



# HERITAGE

BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

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Dear Kappans, Thetans, and Friends of PDK,

Since 1906, PDK International has been growing and connecting educators through research, leadership, and service. Our membership and chapter leaders have worked tirelessly to promote these values, and for that we thank them. Today, with

their support, we continue to serve educators by providing programs, services, and research necessary to engage in serious discourse, lead complex systems transformations, and improve schools.

Public education has changed considerably since PDK was founded. To continue to be a valued resource for thoughtful educators who want to make a difference for children, our organization must grow and adapt. Through this newsletter, we are excited to update you on our work and how you can participate in this movement. We are also proud to recognize our many generous Kappans and Thetans who have contributed to the PDK Educational Foundation.

This year will be another year of growth and transformation for our organization as we continue to make investments to expand our programs and better serve our members, who have been the foundation of our past successes. We look forward to sharing our journey with you and welcome your participation and continued support.

Respectfully,

**Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D**

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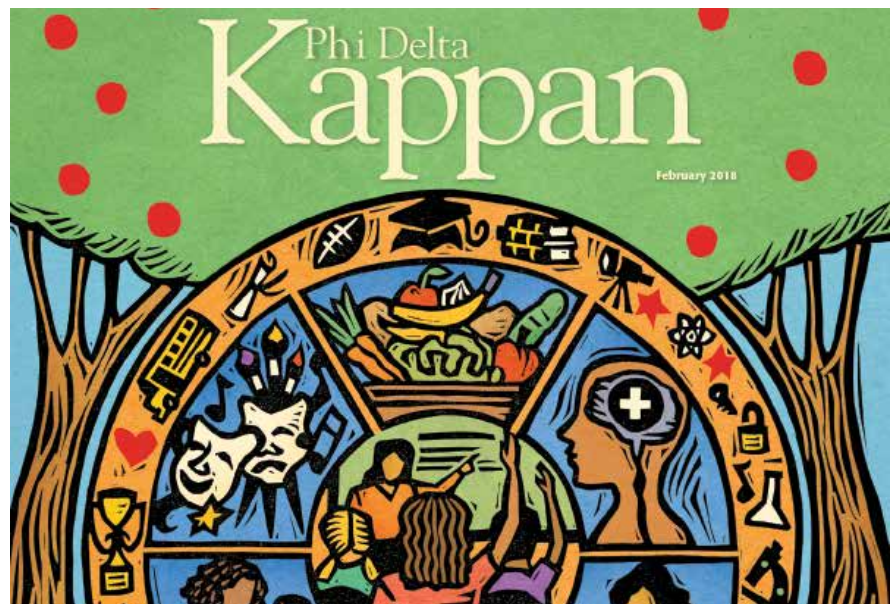
**in** linkedin.com/  
groups/2102482



## EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS: WORKING WITH LEADERS FOR SCHOOL SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

Education Partnerships, a PDK Division that launched in the fall of 2016, works with leaders to navigate the complexity of school system transformation and improve teaching and learning through a social justice lens.

Education Partnerships officially launched the system leaders Community of Learning and Practice (CoLP) on November 2 and 3, 2017, in Arlington, VA. Nineteen leaders from seven school districts across the country joined us for an opportunity to learn together, share challenges, explore opportunities, and design solutions while building a supportive community of system leaders committed to equity and social justice. For more information about our leaders and our theory of action, visit [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage).



## KAPPAN MAGAZINE: PRACTICE, POLICY, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION IN K-12 EDUCATION

PDK members receive the *Kappan* magazine, the professional magazine for individuals who care about K-12 education. Each issue features articles about classroom practice, policy, research, professional issues, and innovations in education.

Across the country, there have always been public schools that provide a broad range of services to their communities, addressing everything from health, nutrition, and child care to job training, adult literacy, economic development, and arts programming. In the upcoming February issue of *Kappan*, we take stock of current approaches to community schooling and consider prospects for the future. We invite you to follow along and be part of the conversation as we consider:

- How many and what kinds of community schools exist, who do they serve, who do they employ, and how are they funded?
- How do they weave together social services with the more typical roles that schools play?
- Where are community schools thriving, and what challenges do they face?

**LOOK OUT FOR KAPPAN IN YOUR MAILBOX IN FEBRUARY OR VISIT [KAPPANONLINE.ORG](http://KAPPANONLINE.ORG) TO VIEW THE MAGAZINE DIGITALLY.**



## *HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PDK POLL*

**PDK** Poll This year will mark the 50th anniversary of the PDK Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools, the most trusted source of public opinion about K-12 education because of its rigor, its depth, and its commitment to capturing all voices and viewpoints. The national PDK Poll is financed solely by the PDK Educational Foundation, which permits PDK to offer an independent and unbiased report of American public opinion.

