

## NATIONAL SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA, INC. JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

www.nspdk.org www.nspdkacademy.org



#### "In the Blink of an Eye"

#### **Greetings, Sorors!**

It's been thirty days since the last newsletter, and it feels like a lifetime. I have been social distancing, wearing masks, and staying in contact remotely with friends and family. I recently was reminded of a saying my mother would express when she was overwhelmed with which the speed of change was taking place in her life. She would say "it just happened in the blink of an eye." So, I wrote about the fast-moving recent events.

Yes, my mother was right! Things and circumstances will happen "In the blink of an eye!" That is because one of the most constant things in life is change. We pray for strength, courage, resilience, patience, and faith to weather the storms of life and know that after the blink, our eyes will open to a bright future.

Be blessed, Sorors

Moving NSPDK Forward......Together! Etta F. Carter, Ph.D. Supreme Basileus





#### Barack Obama's Message to Graduating Seniors: "Set The World On a Different Path"

I couldn't be prouder of all of you in the graduating class of 2020—as well as the teachers, the coaches, and most of all, parents and family who guided you along the way.

Now, graduating is a big achievement under any circumstances. Some of you've had to overcome serious obstacles along the way, whether it was an illness, or a parent losing a job, or living in a neighborhood where people too often count you out. Along with the usual challenges of growing up, all of you had to deal with the added pressures of social media, reports of school shootings, and the specter of climate change.

And then, just as you're about to celebrate having made it through, just as you've been looking forward to proms, senior nights, graduation ceremonies, and lets face it, a whole bunch of parties, the world is turned upside down by a global pandemic. As much as I'm sure you love your parents, I'll bet that being stuck at home with them and playing board games or watching *Tiger King* on TV is not exactly how you envisioned the last few months of your senior year.

Now, I'll be honest with you. The disappointments of missing a live graduation, those will pass pretty quick. I don't remember much of my own high school graduation. I know that not having to sit there and listen to a commencement speaker isn't all that bad. Mine usually go on way too long. Also, not that many people look great in those caps, especially if you have big ears like me. And you'll have plenty of time to catch up with your friends, once the immediate public health crisis is over.

But what remains true is that your graduation marks your passage into adulthood. The time when you begin to take charge of your own life. It's when you get to decide what's important to you, the kind of career you want to pursue, who you want to build a family with, the values you want to live by. And given the current state of the world, that may be kind of scary.

If you planned on going away for college, getting dropped off at campus in the fall—that's no longer a given. If you were planning to work while going to school, finding that first job is going to be tougher. Even families that are

relatively well off are dealing with massive uncertainty. Those who were struggling before, they're hanging on by a thread. All of which means that you're going to have to grow up faster than some generations. This pandemic has shaken up the status quo and laid bare a lot of our countries deep-seated problems. From massive economic inequality, to ongoing racial disparities, to a lack of basic healthcare for people who need it.

It's woken a lot of young people up to the fact that the old ways of doing things just don't work. That it doesn't matter how much money you make, if everyone around you is hungry and sick. And that our society and our democracy only work when we think, not just about ourselves, but about each other. It's also pulled the curtain back on another hard truth. Something that we all have to eventually accept once our childhood comes to an end. All those adults you used to think were in charge and knew what they were doing? Turns out they don't have all the answers. A lot of them aren't even asking the right questions. So, if the world's going to get better, it's going to be up to you.

That realization may be kind of intimidating, but I hope it's also inspiring. With all the challenges this country faces right now, nobody can tell you "oh you're too young to understand," or "this is how it's always been done." Because with so much uncertainty, with everything suddenly up for grabs, this is your generation's world to shape. Since I'm one of the old guys, I won't tell you what to do with this power that rests in your hands. But I'll leave you with three quick pieces of advice:

First, don't be afraid. America's gone through tough times before. Slavery, civil war, famine, disease, the Great Depression, and 9/11. Each time we came out stronger. Usually because a new generation—young people like you—learned from past mistakes and figured out how to make things better.

