



## PDK 2008-09 Upcoming Programs and Dates:

November 12, 2008  
(Silent Auction)

January 14, 2009

February 11, 2009

April 8, 2009

(New member, officer,  
and longevity ceremony)

The Professional  
Association In  
Education

**PDK**  
International

# East Carolina PDK

Delta Pi Chapter    Phi Delta Kappa

Volume 6, Issue 1

Fall 2008

## PDK Silent Auction

Dear Members, It's that time again to start making your plans for the PDK Silent Auction. Renee Sheppard has been working diligently on the 2008 PDK Silent Auction night. If you have any items to be auctioned please contact Renee at sheppar.chi@pitt.k12.nc.us She will be more than happy to hear from you. Our Silent Auction is scheduled for the November 12th meeting. Dr. Marilyn Sheerer, ECU Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, will present "Preparing Teachers in Real Settings."

Some of the auction items include:

—Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center – 2 Individual One Month Memberships (valued at \$25.00 each)

—Merle Norman Cosmetics and Day Spa - Gift certificate for A Visit to the Grotto and All Day Access to Steam/Sauna and Use of Relaxation Lounges (valued at \$50.00)



—Tickled Pink - Gift basket filled with various items (valued at \$100.00)

—Trade Wilco - 4 Toy Trucks (40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) (valued at \$23.00 each)

—Baskets from ECU Departments

—Jewelry

And many more items.....

## Executive Board Meeting

Executive Board Meetings will be held from 5:00 to 6:00 pm at Mary Beth Corbin's Home.

- November 18, 2008
- January 20, 2009
- February 17, 2009
- April 21, 2009
- May 5, 2009

## Members Take Note:

If your email address has changed or changes, please contact Ruth Kilburn at:

[kilburnr@ecu.edu](mailto:kilburnr@ecu.edu) with the subject message: **PDK member email update**. This will allow us to keep our distribution list up to date and assure that you receive important information about meetings.



# Public Support for Public Education

## 40th Annual PDK/Gallup Public Opinion Poll

Dr. Mary Goggins Selke, ECU

The September, 2008 issue of the Phi Delta Kappan contains "The 40th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Towards the Public Schools" by William J. Bushaw and Alec M. Gallup. The poll is based on national telephone interviews of Americans who are at least 18 years old. A weighted random sample of 1,002 citizens represents the national population this year. The article provides results from the poll and perspectives on what was found by nationally prominent educators in sidebars throughout the article. Some of the many findings included:

- Americans support an increased use of federal funds to maintain local public schools.
- While 46% of those surveyed would assign a grade of 'A' or 'B' to their local community schools, most people gave public schools in general a grade of 'C'.
- Lack of funding tops the list of concerns regarding public schools with discipline coming in second, except with parents who reported that overcrowding has become a more serious concern than discipline.
- Only 16% thought that the No Child Left Behind legislation should be continued without significant changes.
- For the first time, standardized testing has taken a hit: four out of 10 parents said there is too much emphasis on standardized tests while only one in ten felt there was not enough.
- When asked what would be a better alternative, 80% thought examples of student work, teacher-generated grades, and teacher observations are more accurate measures of academic progress than standardized tests.

One of the sidebar columns was written by Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, Stanford University, well-known for her willingness to take on controversial topics and attempt to provide some common-sense, research-based perspectives. One of the results of the PDK/Gallup poll is that Americans were found to believe that the next president should turn to educational leaders – not political or business leaders – in developing policies for public schools. In response to this and the other findings of the poll, Dr. Darling-Hammond stated that, "the next president's challenge may be to build a broader vision of learning and performance while raising educational standards and greatly expanding opportunities to learn."

By the time you are reading this column, the election will have taken place and we will be heading into a new term of federal government. This happens at a point in our nation's history when financial insecurity and mixed educational priorities present challenges for educators who strive to prepare students for futures holding technological

advances and jobs that may not yet exist. Being involved and being informed is not only our responsibility as 21<sup>st</sup> century educators it is our right as American educators. The PDK/ Gallup poll provides a good place to start reading up on a wide range of educational issues. Find the full 13 pages of poll results and more at [www.pdkeducationpoll.org](http://www.pdkeducationpoll.org). The website capabilities include a “webinar”, an auditory and/or visual recording of online discussion regarding this year’s poll that also provides resources that PDK members can use to structure their own presentations of highlights from the poll to help educate their students and their communities. You may also download a pdf file of the poll. Whether you prefer audio, audio/visual, or print it’s an interesting read: check it out!

