they have done that has led to successes and failures, and the research and practices that can be applied to their current context.

OUR MISSION

To help educators acquire the knowledge and skills to bring about equity and excellence within their classrooms, schools, districts, and communities.

OUR CORE VALUES

Social Justice

Engagement

Excellence

Results

GROWING AND CONNECTING EDUCATORS

A REFLECTION FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

In 2018-2019, PDK International made great progress toward our mission, and we could not have done it without the support of our amazing Educators Rising, Pi Lambda Theta, and PDK Association members, friends, and donors. In this report, you will read stories about eight outstanding ways that we are working to grow and connect educators, with your support.

I, personally, continue to grow with the organization, and I know that my story is not uncommon. I joined PDK when I was a graduate student at Saint Louis University. I became a newsletter editor for my local chapter, was named an Emerging Leader, became an area director, and then ultimately, the president of my chapter. PDK became the place I would go to ask questions, network with others, and keep abreast of issues and trends in K-12 education. Even though many of our members, including me, no longer belong to a local chapter, PDK is still my “go-to place” for all things education. The publications are fantastic, as is the opportunity to network virtually, in my state, and at the national conference each year.

PDK has been around for more than 100 years, and I want to ensure it will be around 100 years from now. Contributing to the organization ensures its legacy, allowing us to continually strengthen PDK and its benefits for educators nationally, and even globally. In a world where it is sometimes easy to maintain the status quo, PDK challenges me and other educators to be the best we can be and face difficult situations in the classroom.

If these stories inspire you, we invite you to connect with us. Together, we can grow and achieve more than we ever could alone.

Regards,

Angela L.E. Walmsley, PhD

Dr. Angela L.E. Walmsley
Board Chair, PDK International
PDK Member since 2000
EDUCATORS RISING cultivates highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path to becoming accomplished teachers, beginning in high school. As a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO), Educators Rising offers resources and opportunities that integrate directly into the academic programs of “teacher academy” career and technical education courses at the high school level. With official affiliates in 27 states and regions and a network made up of more than 43,000 students and more than 2,400 schools, we are helping school districts build a pipeline of diverse, passionate educators.

Daisy Boyar is a senior at Rio Rancho High School in New Mexico who is eager to begin her career in teaching because she knows that all it takes is one good teacher to make a difference in the life of a student. Listening to 2018 National Teacher of the Year Mandy Manning’s speech convinced her to become a high school ESL teacher, and hearing from educator and author José Vilson, a 2019 conference keynote speaker, inspired her even more.

“THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A PASSIONATE EDUCATOR.”

-Daisy Boyar, Educators Rising 2019-2020 National Student Officer

To learn more about how Educators Rising and Educators Rising Collegiate is making a difference for future educators, visit pdkintl.org/impact.
WE’RE AMPLIFYING STUDENT VOICE

Educators Rising Collegiate adds to the continuum of supports offered to current and aspiring educators. By establishing an Educators Rising Collegiate chapter at their school, future educators are able to gain access to an additional level of supports and content to ensure they are ready for the classroom. Throughout the year, students participate in a variety of activities designed to engage them in deeper discussions around hot-button topics in education, spur them to think about actions they can take at the local level, and prepare them for a classroom of their own.

Tamir Harper is the current president of the Educators Rising Collegiate Chapter at American University, where he is also a Frederick Douglass Distinguished Scholar. A former Educators Rising National Student Officer, Tamir exemplifies the finest qualities of our national network and of the future of the teaching profession. Because Tamir is so driven, tireless, and determined, it is easy to imagine him landing a job anywhere he wants when he completes his degree, but he has had one location in mind since he first chose to become an educator: Tamir will return to his hometown of Philadelphia and work in the public schools where he was once a student, honoring both his chosen career and all the dedicated teachers who lifted him up.

To learn more about how Educators Rising and Educators Rising Collegiate is making a difference for future educators, visit pdkintl.org/impact.

“Students should receive diversity in their schools, funding in their schools, and a quality education that allows every student to succeed.”

–Tamir Harper, President, Educators Rising Collegiate, American University chapter
Real learning through engagement takes you outside of your normal routine, expanding your understanding through honest human experience. In addition to chapter-level programming, for decades PDK has taken its members around the world via our International Travel Program and Gerald H. Read International Travel Scholarship. New, current, and retired educators travel across the globe to experience how their colleagues in different countries and cultures strive to improve education. Traveling to Panama, South Africa, and beyond, our members have forged lifelong friendships, challenged their preconceptions, and even earned academic credits through our program and the scholarships provided by the contributions of our community.

Kimberly Woods, PDK member since 2019, received the Gerald H. Read International Travel Scholarship, which supported her trip to South Africa. Her goal was to enhance her knowledge base and deepen her understanding of the culture and history of Apartheid so that she would be able to compare influential leaders within the civil rights movement in America, like Martin Luther King, Jr., to that of South Africa, like Nelson Mandela. In Cape Town and Johannesburg, she experienced the rich and diverse culture of South Africa, something she hopes to be able to share with her students through the books, artwork, and craft items she gathered, as well as the pictures she took of both famed and unknown citizens of South African who were impacted by Apartheid.