Second, do what you think is right. Doing what feels good—what's convenient, what's easy that's how little kids thing. Unfortunately, a lot of so-called grownups, including some with fancy titles and important jobs, still think that way. Which is why things are so screwed up. I hope that instead you decide to ground yourself in values that last, like honesty, hard work, responsibility, fairness, generosity, respect for others. You won't get it right every time, you'll make mistakes like we all do. But if you listen to the truth that's inside yourself even when it's hard, even when it's inconvenient, people will notice. They'll gravitate toward you, and you'll be part of the solution instead of part of the problem.

And finally, build a community. No one does big things by themselves. Right now, when people are scared, it's easy to be cynical and say let me just look out for myself, or my family, or people who look or think or pray like me. But if we're going to get through these difficult times, if we're going to create a world where everybody has opportunity to find a job and afford college, if we're going to save the environment and defeat future pandemics, then we're going to have to do it together.

So be alive to one another's struggles. Stand up for one another's rights. Leave behind all the old ways of thinking that divide us: sexism, racial prejudice, status, greed. Set the world on a different path. When you need help, Michelle and I have made it the mission of our foundation to give young people like you the skills and support to lead in your own communities. And to connect you with other young leaders around the country and around the globe. But the truth is you don't need us to tell you what to do. Because in so many ways you've already started to lead.

Congratulations, Class of 2020. Keep making us proud."



#### Michelle Obama's Commencement Speech



Michelle Obama: (00:07)

Hey everybody. It is an honor to be here with you to help celebrate this amazing milestone in your lives. Graduation from college or high school is a culmination of years of hard work. So please enjoy this moment. You deserve this celebration. Congratulations. This is an important time of transition in light of the current state of our country. I struggled to find the right words of wisdom for you today. So I am here today to talk to you, not as the former first lady, but as a real life person, a mother, a mentor, a citizen concerned about your future and the future of our country. Because right now, all that superficial stuff of titles and positions, all of that has been stripped away.

#### • Michelle Obama: (<u>01:02</u>)

A lot of us are reckoning with the most basic essence of who we are. Over these past couple of months, our foundation has been shaken, not just by a pandemic that stole too many of our loved ones, up ended our daily lives and sent tens of millions into unemployment. But also by the rumbling of the age old fault lines that our country was built on the lines of race and power that are now once again. So nakedly exposed for all of us to grapple with.

#### • Michelle Obama: (<u>01:41</u>)

So if any of you are scared or confused or angry or just plain overwhelmed by it all, if you feel you're searching for lifeline just to steady yourself, you are not alone. I am feeling all of that too. I think we all are. So I want you to know that it's okay to be confused. It's okay if you don't understand exactly what you're feeling, we're all sorting through this in real time. But here's the thing, while this period is certainly unprecedented, it is not a complete anomaly, simply some random coincidence to be dismissed. Now what's happening right now is the direct result of decades of unaddressed, prejudice, and inequality. The truth is when it comes to all those tiny stories of hard work and self determination that we'd like to tell ourselves about America.

#### • Michelle Obama: (<u>02:44</u>)

Well, the reality is a lot more complicated than that because for too many people in this country, no matter how hard they work, there are structural barriers working against them that just make the road longer and rockier. And sometimes it's almost impossible to move upward at all, because if you're required to work during a pandemic, but don't have enough protective equipment or health insurance from your employer or paid sick leave, what is more essential, your work or your life. If you don't feel safe driving your own car in your own neighborhood or going for a jog or buying some candy at 7-eleven or bird watching. If you can't even approach the police without fearing for your life. Well, then how do you begin to chart your own course?

## • Michelle Obama: (03:42) And as so often as the case, these questions compound upon themselves, see if you're

struggling already just to keep your head above water. If you're living in a constant state of fear, how much farther behind will you be after months in quarantine and without a job. These are uncomfortable questions, questions that have dogged this country for generations, but are now staring us in the face. Every time we look at our phones or hear helicopters circling our neighborhoods. The tough part is nobody has all the answers. If my generation did trust me, we'd have fixed the whole of this long time ago, but that doesn't mean we should feel hopeless. Just the opposite, because what we finally do have is focus. We see what's happening in stark relief. We see how these inequalities are playing out on our streets, and it's not just the communities most affected by these challenges that see it now.

