



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™

"Reimagine Our Future and Reignite Our Purpose"

DKNJ State Executive Board Meeting

September 9, 2023

Steinert High School, Hamilton, NJ

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by President Irene Maskaly (Iota) at 10:00. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

First Vice President Catherine Fortunato (Lambda) led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTIVATIONAL THOUGHT

Motivator Catherine Cleenput (Alpha) provided us with motivational thoughts that centered on founder Annie Webb Blanton and her thoughts of being progressive and leaving a legacy of excellence. There is strength in change as well as merit in celebrating traditions. (Attached)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - From 10:20 - 11:15

The following committees conducted individual meetings with representatives from the chapters: Chapter Presidents, Program Planning/EEC, Membership, Rules & Bylaws/Parliamentarians, Necrology, Convention, Communications.

President Irene Maskaly resumed the business meeting of the executive board at 11:25 am.

RULES OF ORDER

Parliamentarian Dr. Barbara Glazewski (Lambda) read the rules of order.

ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Chris Musick (Nu) conducted the roll call. Those present are recorded below with (X), those not present with (O).

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------|
| X | President | Irene Maskaly | X | 1 st Vice President | Cathy Fortunato |
| X | 2 nd Vice President | Diane Roberts | X | Recording Secretary | Chris Musick |
| X | Corresponding Secretary | Luella Vengenock | X | Treasurer | Ellen Hahn |
| X | Parliamentarian | Dr. Barbara Glazewski | X | Immediate Past President | Dr. Nora Pollard |
| X | Alpha | Theresa Messineo | X | Beta | JoAnn Corvino |
| X | Gamma | Diana Vasil | O | Delta | Donia Mills |
| X | Epsilon | Betty Monaghan | X | Zeta | MaryLee Batesko |
| X | Eta | Jacquie Long | X | Iota | Camy Kobylinski |
| X | Lambda | Barbara Pollex | X | Mu | PJ Madreperl |
| O | | Joan Stuart | | | |
| X | Nu | Vicki Shoemaker | X | Xi | Rose Rhine |
| X | Omicron | Beth Selfridge | O | Pi | Dr. Amy Fratz |
| X | Rho | Joanne Hyland | X | Sigma | Jane Murphy |

Attendance was recorded on sign-in sheets. Totals: 76 members (8 Executive Board, 14 Chapter Presidents, 54 Committee Chairs and Chapter members)

Irene Maskaly continued:

Minutes from March 25, 2023

The minutes from our March 25, 2023 state meeting were approved by the review committee and distributed electronically. Are there any corrections to the minutes? Hearing no corrections, the minutes stand approved as distributed.

Minutes from June 3, 2023

The minutes from our June 3, 2023 state meeting were approved by the review committee and distributed electronically. Are there any corrections to the minutes? Hearing no corrections, the minutes stand approved as distributed.

Officer Reports

CORRESPONDENCE

Corresponding Secretary Luella Vengenock reported the following:

CORRESPONDENCE SENT: cards

(5) Sympathy

(1) Congratulations

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: none

Please contact Luella with any card-worthy news from your chapter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Ellen Hahn reported the following balances:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Checking Account as of 8/18/23 | \$ 6600.39 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 2274.01 |
| Designated Funds - Primerica | \$ 59346.68 |
| - TD Savings | \$ 34805.78 |
| Margaret Abel Scholarship Fund | \$ 68703.00 |
| Balance as of 8/18/23 | \$22946.25 |

Ellen also reported that any members who have not paid dues by September 30, 2023 will be dropped by DKG International. (As of today, 35 current members have not paid dues.)

The report will be filed for audit.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Irene Maskaly reported the following:

Ladies, I'd like to start by saying what an honor and privilege it is to be the president of such a wonderful organization of women educators. We have an amazing board, who I would like to re-introduce to you right now: 1st Vice-President Catherine Fortunato, 2nd Vice-President Diane Roberts, Recording Secretary Chris Musick, Corresponding Secretary Luella Vengenock, Treasurer Ellen Hahn, Parliamentarian Dr. Barbara Glazewski and finally, our Past State President, Dr. Nora Pollard.

