

PDK Newsletter

Baylor University Chapter—#0184



Fall 2010 Newsletter

2010-2011

Executive Board

- President: Dr. Trena Wilkerson
- Program Chair: Dr. Rachelle Meyer
- Communication: Mark Montgomery
- Secretary: Dittika Gupta
- Foundation Chair: Dr. Barbara Purdum-Cassidy
- Treasurer: Sara Mechell
- Membership: Dionne Jackson
- Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jon Engelhardt

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President's Message

Greetings to all Baylor Phi Delta Kappa members!

I hope that you had a restful summer and a great start to the fall semester. We had a wonderful 2009-2010 year under the leadership of Dr. Trena Wilkerson and greatly appreciate all the wonderful meetings offered last year. Your new PDK officers have been working hard to continue with successful programs for this upcoming year. On Wednesday, November 3rd, from 5:00-6:00, in Draper 139 (Baylor campus), there will be an interactive meeting discussing the recently released PDK Gallup Poll. Please plan on attending and bringing a friend/colleague. There will be refreshments, door prizes, and engaging conversations!

Our Chapter also participated in PDK's Read for the Record! The featured book this year was *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. We donated 30 copies of this book to elementary schools in the area after Baylor pre-service teachers read *The Snowy Day* to elementary students. Thanks to

Dr. Barbara Purdum-Cassidy for organizing this project! It was a great success in promoting reading and Baylor PDK!

More details will follow, but be sure to mark your calendars not only for the fall meeting on November 3rd, but for upcoming spring meetings as well. In February, Dr. Barbara Purdum-Cassidy and Dr. Suzanne Nesmith will lead an interactive game format discussion on cultural differences. Also, on April 26th, Dr. Charles Weaver will lead a discussion on education and the millennials to be held on the Baylor campus, in Draper 139, from 5:00-6:00.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meetings and please do not forget to check for current information and happenings on the Baylor PDK website! www.baylor.edu/SOE, click on resources and centers, and then highlight Phi Delta Kappa!

Sincerely,
Rachelle D Meyer
Baylor PDK President, 2010-2011

Fall Meeting—November 3, 2010

5:00—6:00

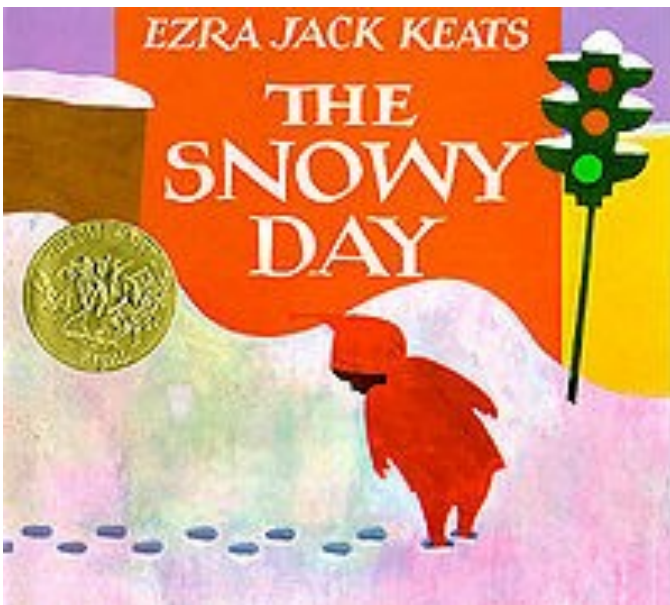
Draper 139 on the Baylor Campus

Discussion of the 2010 PDK Gallup Poll: What Americans said about Public Schools

(see overview of topics on opposite page)

PDK Participates in Read for the Record

Can you imagine your childhood without your favorite stories? Neither can we. But the fact is that most children in low-income communities have few, if any, age-appropriate books in their homes. The number of books in a home is the single strongest indicator of a child's future reading ability—setting him or her on a track for success in school and in life.



Phi Delta Kappa is helping to bring national attention to the importance of early childhood education by making Jumpstart's Read for the Record the largest shared reading experience ever. The 2010 campaign was designed to encourage young people, their families and educators everywhere to set another world record by creating the largest shared reading experience ever on Thursday, October 7, 2010, when people read the same book across the country. The Pearson Foundation, sponsor and founding partner of the campaign, is once again underwriting the cost of the campaign book, which this year is *The Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats.

The Baylor University Chapter purchased 30 official campaign books to have read and donated to area schools. Students in the Baylor School of Education helped with the event by going to the area schools and reading the book to students.



Highlights of the 2010

Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll

What Americans Said About the Public Schools



#1 EDUCATION PRIORITY

Improving the quality of teachers should be the top national education priority. We should recruit the best teacher candidates, provide professional development to help current and prospective teachers use the best teaching practices, and do whatever we can to retain the best teachers while dismissing those who aren't skilled or suited for the job.



COLLEGE FOR ALL

A college education is necessary for today's students. I believe my children will go to college and should because that education will provide more job opportunities and a better income.



UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS

Fix poorly performing schools by providing comprehensive external support. We don't support firing teachers and principals without cause. We don't support converting underperforming schools to charter schools, and we don't support closing schools altogether.



CHARTER SCHOOLS

We like public charter schools more every year! We'd be happy to have new public charter schools in our communities and more throughout the United States.



SCHOOL FUNDING CRISIS

The current public school funding crisis is one of the top problems facing the public schools in my community.



ECONOMIC STIMULUS MONEY

Federal stimulus money saved 300,000 education jobs in America last year? Really? I didn't know that!



TEACHER PAY

Change the single salary schedule to pay public school teachers. Quality of work — including improvements in student learning — should determine how much teachers earn.



RESPECT FOR TEACHERS

We trust teachers! If my son or daughter became a teacher, that would be fine with me — but I'm not sure about becoming a teacher myself.



PAY TO LEARN

Don't pay students to read books, attend school, or try for better grades. That's not right!

Thinkstock

The 2010 PDK/Gallup Poll results are available at www.pdkpoll.org. Kappan's digital edition includes all 2010 tables.

Visit us on the web:

<http://www.baylor.edu/soe/index.php?id=66192>

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Upcoming Events

- Fall Meeting, November 7
- Cultural Differences, February 2011
- Education & the Millennials, April 26



“To teach is to transform by informing, to develop a zest for lifelong learning, to help pupils become students—mature independent learners, architects of an exciting, challenging future. Teaching at its best is a kind of communion, a meeting of minds.”

~Edgar Dale