• Michelle Obama: (<u>04:56</u>)

It's folks all across the country who for too long have had the luxury and privilege of looking away. We all have no choice, but to see what has been staring us in the face for years, for centuries. So the question is, how will we respond? Like I said before, I don't have any easy answers for you, but I do have some lessons I want to share about how to move forward in these tumultuous times. The first is this life will always be uncertain. It is a lesson that most of us get the chance to learn over the course of years and years, even decades, but one that you're learning right now. This is a time in your life when it feels like everything is turned upside down and perhaps you're wishing that things could just go back to the way they were. Look, I've been there many times in my life.

• Michelle Obama: (<u>06:00</u>)

I felt it most profoundly when my father and my best friend died within a year of each other. I was in my late 20s. Oh and it felt like my whole world was collapsing in on itself. I would have given anything, anything to bring them back. But that experience gave me a kind of clarity with everything and pieces around me, I had to forge a new path. A path, fortunately, more focused on meaning and

service. So graduates, I hope that what you're going through right now can be your wake up call that it pushes you, not just to think about what kind of career you want to build. What kind of person do you want to be? Here's the thing, you have the opportunity to learn these valuable lessons faster than the generations before you. You can learn them together as a cohort of young people ready to take on the world, no matter how tumultuous it may be.

• Michelle Obama: (<u>07:10</u>)

That leads me to my second lesson, in an uncertain world time tested values like honesty and integrity, empathy and compassion. That's the only real currency in life. Treating people right will never ever fail you. Now, I'm not naive. I know that you can climb a long way up the ladder selling falsehoods and blaming others for your own shortcomings, shunning those with less privilege and advantage. But that is a heavy way to live. It deadens your spirit and it hardens your heart may seem like a winning strategy in the short run. But trust me, graduates that kind of life catches up to you. You rob yourself of the things that matter most. Deep and loving connections with others, honest work that leads to lasting contributions to your community. The vibrancy that comes from a diversity of ideas and perspectives, the chance to leave this world a little better than you found it.

Michelle Obama: (08:23)

Don't deprive yourselves of all that. There is no substitute for it. Instead, make a decision to use your privilege and your voice for the things that really matter, which is my third lesson today, to share that voice with the rest of the world. For those of you who feel invisible, please know that your story matters, your ideas matter, your experiences matter, your vision for what our world can and should be matters. So don't ever, ever let anyone tell you that you're too angry or that you should keep your mouth shut. There will always be those who want to keep you silent. To have

you be seen, but not heard. Maybe they don't even want to see you at all, but those people don't know your story. If you listen to them, then nothing will ever change. So it's up to you to speak up when you or someone, you know isn't being heard, it's up to you to speak out against cruelty, dishonesty, bigotry, all of it. It's up to you to march hand in hand with your allies to stand peacefully with dignity and purpose on the front lines, in the fight for justice.

- Michelle Obama: (<u>09:57</u>)
  - Here's the last part. It's up to you to couple every protest with plans and policies, with organizing and mobilizing and voting and that's my final piece of advice. Graduates, anger is a powerful force. It can be a useful force, but left on its own it will only corrode and destroy and sow chaos on the inside and out. But when anger is focused, when it's channeled into something more, oh, that is the stuff that changes history. Dr. King was angry. Sojourner Truth was angry. Lucretia Mott, Cesar Chavez, the folks at Stonewall, they were all angry, but those folks were also driven by compassion, by principle, by hope.
- Michelle Obama: (11:00) So they took advantage of whatever resources they had in their own time, thundering from the pulpit and the convention floor, penning letters from a jail cell, standing up for their rights in the face of police violence. They built coalitions with folks like them and different from them. They got fluent in the language of power. They sat down with leaders they disagreed with because they knew that if they wanted their vision to be made real, it needed to be made law. It needed to be voiced, not just on the streets, but in the halls of power. It needed to be carried, not just by the housekeeper and the shift worker, but by the senator and the congresswoman and yes the President of the United States.
- Michelle Obama: (<u>11:51</u>)
   So graduates, it is your time now and look, our democracy isn't perfect. But I have

traveled the world and seeing the governments and people in so many other countries. I can tell you that our democracy is sturdy and yes, it still works, but it doesn't work if you silence yourselves. It does not work if you disengage from the process. We're seeing the consequences of that right now. But if you hold strong with the same faith that carried all of those giants before you toward real measurable progress, you will change the course of history. So what does that mean for your time? It starts where change always starts in your own home, in your own social circles, in your own neighborhoods, at your own dinner tables. Sometimes it's easy to stand with strangers that are protests than it is to challenge someone in your own backyard.

