



Newsletter
Fall 2005

Phi Delta Kappa

Hurricane Katrina Book Drive

The aftermath of hurricane Katrina has been devastating. Our chapter would like to help the children by having a book drive. So, go through your bookshelves and boxes and donate for a good cause!

Donations/ Books will be accepted at the Math Lab in Draper at Baylor University OR you can bring them to our Fall Speaker Event at Gratziano's on Sept. 27 (see article below) OR our next Chapter Initiation Meeting on Nov. 15.

Contact Brittney Murphy
Office: (254) 710-3070
Email: Brittney_Murphy@Baylor.edu

Fall Speaker Sandee Crowther
Tuesday September 27, 2005 at 6:00 PM
Topic: "Success for All!"

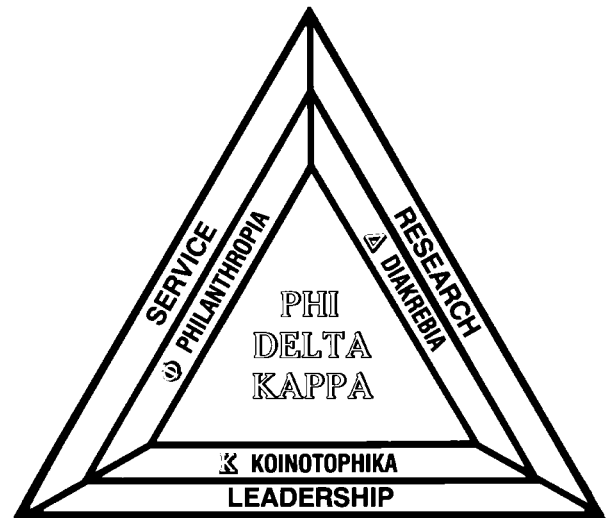
Join us at Gratziano's Restaurant (254-752-8789) at the River Center on Franklin across from the Hilton in the banquet room for our Fall speaker Sandy Crowther.

Sandee Crowther was born and raised in St. Louis. After attending the University of Kansas she began her professional career in Lawrence, Kansas as a junior high teacher. During her residency for her doctorate she also taught courses and supervised student teachers at KU. Crowther has worked for the Lawrence Public Schools for 42 years in a variety of roles. She is currently Executive Director of Planning and Program Improvement and oversees professional development, school improvement, and student support services. In 1996, the Lawrence district was named a "Model Professional Development Program" by the U.S. Department of Education under her leadership.

Mrs. Crowther was initiated into PDK in

Baylor University Chapter 0184

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1975, and has served in a variety of chapter roles, as area coordinator, and District III Representative and is currently the Region C Representative on the International Board. In addition to her leadership roles in PDK, she has been active in several other organizations and was President of the National Staff Development Council in 1996-97. She has presented at NSDC, ASCD, PDK, and other regional conferences

In her thirty years of involvement with Phi Delta Kappa besides her governance roles, she coordinated 4 leadership skill institutes in eastern Kansas; she traveled on four PDK Read travel scholarships to Australia/New Zealand, Alaska, Costa Rica, and Scandinavia. The photo of Sandee in Norway is from her recent trip as Director for the Scandinavian tour.

Board Meeting Report

The board meeting of the recently elected 2005-2006 officers was held on June 9, 2005, in the Math Lab at Baylor University. The following officers attended: Colleen Eddy – President, Trena Wilkerson – Vice President Programs and Chapter Liaison, Edith Davis -Vice President Membership, Juan Mercado – Treasurer, Michael White – Educational Foundation, Shannon Trimble – Public Relations, and Jane Curry – Secretary.

The meeting began with the officers introducing themselves to the group. We recognized Michael White, Educational Foundation Representative, as one of our Chapter's charter members. Michael informed the officers of the good news that the Baylor Chapter had once again received the 20/20 award for this year. Juan Mercado, Treasurer, informed the group that the local dues will be raised to \$7.00 effective July 1. Juan also informed us that in the fall we would be able to download the names of members from the international office website.

Shannon Trimble informed the group that he had set up the Baylor Chapter of PDK web site, <http://www3.baylor.edu/PDK/>. Members can e-mail Shannon at Shannon_Trimble@baylor.edu to make suggestions for additions to the site. Thanks went to Shannon for the June printed newsletter sent to members.

Trena Wilkerson, Chapter/Member Liaison, led the officers in a discussion of their office, responsibilities, and goals set for the New Year.

GOALS

President: select a research representative, rewrite constitution, change selection of officers to a rotation system, set up a web site, increase membership of teachers, rethink meeting times, days, and activities, and continue PDK Walk again this year.

Secretary: keep minutes and place on the web site and work with membership representative to increase membership.

Public Relations: put future events on web site, work on printed and on-line newsletter, inform Waco paper about our events, and communicate with Killeen Chapter.

Treasurer: work closely with Vice President for membership, report new members to PDK International Office promptly to avoid a penalty, report information on records at each meeting, and require receipt for expenditures.

