



PDK NEWS



Summer 2007

BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE PHI DELTA KAPPA CHAPTER 1580

Vol. 8 No. 5

President's Corner

Dear Fellow Kappans,

Thank you for making 2006-2007 a wonderful year in the life of the Bridgewater State College Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. Here is a quick year in review.

We opened the academic year on October 3, 2006 with a wine and cheese social sponsored by the School of Education & Allied Studies at Bridgewater State College. The School's Assistant Dean, Mary Ann McKinnon, and the Director of the BSC Educator Resource and Enrichment Center, Mary Price, led a discussion concerning the college's NCATE accreditation. The meeting concluded with a presentation from Dr. Susan Miller, the Massachusetts Department of Education Teacher of the Year, who spoke on the subject of MCAS for special need students.

In fall of 2006, MaryAnn McKinnon and I were pleased to travel to Pawtucket RI to present the *PDK/WalMart 2006 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year Award* to Goff Junior High School teacher, Ron Patenaude. Our chapter was honored to serve in this capacity for PDK International.

At the November 15th meeting, we introduced our chapter to the *PDK Teacher to Teacher E-Mentoring program*. We're pleased to announce that several of our chapter members registered with this site, which hosts a national electronic mentoring initiative designed to help beginning teachers by connecting them with veteran educators online. Whether you are a novice or an experienced educator, I encourage you to check out this resource at <http://www.pdkintl.org/t2t/t2thome.htm>.

On March 1st, we were delighted to host a very special keynote speaker, Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria, president of Bridgewater State College and education advisor to Governor Deval Patrick. He shared his vision for prek-16 education and entertained questions from the large gathering of PDK Chapter members and invited guests including Bristol Community College

President, John Sbrega, and UMass-Dartmouth Chancellor, Jean MacCormack.

We concluded our meeting year on May 1st with an initiation ceremony. Our chapter welcomed Karen Anne O'Connor from UMass-Dartmouth and Joseph Oliveri, retired teacher from Raynham, who has agreed to serve as our chapter historian.

During this year the executive board met several times to plan future events, such as the chapter's 10th anniversary celebration scheduled for September 20th. We were also happy to serve as the nominating committee for the 2007 PDK/WalMart Rhode Island Teacher of the Year.

So another year has come to a close. Thank you again for being part of our collegial organization, and remember we would love to hear from you. Just email us at pdkchapter@bridgew.edu. I look forward to seeing you all in the fall. Enjoy your summer!

Jane M. Souza ❖

10th Anniversary Update

Plans are underway for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of our PDK chapter this September. The planning committee has reserved the small ballroom of the BSC campus center for Thursday, September 20th, 2007. You may recall this very same venue if you attended the formal convening of our chapter and the first installation of our founding members in 1997!

We have much to celebrate over our ten year history. Part of the program will focus on recognizing various PDK milestones for our members. We have an extraordinary "50 years of PDK Membership" recognition to be awarded to one of our founding members on this special night. The event will feature a sit-down dinner with cash bar and a special tenth anniversary dessert. Please remember to put this event on your calendar. Formal invitations will be mailed soon. ❖

PDK Member Survey

In an effort to meet the needs of our growing membership, the PDK Executive Board has created this member survey to gather information about your preferences with regard to upcoming meetings, locations, and topics of interest. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts with us.

Thank you,
The PDK Chapter 1580 Executive Board

What are your preferences in terms of dates and times for future chapter meetings?

Days, times, dates to try and stay away from? (e.g. parent conferences, school open houses, etc.)

Do you have any preference in terms of meeting locations? Are you happy with the Fireside Restaurant?

Do you have any suggestions with regard to speakers and program themes for next year's chapter meetings?

Do you have any research projects or degrees that you are wrapping up? Are you interested in presenting some of your work?

Please return completed survey to: Mary Ann McKinnon, c/o School of Education and Allied Studies, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA 02325, or fax to: 508 531-1771

May Meeting Notes

Orchestrating a lively discussion of the issues and fielding suggestions for future consideration, President Jane Souza conducted the May 1 chapter meeting with her usual aplomb and wit. The meeting had three distinctive components. Jane introduced each member of the Executive Board who gave brief presentations on the state of affairs of our chapter. Debra Stone, Treasurer, indicated that we are in good financial standing (always good news) and encouraged member contributions. Lynn Ingram, V.P. for Membership, suggested that new membership might be extended to future educators who are currently graduate students and to community and business activists who are supportive of education. This was greeted with enthusiasm by the members present. It was learned that the final curtain will fall on the annual scholarship this year. In its place, one year memberships will be awarded to several deserving graduate students. Membership, of course, includes access to all the benefits of PDK International, including networking with all PDK members as well as a subscription to *Phi Delta Kappan* magazine. MaryAnn McKinnon, Newsletter Editor, reminded us that changes in names and or addresses may be made through our website (the design of which was warmly praised). Mary Ann has encouraged the membership to contribute articles or news worthy events, including personal achievements and honors, to the newsletter. Kim Scott, V.P. for Programs, indicated that the Fireside Restaurant has been attentive to our needs and, with the exception of the 10th Anniversary meeting this September which will be held at Bridgewater State College, we will continue to meet and dine at the current location in Middleboro. Jennifer Just, Foundation Rep., conducted a brief discussion on future speakers. The membership was particularly receptive to extending an invitation to Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Professor of Psychology at Bridgewater State College and the founder of MARC. The Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center is located on the

grounds of BSC and is a local authority on anti-bullying programs for grades k-12. Invitations to speak would also be extended to local business leaders, advocates of community service learning and teachers who might be willing to share their classroom experiences.

Foundation Representative, Jen Just, then introduced this year's scholarship recipient, Carolyn Burke. Carolyn is a senior at BSC studying chemistry. She plans to teach at the high school level in the near future. When asked about her expectations, she said quite simply that she hopes to make an impact on the lives of children. Carolyn's enthusiasm for education is readily apparent, even electrifying, leaving little doubt about her imminent success. Congratulations! Many thanks to the selection committee – your efforts are appreciated.

The evening also featured the initiation of two new members - Karen Anne O'Connor and Joseph Oliveri. Karen is the Director of Center for University, School and Community Partnership for UMass Dartmouth. Joseph is a retired middle school teacher having spent 35 years in the classroom as a Social Studies teacher in Raynham.



Members of the PDK Executive Board with new PDK initiates. Front row from left: Kim Scott, Jen Just, Joe Oliveri. Back row from left: Mary Ann McKinnon, Lynn Ingram, Jane Souza, Karen O'Connor and Deb Stone.

Upcoming Meetings*

All meetings are held at the Fireside Restaurant in Middleboro (unless otherwise noted) and begin with a networking session at 5:30 P.M. The schedule for AY07-08 will be out shortly.

Don't forget September 20, 2007 for our 10th anniversary celebration at BSC!

PDK on the Web

Don't forget to check out PDK Chapter 1580's new web site:

<http://www.bridgew.edu/SoEd/PDK/>

And the PDK International web site:

<http://www.pdkintl.org/>



Bridgewater Phi Delta Kappa

c/o School of Education & Allied Studies
Bridgewater State College
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Permit #9
Bridgewater, MA
02324

KAPPA DELTA PHI



“What’s your favorite season?
Summer vacation, Spring break,
or Christmas Holiday?”

PDK News is printed bi-monthly during the academic year. Articles submitted for consideration should be e-mailed to the editor :
Mary Ann McKinnon, PDK News Editor
mmckinnon@bridgew.edu