- Michelle Obama: (<u>13:03</u>)
- So if you hear people expressing bigoted views or talking down to those people, it is up to you to call them out because we won't solve anything. If we're only willing to do what's easiest, we've got to make hard choices and sacrifices in our own lives. So if you're spending a lot of time, just hashtaging and posting right now that's useful, especially during a pandemic, but it's only a beginning. Go further, send all your friends a link to register to vote, text everybody you know to join you in exercising, their constitutional right to protest. Ask yourself, do you know where your polling place is? Do you know when your primary elections are held? Do you know how to request a mail in ballot? Who are the incumbents and the candidates at every level of government, not just president, but state representative, city council, prosecutors, sheriff.
- Michelle Obama: (14:05)
   And don't just ask yourselves these questions.
   Ask your friends, your family, ask everyone you see in your neighborhood. And while we're reaching out, please let's give everyone who's working toward progress space to be themselves. Everybody has got to vote when

the time comes, but the activism that leads up to that day comes in many forms. Some want to march right up in front, others prefer to stay back, some kneel in the pews, others on the street corner, some canvas their neighborhoods, others run for office. Some do an honest day's work and raise good kids. Others choose to focus on their education and use that degree to address these issues and build a better life for themselves and those around them. Graduates, it's all important and we need every bit of it. So we cannot allow our hurt and our frustration to turn us against each other, to cancel somebody else's point of view. If we don't agree with every last bit of their approach.

• Michelle Obama: (<u>15:17</u>) That kind of thinking only divides us and distracts us from our higher calling, it is the gum in the wheel of progress. Graduates this is how you can finish the work that the generations before you have started, by staying open and hopeful, even in the tough times. By channeling that discomfort you feel into activism and a democracy that was designed to respond to those who vote. Here's the thing, I know you can do it because over these many years, I've seen exactly who you are. I've seen your creativity and your talent and your resourcefulness. I've seen you speaking out in gun violence and fight climate change. I've seen you gathering donations for those in need during this pandemic.

• Michelle Obama: (16:20)

I've seen you marching with peace and with purpose and that is why even in tough times like these, you continue to be what gives me hope. Graduates, you all are exactly what we need right now and for the years and decades to come, you're learning so much so quickly. I know that not only can you do better than those who came before you, you will. So it's your time. I love you all. I believe in you all. I want you to be safe and I can't wait to see you take the reins.

Congratulations again on your graduation. God bless you.





## MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE...

## See It Through

**By EDGAR ALBERT GUEST** 

When you're up against a trouble,
Meet it squarely, face to face;
Lift your chin and set your shoulders,
Plant your feet and take a brace.
When it's vain to try to dodge it,
Do the best that you can do;
You may fail, but you may conquer,
See it through!

And your future may seem grim,
But don't let your nerve desert you;
Keep yourself in fighting trim.
If the worst is bound to happen,
Spite of all that you can do,
Running from it will not save you,
See it through!

Even hope may seem but futile,
When with troubles you're beset,
But remember you are facing
Just what other men have met.
You may fail, but fall still fighting;
Don't give up, whate'er you do;
Eyes front, head high to the finish.
See it through!

Xi Chapter has a college graduate! During his high school career, Ahmad Williams was mentored in the Kudos



Program. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Millersville University, Millersville, PA. Ahmad's major of study was in Music with a concentration in Voice Management. He has accepted a position as a High School College Career Coach with the School District of Philadelphia. Ahmad is planning to further his education to obtain his Master's Degree in Intellectual Property Law.

Job well done Ahmad Williams! We are so proud of you!