“After receiving information from former political prisoners at Robben Island, experiencing an Apartheid walking tour, visiting with tribal natives in a small African village, and more, I was able to better understand the impact of decisions that were made to change the living conditions, legal system, and overall culture of a place that was thriving with diversity.”

– Kimberly Woods, PDK member since 2019, Gerald Read Travel Scholarship recipient

To learn more about how membership has made a difference in educators’ lives, visit pdkintl.org/impact.
WE’RE INFORMING THE NATIONAL DISCOURSE

As part of our commitment to honest dialogue about teaching as a profession, PDK provides educators with information they can trust. The 2018 PDK Poll of the Public’s Attitudes Toward the Public Schools, which was supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, showed that – for the first time in its 50-year history – most Americans surveyed (54%) did not want their child to take up teaching in the public schools as a career. In addition, responses from the more than 1,000 people interviewed for the poll on topics such as supporting teacher strikes for higher pay, security in schools, and more helped us capture the public’s attitudes toward the public schools in 2018.

Informed with 50+ years of data from the annual PDK Poll, members are ready to advocate for students in their classrooms, schools, districts, and communities. Dr. Nina Little, PDK member since 1978, shares that the poll is especially valuable to her when having conversations with friends and family.

To learn more about how the PDK Poll is informing the national discourse, visit pdkintl.org/impact.

“I want to be ready with information when friends and family who know I’m a long-time public school educator, or even those who don’t know it, are discussing or making comments about our schools, the quality of teacher preparation, and the quality of education students are currently receiving.”

—Dr. Nina Little, PDK member since 1978, Heritage Society member
For more than 100 years, *Kappan* has offered timely, relevant, and provocative insights on K-12 education policy, research, curriculum, and professional development. It features lively articles and commentary — written in an accessible style — on a wide range of themes, from elementary education, middle grades reform, and high school improvement, to new research and trends in teacher preparation, classroom instruction, curriculum design, assessment, education technology, student health and wellness, college transitions, family and community engagement, and many other topics.

George Kersey originally joined PDK in 1975. He was attracted to PDK’s basic tenets: research, service, and leadership. Over the years, he would become more and more committed to supporting the future of education. Thanks to dedicated supporters like George, we will be able to sustain important resources like *Kappan* for generations of educators to come.

To learn more about how *Kappan* has enriched our members’ lives, visit pdkintl.org/impact.

The work of the PDK Educational Foundation and the professional journal, *Kappan*, were, and still are, of enormous value to me professionally and personally.

—George Kersey, PDK member since 1975, Heritage Society member
TOGETHER

WE’RE NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITY OF SCHOOL SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

PDK International launched the inaugural cohort of its Community of Learning and Practice (CoLP) in 2017 with grant funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The goal was to provide system leaders with support to help them define problems, design solutions, and drive transformation through a social justice and equity lens. The cohort fostered collaboration, accountability, and learning among participants, enabling a candid and productive dialogue focused on challenges and solutions.

The cohort continued through 2019, engaging school system leaders with a proven track record and commitment to leading for social justice, equity, and excellence, like Damien Pattenaude, superintendent of Renton School District. Damien not only participated in the CoLP, but also benefited from working with PDK prior.

To learn more about how we are making an impact at the school system-level, please visit pdkintl.org/impact.

“Over a 6-month period, I partnered with PDK to help my executive team get clear about our mission, core values, and priorities for the 2017-18 school year. This work was critical to the successful launch of the school year and has provided clarity for our decisions as leaders.”

– Damien Pattenaude, Superintendent, Renton School District, Washington
The generosity of our donor base allows PDK to continue grow and connect supporting aspiring educators. That spirit of giving to support the teaching profession also reminds us of the lifelong impact teaching has on the teacher as well as all their students. Dr. Nina Little has been a PDK member since her first year as a teacher in 1978. Through reading *Kappan* since graduate school, networking with other members at conferences in and outside of her native Nebraska, and taking advantage of PDK’s International Travel Program, Dr. Little knows firsthand the impact our programs have had for teachers, educators, and students over the decades.

Now, as she considers what kind of legacy she wants to leave behind, Dr. Little has set up her estate to make sure that a portion is given to PDK upon her passing, to support scholarships for future educators.

“\nWhen I began as a college freshman, I believe it cost $7.00 a credit hour. That is not the case these days. If I can assist a young person who has the desire to teach in a public school setting by paying a part of their tuition, I can make a difference in this world. We need stronger, more dedicated teachers than ever before. I can’t think of a better way to invest in the future.\n”

— Dr. Nina Little, PDK member since 1978, Heritage Society member
WE’RE SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF EDUCATORS

Every year, we are humbled by the number of members and friends who step up and join us in our work to support future educators. Through gifts made to the PDK Educational Foundation, our generous community has helped thousands of students like Jacob Rorris get one step closer to their dreams of becoming an educator.