## September Meeting



PDK members were treated to a presentation by the new dean for ECU’s College of Education, Dr. Linda Patriarca at the September meeting. In just her short time here at ECU she could sense the deep pride we have in our university and the palpable love we have for education. As dean her goal is to take what has been built over the past century and add new dimensions to enrich and enhance our strengths. Dr. Patriarca, along with all educators, is challenged with the critical tasks of preparing educators for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and closing the global achievement gap. To accomplish this task the education system as a whole must produce more knowledgeable, innovative and critically thinking individuals. Dr. Patriarca gave 5 challenges that we as educators must meet to accomplish this critical task.

1. Teachers must have content knowledge. They should be experts in their subject.
2. Teachers must have pedagogical knowledge. Just because a teacher has the content knowledge does not mean a teacher can make it accessible to learners. Teachers must be able to choose the right method of teaching for their learners.
3. Teachers must have knowledge of learners. Educators need to adapt to the diversifying population in our schools. They should be able to teach their learners using best practices for each of their learning styles no matter their cultural, racial, or social economic background.
4. Teacher must have knowledge of their curriculum. It is important for teachers to know the scope and sequence of their curriculum and know at what stage in a student’s school career to teach them the correct content.
5. A teacher’s primary goal is to educate students. We must assess our learners and our teaching strategies using formative and summative data and make changes when necessary to ensure we teach our learners effectively.

Dr. Patriarca closed her presentation by expressing her excitement to be working with such an extraordinary university and college with a staff of very talented educators. She stated with pride, “I am ready to continue the trend of extraordinary service that the College of Education is so well known for in this region.”

**Phi Delta Kappa  
East Carolina University Chapter  
2008-2009 Officers**

President .....	Tarrick Cox
Program Vice President.....	Kurt Garner
Secretary .....	Chris Locklear
Treasurer.....	Liz Fogarty
Membership Vice President .....	Katie O'Connor
	Susan Jarvis
Advisors .....	Sue Steinweg
	Terry Atkinson
	Bill Grobe
	Glenn Joyner
Newsletter Editors.....	Martha Parrish
	Kurt Garner
Historian.....	William Martin
Research Representative .....	Mary Selke
Foundation Representative.....	Cher Basnight
Publicity .....	Ruth Kilburn
Dinner Coordinator.....	Mary Beth Corbin
Scholarships/Silent Auction .....	Renee Sheppard

**MEMBERSHIP NOTES**

**Over the last several months, our chapter has welcomed several new members.**

**A special welcome to:**

- Marty Baker
- Tanya Cannon
- Mary Hannah Evans
- Kristen Hales
- Susan Jarvis
- Michael Meloth
- Tracy Ann Riddle
- Renee Sheppard
- Alana Zambone
- Linda Baker
- Karen Dawkins
- Lori Flint
- Nancy Houston
- Diane Lambert
- Debbie O'Neal
- Brooke Sanders
- Elizabeth Swaggerty
- George Holston

**We are also celebrating membership longevity of several members:**

Five years:

- Seth Nicholas Brown
- Julie Everett Cary
- Sandra W Harvey
- Christopher Douglas Locklear
- Anna Lyon
- Almeta Mae Phelps-Hodges
- Tiffany Davis Vincent

Ten years:

- Mary Lynne Davis
- Rollinda Alicia Thomas

Fifteen years:

- Terry Stafford Atkinson

Twenty years:

- Mary Alice Coples
- Linda Smith Dawson
- Alice Faye Keene

Twenty Five years

- Joyce Reeves Bennett
- Anne Shelton Briley

- Bruce Elliot Gray
- Robert Langston Logan
- Alfred Dalton Riddick
- Kris Marie Smith

Thirty years:

- Joseph Charles Ciechalski
- Charles R Coble

Fourty years:

- S D O'Neal
- Clifton L Toler

And last but not least...a special recognition of 45 years of membership to PDK goes to:

- Thomas A Chambliss

Congratulations and thank you for your continued support of Phi Delta Kappa! If you would like additional information regarding membership, please contact *Katie O'Connor or Susan Jarvis.*