Congratulations

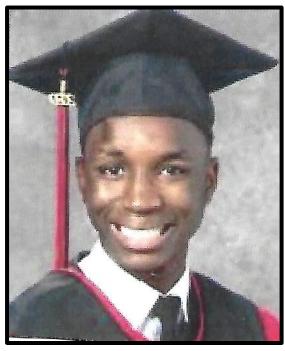
Class

of

## **2020 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**



Gisselle Ninoska Rosales Alpha Delta Chapter Southeast Region



Aboubacar Barie Alpha Epsilon Chapter Southeast Region



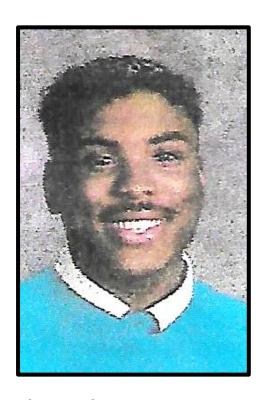
Desiree Taylor Beta Mu Chapter Midwest Region



Samyia Copelin Beta Chapter Eastern Region



DeVonte' Marvin-Keith Martin Zeta Beta Chapter Southwest Region



Christopher C. Jones Beta Phi Chapter Far West Region



Madison Victoria Smith Delta Beta Chapter Southwest Region



Eyuche Obiageli Okorie Beta Nu Chapter Far West Region



Jada A. Barfield Gamma Nu Chapter Southwest Region Kappa Omicron Tau



Adrienne M. Clotman Alpha Xi Chapter Midwest Region Doctoral Scholarship



Morgan A. Longmire Gamma Theta Chapter Southeast Region Kappa Omicron Tau



Shannon Johnson Gamma Nu Chapter Southwest Region Doctoral Scholarship





June 19, 2016, 3:11 PM EDT/Updated June 11, 2020 By Ko Bragg

#### Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration honoring the end of slavery in the United States.

On June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger led thousands of federal troops to Galveston, Texas to announce that the Civil War had ended, and slaves had been freed. Approximately 250,000 Texan slaves had no idea that their freedom had been secured by the government.

However, the history of freedom in this country can be tangled, and this is no exception.

#### Here are nine facts about the historical moment, and what led up to it.

- 1. You may recall Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation from elementary social studies classes. In the condensed version, many learn that this executive order meant immediate freedom for slaves throughout the nation. However, since the country was in the midst of the Civil War, those states that had seceded from the Union did not adhere to the Proclamation, and slaves in those states remained unfree.
- 2. Though much of the language in the Emancipation Proclamation suggests otherwise, Lincoln's primary objective was not to ameliorate the lives of those in bondage. Rather, his intent was preserving the Union.

In August 1862, Horace Greely, the editor of the New York Tribune, published an editorial addressed to Lincoln pressuring his stance on slavery and urging him to abolish it. <u>Lincoln responded in an open letter to Greely</u>, published in the Tribune that same August:

"My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union and is not either to save or destroy Slavery," Lincoln wrote. "What I do about Slavery and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save this Union..."

- 3. Lincoln and the Union army used slavery as a political motive to justify strengthened military endeavors against the Confederacy. <u>Black soldiers were able to fight</u> for the Union when Lincoln passed the Proclamation. Though they faced discrimination and often performed menial roles because of presumed incompetence, they increased the Union army in size.
- 4. The Civil War ended in April of 1865. In June of that year, General Gordon Granger and his troops traveled to Galveston, Texas to announce "General Orders No. 3" It stated: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free.

- 5. Throughout the war, <u>Texas was not as closely monitored as other battle states.</u> For this reason, many slave owners went to Texas with their slaves. With its relatively negligible Union presence, slavery continued there for much longer. After the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, slaves in wartorn states often escaped behind Union lines or fought on its behalf
- 6. The slaves who got the news were jubilant to hear of their freedom on Juneteenth. In the book, <u>"Lone Star Pasts: Memory and History in Texas,"</u> Felix Haywood, a former slave who gave a testimony about Juneteenth as part of a New Deal project recalled:

"The end of the war, it come jus' like that—like you snap your fingers....Hallelujah broke out....Soldiers, all of a sudden, was everywhere—comin' in bunches, crossin', walkin' and ridin'. Everyone was a-singin.' We was all walkin' on golden clouds....Everybody went wild...We was free. Just like that we was free."