The PDK Poll results provide researchers with some of the finest longitudinal data on how the public feels about the nation's schools and education policies. Education policy makers use the PDK Poll's findings to inform their decisions, and educators across the country use the results to guide planning and action in their communities. This year's results provide a compelling update about how the public evaluates the quality of the public schools plus what they have to say about vouchers, diversity, and life after high school.

To honor the 50th anniversary of the PDK Poll, we are launching the American Voice campaign. We invite you to participate by making a gift of \$50 or more to support the PDK Poll and secure its continued independence. We count on gifts from members like you to ensure programs like the PDK Poll continue their good work. Gifts of all amounts would be appreciated, but if only a small fraction of our members contributed just \$50 to the American Voice campaign, the entire national program would be fully funded for one year!

**TO LEARN MORE AND CONTRIBUTE, VISIT  
[PDKINTERNATIONAL.ORG/HERITAGE](http://PDKINTERNATIONAL.ORG/HERITAGE)**



**EDUCATORS  
RISING: MARK  
YOUR CALENDARS  
FOR THE 2018  
CONFERENCE IN  
ORLANDO!**

Educators Rising, a division of PDK International, is a national network that provides passionate young people with hands-on teaching experience, sustains their interest in the profession, and helps them cultivate the skills they need to be successful educators.

Each year, more than 1,000 students and their teacher leaders come together to learn and grow together at the Educators Rising National Conference. This year's conference will take place June 21 – 24, 2018 in Orlando, Florida. The conference theme is "Aiming Higher," and session topics can range from career guidance to social justice. Learn more about the conference at [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage).



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## THREE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE PDK SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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1. **SERVE AS A SCHOLARSHIP READER.**  
Contact [scholarships@pdkintl.org](mailto:scholarships@pdkintl.org) to learn more.
2. **DONATE TO AN EXISTING FUND OR ESTABLISH A NEW FUND.**  
Contact Boosaba Tan at [btan@pdkintl.org](mailto:btan@pdkintl.org) or 571-814-5417 to learn more.
3. **HELP PROMOTE THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY.**  
Tell an aspiring educator in your community about PDK scholarships! Download and print flyers at [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage).

## *SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FUTURE EDUCATORS*

The PDK Educational Foundation endowed scholarship program offers a variety of ways for Kappans, Thetans, and members of Educators Rising to get financial assistance for undergraduate and advanced degrees in education. This year, the PDK Educational Foundation is awarding 100+ one-time and multi-year scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 to students pursuing careers in education. Scholarship opportunities include:

1. **PROSPECTIVE EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Open to high school seniors and current undergraduates who are pursuing a career in education. *Deadline to apply is April 2, 2018.*
2. **PI LAMBDA THETA STUDENT SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Open to undergraduate students who are members of Pi Lambda Theta and are pursuing a career in education. *Deadline to apply is April 2, 2018.*
3. **ADVANCED DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS**  
Open to members of Educators Rising (as a teacher or administrator), PDK International, and/or Pi Lambda Theta who are pursuing an advanced degree in education at the master's, specialist, or doctoral levels. *Deadline to apply is June 1, 2018.*

Applicants must be connected to the PDK family of associations through membership in Educators Rising (free to join), PDK International, and/or Pi Lambda Theta. Nonmembers can join to become eligible for these scholarship opportunities.

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## DOUBLE YOUR DONATION AND IMPACT

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PDK International and the PDK Educational Foundation have been very fortunate to receive support from many generous donors over the years who are committed to engaging educators and strengthening schools so every student thrives.

Since 2014, a generous anonymous Thetan has supported the Pi Lambda Theta (PLT) Student Support Scholarship Program, providing 175 scholarships to PLT members across the country who are pursuing higher education. Her current support has totaled over \$350,000 to date, allowing us to award 50 scholarships per year for the past two years.

This year, along with the renewal of her annual scholarship contribution, she is generously matching every donation to the PLT Student Support Scholarship Program, up to \$50,000. Double your donation and impact to the PLT Student Support Scholarship Program by making a donation to the program before April 2nd. If we can meet our goal of raising \$50,000 from Kappans and Thetans and secure the additional \$50,000 matching gift, we will establish an endowment for the scholarship, ensuring its existence in perpetuity.

**TO MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY, VISIT  
[PDKINTERNATIONAL.ORG/HERITAGE](http://PDKINTERNATIONAL.ORG/HERITAGE)**

### PI LAMBDA THETA UPDATE



We have recently made the decision to change the eligibility criteria for Pi Lambda Theta (PLT). Previously, the honor society was open to only college seniors. We are now allowing juniors to apply for the honor society as well. This change allows more individuals access to the scholarship opportunities available to PLT members.

### YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT FUTURE EDUCATORS



#### **Stephanie Jack**

Sellersville, PA  
Kutztown University  
2017 PLT Student Support  
Scholarship Recipient

*"My passion for teaching has extended far beyond what I could have ever imagined, and this award will help me reach the place where I belong: my very own classroom. Thank you for helping me reach my potential and for believing in my biggest dream."*



#### **Albert Appouh**

Maplewood, NJ  
Columbia University  
2017 PDK Prospective  
Educator and PLT Student  
Support Scholarship  
Recipient

*"I am so honored to have won scholarships from Phi Delta Kappa and Pi Lambda Theta. I have been working tirelessly toward my goal of being a mathematics teacher, and these scholarships will move me one step closer towards achieving my goal. Thank you."*

# ***PDK & PI LAMBDA THETA MEMBERS: FEEDBACK NEEDED***

Last month we launched our *Membership and Stakeholder Survey* to collect critical feedback as we continue our work to support educators. If you have not done so already, please visit [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage) and click on “Membership Survey” to let us know what you find valuable and how we should move forward.

## **REJOIN PDK TODAY**

If you’ve let your membership lapse, you can reinstate it today to regain access to networking opportunities, valuable resources such as *Kappan* magazine, and more. To rejoin, visit [pdkintl.org](http://pdkintl.org), or call 1-800-766-1156. Rejoin by February 28, 2018, and your processing fee will be waived!



## **PDK ELITE LEVEL**



As 2018 gets underway, one major initiative is to once again honor PDK members as exceptional educators dedicated to the advancement of the teaching profession. As part of this effort, we are creating two levels of membership with an honorific level designed to highlight the exceptional work of members who were tapped to join Phi Delta Kappa and are committed to advancing the values of PDK. Anyone inducted into PDK prior to 2002 will be automatically grandfathered in. New PDK members may join this group upon demonstrating the requisite advanced practitioner skills; guidelines will be released in the coming months.

We’d like your feedback on what to call this elite level of PDK membership. Please submit your suggestions at [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage). We look forward to hearing your recommendations!

## ***WHAT IS PLANNED GIVING?***

Planned giving, sometimes referred to as gift planning, is a simple way to leave a legacy by supporting your favorite charities. A planned gift is any major gift, made in one's lifetime or at death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning. Gifts are made via wills, trusts, annuities, insurance policies, or retirement plan assets.

Planned gifts make use of legal and tax strategies and/or financial products requiring donors to turn to professionals for assistance. In contrast, charitable donations made from a person's cash flow are not defined as planned gifts, and while they may be budgeted for, they are not planned.

Many people consider planned gifts as a beneficial part of estate and financial planning because they provide:

- Income tax savings
- Gift and estate tax savings
- Increased lifetime income
- Tax sheltered lifetime income
- Supplemental retirement income
- Diversification of portfolio
- The joy and pleasure of becoming a philanthropist for the donor's favored charities

### **LEARN MORE ABOUT PLANNED GIVING**

To learn more about your giving options, please contact development manager Boosaba Tan at [btan@pdkintl.org](mailto:btan@pdkintl.org) or 571-814-5417 today.

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## **ABOUT THE HERITAGE SOCIETY**

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The Heritage Society recognizes donors during their lifetime for making planned gifts to the PDK Educational Foundation part of their estate plans. Inclusion in the society occurs when the Foundation receives an individual's declaration of intent.

The PDK Educational Foundation would like to highlight the following Heritage Society members for their commitment to supporting PDK's important work:

- Sharon Dorner Andelora
- Charles & Claudia Cornett
- Barbara Dubnick
- Don & Verna Duncan
- Jacob Epstein
- Patricia Frazier
- The Gamache/Koger Living Trust
- George F. Kersey, Jr.
- Gerald & Emily Leischuck
- Eve Proffitt
- Lolita Santiago
- Randall J. Schmalz
- Sharon Schulte
- Anonymous



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## DISCOVER PANAMA WITH PDK JULY 13 – 21, 2018

Have you ever wanted to see the Panama Canal, visit an indigenous village, or work with scientists at a tropical research center? This summer, PDK will be traveling through Panama, while learning about the country's distinctive history, agriculture, and ecosystem.

Join fellow educators from around the country on this unique travel and professional development experience.

Visit [pdkinternational.org/heritage](http://pdkinternational.org/heritage) for more information. Enrollment closes March 15th.