I would like to thank the committee chairs and members who agreed to continue to lead our organization forward during the next two years and to the chapter presidents who are entering into their second year of their biennium. For my biennium theme...I'm challenging all of us to "reimagine our future and reignite our purpose" for doing what we do best...empowering women educators and inspiring leadership! I hope you took one of the little cards I had in the basket up front and read its message. "Before you're a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others! I want you to keep this little card in a place where you might see it often as a reminder of our purpose. Attached is a tiny packet of wildflower seeds (hummingbird & butterfly mix)...sprinkle them somewhere in the sun and shortly, watch your newest best friends show up. This a visual metaphor for what we do (Yes...I'm a right brained visual person). We sprinkle metaphorical seeds, through our thoughts, actions, ideas, kind

words, and encouragement... most of these eventually will come to fruition. It may take a little time and look a little different but that's ok, because of the foundation we've established and the expectation, to leave a "legacy of excellence!"

Cathy, Diane, and I traveled to the Delta Kappa Gamma International Leadership Training Conference in Irvington, TX at the end of June for our officers training. This was a first time for them, and it was exciting for me to see them excited about this opportunity and experience what it means to get together with women who are equally impassioned toward our common goal! I look forward to seeing how they inspire and lead our members. In July, a few Jersey girls met in Phoenix, AZ for the International Conference...themed... "Moving forward with vitality, relevance, and sustainability in our changing world". They say it's a small world...Debbie LeBlanc our president comes over and says, "you need to meet our book award winner Dr. Denise Furlong...she's from New Jersey and is interested in becoming a member! I encourage you to attend these events. They are eye opening and an insight to the bigger picture...I'm telling you...you will meet women who will change your lives!

Next summer, the International Convention will be held in National Harbor, MD., July 9-13. If you think you are interested, Luella will be collecting names. Please let her know as soon as possible so she may plan a Jersey Girls get together.

Returning to my biennium theme... DKGNJ has a solid foundation of traditions and service, we don't need to reinvent anything but reimagine and define what works and maybe not put as much emphasis on things that don't serve our purpose anymore. The DKG vision is, "Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide..." But our International President's words... Moving with vitality, relevance, and sustainability in our changing world are even more powerful. Covid and post covid threw us into a slump and bless our leaders who motivated us through that. In thinking about the next two years, however, I'm asking you to be creative and flexible. "Reimagining our future, reigniting our purpose ..." Let's think about this... There are many things I hope we can accomplish during this biennium, many seeds to be planted, many women to inspire!

One of my main concerns, along with the presidents that preceded me, is our decline in membership. It's not just a trend in New Jersey; it's a trend throughout Delta Kappa Gamma. There are many, many key women educators out there that we need to reach out to. Our Keynote Speaker for convention 2024, Dr. Denise Furlong, said to me this summer in Phoenix..." How come I never heard of you!"

Ladies...she is a professor at Georgian Court! WE CAN increase our membership. It's up to all of us to look around and invite women to join us. There's no doubt that we have a marketing issue. We're working on that! Others need to know who we are. Get the brand out there, we have the DKG magnetic tags, to place on the back of your car. Simple things like this start the conversations we need to have. Let's begin by advertising ourselves – starting today.

For my President's Project this biennium, I'd like to continue the work we started with Booksmiles and support children's literacy. Our goal is to collect 15,000 books for children. We can make a huge impact on the lives of children. When action meets compassion, lives change. These actions also give us the opportunity to showcase DKGNJ. Booksmiles has grown even larger and is making a broader impact on children's and teachers' lives. Please check out their website, I know you'll be impressed and supportive of this initiative.

Lastly, I want to thank Diana Vasil (Gamma) and Karla Bulovsack (Gamma) who once again did a terrific job of keeping all of us caffeinated and fed at the state meetings. Ladies, thank you!

Committee Reports

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

President Irene Maskaly met with chapter presidents.