- 7. Freedom did not come at the "snap of a finger" for everyone in Texas. Some people who should've been freed continued to work through the harvest season because their masters withheld this announcement to reap more wages out of their slaves. This left many former slaves treated as though they were still in bondage.
- 8. In the 1870s, <u>a group former slaves pooled \$800 together</u> through local churches to purchase ten acres of land and create Emancipation Park to host future Juneteenth celebrations in modern-day Houston.
- 9. In 1980 "Emancipation Day in Texas" became a legal state holiday in recognition of Juneteenth. However, state offices do not completely close, as it is considered a "partial staffing holiday." Elsewhere, the holiday is also referred to as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, and Black Independence Day.

Many continue to celebrate Juneteenth 151 years later. Throughout the nation people host cookouts, parades, and other gatherings to commemorate





## **NSPDK MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER...**















**ALPHA XI** 



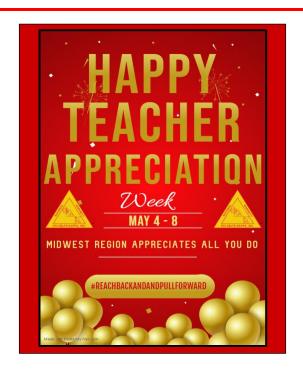


**ALPHA XI CHAPTER** 

**GAMMA RHO CHAPTER** 

### **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK...**













**GAMMA DELTA CHAPTER** 













### WELCOME SORORS TO THE SISTERHOOD OF WILLING WORKERS



EPSILON SIGMA CHAPTER'S FIRST LINE MAKING HISTORY - BASILEUS DR. TARA DOWDELL

## 2020 EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION KRINON CLUB ALPHA GAMMA CHAPTER JACKSONVILLE, FL

Click on link below to view excellent by Jacquelyn Gardner, Brenda Byard, and L. Nicole McCray

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SoCbtQhVPUJQAJKlxYDjYcNaZDghyiRp/view?usp=drive web



EPSILON TAU CHAPTER INTRODUCED "EMPOWERED E. 11.E.V.E.N"





**BETA ZETA CHAPTER NEW SORORS** 



B E T A Z E T A

D E L T A P



#### The Phi Delta Kappa Woman

By Soror Shemeka Brathwaite Beta Omicron Chapter

Who can find a Phi Delta Kappa woman? She is rare as the finest gem.

She stands tall in the world like the calla lilies in the gardens but is truly humbled with elegance and grace.

When she eloquently speaks, her audience is captivated and is enlightened by the knowledge she freely gives.



She diligently serves her community and contributes to the society in which she lives.

She reaps the seeds of potential to those she has been entrusted. She embraces change for she is well prepared for whatever may come her way.

She embodies the very definition of sisterhood. She reaches out to her sorors when they are in need. During the good times and bad, she is never too far away.

Over the years she will continue to impact many individuals and generations to come. She will leave a legacy that will always be remembered and never forgotten.



#### SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is a bond between women that can't be broken
The bond and love we have for each other is felt even when words are unspoken

We build intentional and unbreakable bonds
Our sisterhood will suffice on earth and beyond

We are powerful, prompt, industrious, dependable, and knowledgeable Together or apart our work in education is viable

We are a group of like-minded individuals who share a passion for education Turning young ambitious princes and princesses to Kings and Queens from generation to generation

Sisterhood is not defined by the blood that runs through our veins
It is about the love and support we showed each other through COVID-19
By Malika Becton (Krinon Line)

#### STAND UP AND TAKE A BOW!!

Standing ovation for Soror Lisa Mims, who is not only trending but setting a standard for educators in Delaware. What better way to put a cap on the 2020 National Teachers Appreciation Week then by applauding one of our own. Read more about her leadership in education by clicking the following links:

http://rodelde.org/leading-the-way-on-sel-a-qa-with-lisa-mims/ SOROR LISA MIMS Teacher Appreciation Week

#### A SERVING PAIR OF SORORS

**Peggie Faulks Myles** and **Frances Faulks** are active members of NSPDK, Inc., Nu Chapter in Birmingham, Alabama. These sisters followed in the path of their mother, who was a prominent educator in the Birmingham (Jefferson County) School System. **BOTH**, now retired, still maintain a highly active life with children of various organization. Most of their involvement is "TEAMWORK".

As sorors of NU Chapter, **BOTH** have been Basileus of the chapter; served in most of the chapter offices; have worked with the Youth of the chapter for numerous years, to see some of their former Xinos and KOT's now as active sorors. They

have **BOTH** become Life, Ruby, and the FIRST class of Diamond Life members.