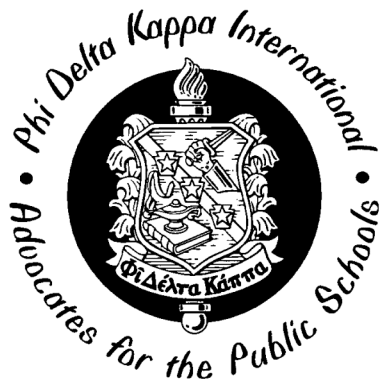
Educational Foundation Representative: obtain a 100% membership in Foundation, provide two scholarships, Reeves libraries at MCC and Baylor, November 12th Walk with funds for our local chapter.

Membership: identify and work on inactive list, put a greater PDK presents in the greater Waco area, develop strategies to increase membership by 20 to 25 members.

Trena Wilkerson informed the members on ways to be an effective Phi Delta Kappa Chapter.

President Colleen Eddy led the officers in a discussion of the following 2005-2006 Chapter Program Goals:

Increase membership by 20 to 25
 Member induction in November and April
 Complete a membership renewal project by January 2006
 Advocacy for Public Schools - local unit donates \$100 to help fund the forum, Success for All Children: Closing the Achievement Gap in Central Texas
 Strengthen program quality and attendance, apply for Author Lecture, and invite Sandee Crowther
 Donate Kappans to schools
 Participate in local PDK walk
 Inform Education Editor of Waco and Baylor papers of local activities, website newsletter- hard and electronic copies.
 Provide information on local research
 Name the two scholarships after Dr. Arthur Miller and Dr. John Norris; create a PDK board with pictures and history of distinguished members.



The 37th Annual PDK/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools:

Major Implications

1. An increasing number of Americans say they know a fair amount about the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). But the more they know, the less they like it. They like the goals but reject the strategies NCLB uses to implement those goals. The concern rises to the level where, if a large number of schools fail to make AYP, the public is at least as likely to blame the law as it is to blame the school.

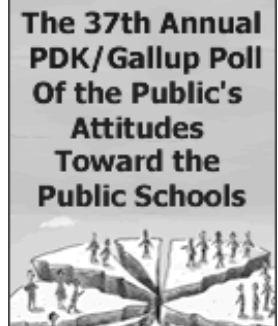
2. The American public is of a single mind about the importance of closing the "achievement gap." It blames the gap on factors other than schooling but still believes that it is the responsibility of the public schools to close the gap. This seemingly contradictory conclusion is consistent with the high marks the public assigns its local schools.

3. When asked about ways to improve the public schools, the public consistently prefers change that comes through the existing school system as compared to seeking an alternative system. It confirms that preference by

continuing to oppose attendance at private schools at public expense and by conditioning its support for charter schools on the stipulations that they not be created at the expense of the regular public schools and that they be held accountable in exactly the same way.

4. The public believes that schools should be judged on how much students improve in a given year, not on the percentage of students passing the state-mandated test. This places the public in the position of supporting the use of growth assessments.

5. The public makes a distinction between the "nation's schools" and "schools in the community," gives low grades to the former and higher grades to the latter. The highest grades of all are given by parents to the schools their own children attend.



The public makes a distinction between "nation's schools" and "schools in the community"





**Baylor
University
Chapter 0184**

P.O. Box 97314
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**Calendar /
Upcoming Events**

September 27, 2005 – Guest
Speaker Sandy Crowther

November 12, 2005 – PDK
Walk at Baylor University's Bear
Trail

November 15, 2005 – Initiation
Meeting

PDK Walk November 12, 2005 Baylor's Bear Trail 8AM

Think Globally, Act Locally!

On November 12, 2005, advocates for education in cities and towns around the world will take to the sidewalks, parks, and malls to raise money for the PDK Educational Foundation and local, nonprofit, educational organizations.

Of course teams and walkers can raise money solely for the benefit of the students, teachers, and other educators served by the programs sustained by the PDK Educational Foundation.

As advocates for education, we want to grab the attention of the public worldwide and raise funds for education. As the founder of the PDK Educational

Foundation, George H. Reavis, once said, "Public policy in education can be no better than the public's understanding of education and the educative process."

Let's share the emerging and unmet needs within education with the rest of the world!

Join PDK Chapter 0184 at the Bear Trail at 8:00 AM on Nov. 12 to walk OR sponsor someone to walk.

Contact Edith_Davis@Baylor.edu or Shannon_Trimble@Baylor.edu for a **Registration Form** or **Sponsor Form** via email or call Edith at 254-710-7594.

Due to Hurricane Katrina

The 2005 Phi Delta Kappa International Professional Development Conference will not be held in New Orleans Nov. 10-13, 2005. We are currently exploring other options, which include relocating the conference to another city or canceling this year's conference. A decision will be made no later than Sept. 12. We will update this website once a decision is reached. Conference registrants will also be contacted directly as soon as there is a decision.

Deposits for hotel rooms at the New Orleans Riverside Hilton will automatically be refunded to the credit cards of conference attendees who had reservations for the conference. Please do not call the hotel.

Obtained from the PDK International website on 9/10/05

Newsletter Contributions Wanted!

We are always looking for articles and updates from our members. Do you have any news you would like to report or share with our chapter? If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or website please contact: Shannon_Trimble@Baylor.edu or (254) 753-4202.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www3.baylor.edu/PDK>