Discussed:

- Email and cell numbers checked and approved. I will post material on DKGNJ website and text when an email is sent to make sure it's received.
- Identify the best way to communicate with your members including mailing newsletter to members with no email.
- Go to the international site (dkg.org) and sign in, go to MY DKG tab and check information as well as mailing preferences. Do this also with members so they receive materials from headquarters.
- Reviewed attachments to meeting. Timelines were updated to be current. Also check white rose ceremony to be used by the chapter at funerals (with family permission).
- Important upcoming dates for the year.
January 6, 2024 – DKGNJ State meeting, Steinert High School
April 12-14, 2024, DKGNJ State Convention Doubletree Hotel, Somerset
June 1, 2024 – DKGNJ State meeting Leadership Training, Steinert High School
July 9-13, 2014 -DKG International Convention, National Harbor, MD
- Discussed State convention 2024 and need to stress attendance and attend meals - many fun things planned. Will be a blend of old and new initiatives.
- Rose and Dedicated service award this year.
- Dues reminder-Connect with dropped members
- Doublecheck chapter rules and SAP
- President Project
- Answers to survey questions
- Additional information on the international website under President's resources.
- Presidents were reminded to contact me if they needed assistance, zoom is always an option.

Future Action(s)

Regularly check with website and Facebook for communications and encourage members to do so as well.

PROGRAM PLANNING

First vice-president Cathy Fortunato presented her report.

- The EEC was defined as per guidelines given at the DKG Leadership Training last July 2023.
- State Convention News -
 - Keynote Speaker: Dr. Denise A. Furlong, DKG Book Award recipient 2023 for Voices of Newcomers: Experiences of Multilingual Learners.
 - Workshop Proposals: 11 proposals, independently choose 8 workshops by the week of October 2-9.
 - Book Recommendations: 10 with summaries, share with chapters and choose 2 books by October 27.
- Hopes and Dreams for Your Chapter: published by DKG International Society, questions to ask and changes to consider. Share Chapter Projects.
- Shared Program by Arlene Newman: The Zeta Chapter invites all sisters to attend. "A Disability is Not an Inability", an evening with Jessica Cox on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 7:15 pm. The free presentation takes place at the Ocean County Library, Toms River Branch, 101 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ 08753. "Possible Thinking, Achieve the Impossible." Jessica is a motivational speaker and life coach who became the world's first licensed armless pilot, earning her worldwide notoriety.
- Shared Future Program: Fall 2024. Plan a trip to the Morgan Library and Museum at 225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016. **Fall 2024 Exhibit – Belle da Costa Greene: A Librarian's Legacy**

Four Handouts:

What is the Educational Excellence Committee?

Workshop Proposals

Book Recommendations

Hopes and Dreams for Your Chapter, DKG Society International

MEMBERSHIP

Second vice-president Diane Roberts presented her report.

Twelve Chapters were represented in our meeting. Attendees were introduced to our Logic Model initiative for the biennium, which is “to involve our current membership to recruit new members, concentrating on active educators.” Lower membership data and causes were cited as well as actions for potential, active, collegiate and chapters officers to address. A presence at next year’s NJEA conference is included in the plan.

- Chapters were urged to make sure their rules and bylaws allow collegiate members.
- A brochure from the International Membership and Expansion Committee was distributed to clarify who is eligible for membership.
- A script to phone call former members was also given out, as research had shown that 59% of dropped members would likely return to the organization.
- Other handouts were shown and passed around. Many attendees requested the documents be also emailed to them as electronic files, including the month-to-month guide for membership chairs.
- Slips with the county teachers of the year were also distributed to the chapters which encompassed the area where the person is instructing, in hopes that they could be contacted and encouraged to become a part of DKG.

Future Action(s)

We will keep in contact with ideas and results of reaching out to others. Darci Erickson has offered to help with the prepared script to help recruit new members as stated in the logic model that President Irene Maskaly, 1st Vice President Cathy Fortunato and I worked on during our June training in Texas with DKG International.

CONVENTION

Carol Schwartz (Gamma), Susan Davis (Epsilon), and Jan Paxton (Alpha) presented their report.

- Convention April 12-14, 2024
- Please book your room from the website for it to go towards our room obligations.
- No breakfast with room.

FINANCE

Joan Oehm (Alpha) presented the 2024-25 budget. (Attached)

RULES AND BYLAWS

Dawn Flanders (Mu) and Dr. Barbara Glazewski presented their report.

No proposed amendments to Bylaws or Rules for 2023-2024. Suggestions were made to use this year to help chapters update their rules. Sigma, Nu, Lambda and Alpha offered to share their updated chapter rules. R/BL chairs offered to be a resource to any chapter requesting assistance.

Future Action(s)

- Construct and disseminate chapter R/BL chair email list.
- Encourage and assist DKG NJ chapter R/BL chairs in updating their chapter rules.