**BOTH** sisters have attended most of the Regional and National meetings, missing fewer than two, since their induction.

**BOTH** sisters have and/or currently hold offices in the region and on the national level: Peggie-Supreme Epistoleus, 2nd Supreme Anti Basileus, Southeast Regional Director, and currently SER Tamiouchos. Frances has served as Southeast Regional Xinos Advisor, SE Regional Tamiouchos, and currently the Supreme Parliamentarian.

**BOTH** sisters supervise a youth club, Jr. Imperial/Imperialite Club, which is an affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women's Club. They were **BOTH** members of this club as teenagers.

**BOTH** sisters are Life Members of Girl Scouts of America. Together they are leaders of four troops, three in school, and one church based. Together they have attended National Girl Scout conventions, and promoting Girl attendance to such sites as Los Angeles, CA. Salt Lake City, Utah, and others.

**BOTH** sisters are graduates of Tuskegee University (Institute) and actively participate in the local Alumni Association. They have also together attended most of the Homecoming weekends since their graduation, missing only a few. At TU, they sang in the famous Tuskegee Institute choir.

**BOTH** have received honors and awards from local and national organizations. A recent honor was given to these sorors in Birmingham during Women's History Month by the Mayor of the City. This was the *StrongHER* Recognition which cited ladies of the city who had impacted the lives of children throughout the city.

The photo accompanying their citation had them dressed as TWINS. TWINS, they are not. Peggie is the oldest of three sisters. The photo was taken at a regular sorority meeting where the theme was "TWINsations". There are some differences. Peggie, the COOK. Frances, the dishwasher. Peggie likes decorating, and gardening. Frances likes reading and is the indoor technician.

**BOTH** Baptist, however, they attend different churches regularly and are active in the church. It's easy to work together since they **BOTH** share the same address.





Congratulations to our newest members from Xi Chapter who were initiated on a beautiful sunny afternoon. Welcome "Phenomenal Phive" into the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Incorporated.



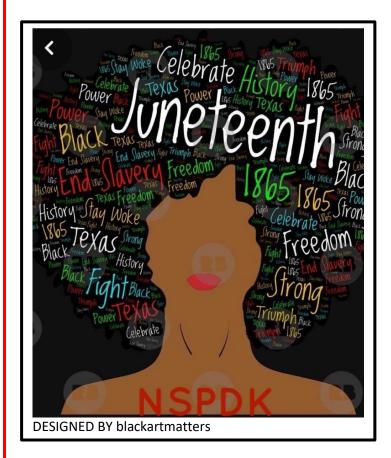


**BETA OMICRON CHAPTER WELCOMES NEW SORORS** 





## **ALWAYS REMEMBER...**





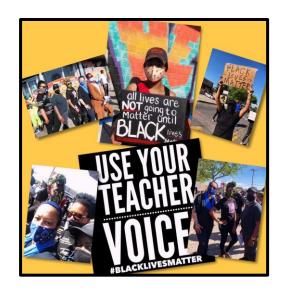
TO RESEARCH AND DISCOVER THE IMPORTANCE OF JUNETEENTH ...

#### KNOWLEDGE

IS

#### **POWER!!**





**DELTA NU CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH** 

#### **NSPDK CONTINES TO MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER...**





# National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. Gamma Nu Chapter Sisterhood Summer Writing Circle



Need an accountability partner? Your Sorors have your back!

Join us on Zoom for dedicated weekly writing blocks so you can make progress on your creative scholarship, educational pursuits, research, journaling, and/ or grant writing!

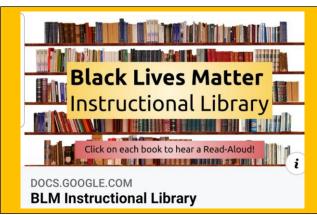
Questions or need later evening hours? Reach out to Soror Shannon!

On Thursday, June 25, 2020, Sorors Queen Malone and Marian Carey presented a donation to the H.E.R. Shelter for misplaced families as part of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Inc. Alpha Chi chapter's service program for children and adults. From left to right are Marian Carey, program chair person, Symone Stewart, representative for the H.E.R.Shelter and Basileus Queen Malone.