Hailing from Hilliard, Ohio, Jacob is attending The Ohio State University where he is majoring in science and mathematics Education. With his degree and subsequent teaching license, he hopes to return to his old high school to teach math, to pay it forward to the Hilliard City School District and his community.

To learn more about our scholarship recipients, visit pdkintl.org/impact.

“This scholarship relieves some of the stress I have when it comes to paying tuition, allowing me to focus more on helping to make Central Ohio a great place to grow up and learn.”

– Jacob Rorris, Educators Rising member, PDK Educational Foundation Scholarship Recipient
THANK YOU

We are grateful to the generous Kappans, Thetans, and friends of PDK who have made gifts to support our work.

2018 - 2019 Organizational Donors

Thank you to the following organizations that have made generous contributions to support PDK during fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019).

$200,000 and above
- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Phi Delta Kappa Connecticut Chapter

$50,000 - $100,000
- The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation

$10,000 - $15,000
- UNT/TWU PDK Chapter
- PDK Alpha Chapter
- Forrest T. Jones & Company, Inc.
- Estate of Daniel Kedzierski
- Educate Texas
- National Education Association (NEA)
- Grand Canyon University
- University of San Diego
- Towson University College of Education
- University of Arizona
- National Education Association
- Grand Canyon University
- Houston Independent School District
- Urban Teachers

Heritage Society Members

The Heritage Society recognizes donors during their lifetime for gifts made to the PDK Educational Foundation within their estate plans. These gifts are made via wills, trusts, annuities, insurance policies, or retirement plan assets. Inclusion in the society occurs when the Foundation receives their declaration of intent.

Diamond Society: $50,000 and above
- Janet Ishikawa-Fuller
- Edward Milliken
- Mendel Sherman
- Anonymous

Silver Society: $5,000 - $9,999
- Virgie Binford
- Janice Ebersdorfer
- Eve Proffitt

Platinum Society: $25,000 - $49,999
- William Bushaw
- A. Hutchinson
- Teague
- Gerald Leischuck
- Eve Proffitt

Gold Society: $10,000 - $24,999
- Sharon Andelora
- Sandra Crowther
- Jonathan Kitts
- Anonymous

Bronze Society: $1,000 - $4,999
- Ira Aaron
- William Lower
- Sumi Makey
- Frances Shimatsu

Reavis Giving Societies

The PDK Educational Foundation was established in 1966 by a generous gift from George H. Reavis. Our giving societies provide a structure by which to recognize our members and friends for their loyal and generous support of the Foundation and its programs.

Diamond Society: $50,000 and above
- Janet Ishikawa-Fuller
- Edward Milliken
- Mendel Sherman
- Anonymous

Silver Society: $5,000 - $9,999
- Virgie Binford
- Janice Ebersdorfer
- Eve Proffitt

Platinum Society: $25,000 - $49,999
- William Bushaw
- A. Hutchinson
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- Gerald Leischuck
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Gold Society: $10,000 - $24,999
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- Sandra Crowther
- Jonathan Kitts
- Anonymous

Bronze Society: $1,000 - $4,999
- Ira Aaron
- William Lower
- Sumi Makey
- Frances Shimatsu

George H. Reavis Giving Societies

- Walter Armes
- Lilly Au
- Ellen Ayres
- Mary Bachrach
- Nathlie Badian
- Sir George Barnard
- Marcia Barkley
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- Charles Colman
- William Colvin
- George Comden
- Loretta Conrad
- Rosalie Contino
2018 – 2019 Annual Donors
PDK wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the following individuals who have made generous contributions during fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019).

$5,000 and up
Anonymous

$2,000 - $4,999
Maria Frase
Gerald Leischuck

$1,000 - $1,999
James Fogarty
Mary Kersey
Katharine Oliver
Randall Schmalz
Polly Trainor
Angela Walmsley

$500 - $999
Douglas Christensen
Marilyn Gaddis
Melissa Greiner
Jennifer Harcourt
Nina Little
William Morgan
Patricia Williams

$250 - $499
Sharon Chowdhuri
Jewelyn Dicello
Keith Figgins
Sharon Howell
Clyde James
James Lee
Marvin (Marv) Marshall
Franklin Neff
Melissa Nixon
Russell Perry
William Poston
Joan Richardson
Mark Strauss
Charles Thompson

$100 - $249
Jean Alberti
David Anderson
Charles Araki
Douglas Arnold

If you notice an error in our donor listing, please accept our sincere apologies and contact Boosaba Tan, Director of Development and Engagement, at btan@pdkintl.org or 571-814-5417, so that our records may be corrected immediately.

To learn more about PDK International, visit pdkintl.org.
To join us, visit pdkintl.org/giving.