HISTORIAN

PJ Madreperl presented the Historians report.

The committee made up of Chapter representatives for the Historian Committee continue with their ongoing history of their Chapter. In the past year, all Chapters were consulted to determine if they had materials/records that were of a certain age that they would like to archive in the State Archives at Georgian Court. The Chapters that responded determined they wanted to maintain all records within the Chapter.

The Historian Committee will turn its focus this year to State records through the different officers and committees.

Future Action(s)

In the coming year, the Historian Committee will:

- Visit Georgian Court and assess the facilities for practical storage space.
- Work with State officers and Chairs to determine what records and materials they possess.
- Determine a date where prior records may be archived at Georgian Court to lessen the burden of storing records at one's home or other facility.
- Assess the appropriate storage supplies needed to house the records to ensure the safety of the records from any outside elements.
- Work to support new and continuing Chapter Historians.

NECROLOGY

Darci Erickson (Eta) presented her report.

- We had nine chapters represented.
- We covered how to use the google forms to complete Form 6 and update necrology chair info and how to access the forms.
- We discussed and brainstormed ideas for keeping member bios current and for connecting with less active members.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Pamela Albert Devine (Mu) and Shannon Pizzuta (Iota) presented their report.

- The communications committee reviewed the duties of this committee as outlined in the state bylaws.
- Members of this committee include webmasters, newsletters chairs, communications chairs and social media chairs.
- Information from Jan Paxton, state webmaster, was reviewed.
- Shannon Pizzuta, state newsletter editor, reviewed guidelines and submission information.
- Goals, objectives and actions from the Strategic Action Plan, pertinent to this committee, were reviewed
- Committee members expressed concerns over issues with using Weebly for their chapter websites due to things being password protected and the quantity and size of photos and potential costs.
- Eta's Webmaster shared that she utilizes Google Sites for their chapter website and shared the site with the committee.
- Committee members shared what they are posting on their chapter websites as well as in their newsletters.
- The Communications Committee Report from the 2023 Convention was reviewed and recommendations from that report were discussed with the committee.
 - To increase the postings on the Twitter page
 - To research ways to encourage members to post important information about their chapters and their individual, professional accomplishments
 - To increase membership engagement on these social media
 - To explore the possibility of adding an Instagram Account
- Jan Paxton addressed these concerns and reminded members that it is important for all login and password information for the chapter websites be kept by multiple people so that if something happens to the webmaster, the chapter would still have access.
- DKG publications and pertinent Information was shared with the committee. The Bulletin submission grid was shared with the committee and hotlinks were provided for the following:

- DKG News
 - President Page
 - Get Connected
 - The Bulletin
 - Journal
 - Magazine
- A Communications Committee folder has been established on the Google Drive with all the information from this meeting. The folder was shared with the members in attendance and will be shared with other chapters as well.
(A picture of the committee at the state meeting is included in the report.)
 - The committee will research setting up an Instagram account for DKG-NJ
 - Committee members were asked to encourage their fellow members to not only read the International publications but also to contribute to them.
 - Chapter members are encouraged to visit/like/follow the existing Facebook and Twitter pages:
Facebook: NewJerseyStateOrganizationDKG
Twitter: New Jersey State Organization DKG @NJStateOrgDKG

Unfinished Business - None

New Business - None

Announcements

Barbara Henderson (Epsilon) announced that the Dedicated Service Award would be presented at convention this year. The nominations form is online. You may renominate someone who has not been chosen in the past. There have been many excellent nominees.

Shannon Pizzuta reminded members to contribute to DKG publications. Oct 2 is the deadline for submission. Send items such as chapter information, chapter sales information, or member spotlight as examples.

Patty Curtis (Epsilon) and Laura Perrius (Alpha) announced that there will be an Arts Festival at Convention. A google form has been created to enter. There is a flyer on the state website for further information.

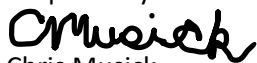
Irene Maskaly continued:

Our next state meeting will be back here at Steinert High School on Saturday, January 6, 2024. I am looking forward to seeing you all!

Motion to Adjourn

Dr. Barbara Glazewski moved to adjourn the meeting. PJ Madreperl seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Musick

Recording Secretary