#### **TEACHER RESOURCES...**



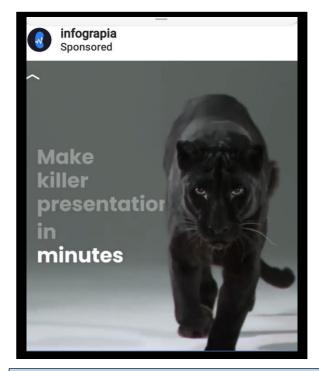


The Academy of Natural Sciences

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Homemade bird call, lifting ice, dancing tissue and more – try all of our new Science From Home activities! Plus coloring pages, scavenger hunts, story times, and bug talks! Visit ansp.org/sciencefromhome









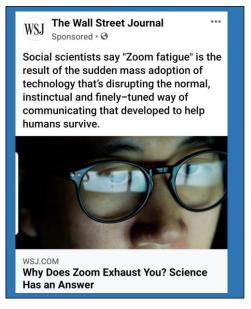




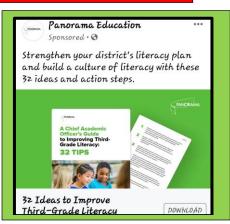
#### **TEACHER RESOURCES...**















#### **TEACHERS' LOUNGE...**

#### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

#### 10 Things Great School Leaders Do Over the Summer

Strategies school leaders can use to reflect and prepare to make the next school year successful. By William Sprankles July 10,2017



Great school leaders are not measured by how much they accomplish from August to June, but rather, how their students grow and thrive year after year. In the summer months, it is vital for leaders to reflect, innovate, and strategize on making the next school year successful.

In my work at CT3, I see effective educators who make great use of the summer months. Here are some ideas:

1. Reset goals and practice no: Many principals think improving means adding to their to-do list, but it is

more about setting a laser-sharp focus on your primary goals. Rather than saying yes to everyone, discern which activities contribute to the mission and student achievement and give them higher priority. If presented with something lower on that list, consider saying no.

- 2. Take time to innovate: Innovation can be accomplished in different ways. Brand new and big (or transformational) ideas are wonderful, but these paradigm shifts can take time and require substantial energy. Think about new ways to combine existing strategies (what I call breakthrough innovation) or small, incremental shifts in practice that can help your school go from good to great. Strong principals understand the difference between transformational, breakthrough, and incremental innovations. Brainstorm with various teams of people, creating different ideas in each category. Weigh your efforts evenly between programs, events, and curricular offerings in the school.
- 3. Lead from the front: Most principals spend a considerable amount of time in the summer thinking about how to manage and "fix" low-performing teachers. Great principals spend more time pushing and supporting their best teachers, who then, in-turn, help others that struggle. This creates more of an asset-based culture and leverages the impact of your "rock stars."
- 4. Seek out coaching for yourself: Model humility and a growth mindset by seeking out critical feedback from one key person on a weekly basis. This can be a mentor, key teacher on the staff, community leader, or even your student government president. Take the time to listen to their perceptions. (Don't argue or debate—just listen.) Ask open-ended questions and identify specific ways that you can move from good to great.
- 5. Play the long game when it comes to student culture: We often start the year with great plans to increase school-wide expectations and push achievement, but then routine sets in and things return to normal. If you desire to change student behavior, you will need to engage in consistent practice,

repetition, and modeling. Collaborate with teachers and staff to create an extensive plan for the first 25 days of the school year to achieve the desired culture. Create monthly checkpoints and use incentives to keep the priorities alive.

- 6. Connect with stakeholders: Take advantage of more flexible time over the summer to reach out to all staff, including maintenance workers, custodians, secretaries, and cafeteria workers. Spend time in their space and listen to their perspectives. Ask open-ended questions and affirm how each of them plays a role in achieving a high-performing culture.
- 7. Get out of the school: Each week, select a different coffee shop, restaurant, barber shop, etc. that your students and their families frequent outside of school. This establishes office hours in a different safe space for families to connect with you in their communities. Students will also have a new perspective on your willingness to relate to them on a personal level.
- 8. Collaborate with students and staff for fall kick-off: Great school leaders give a voice to teachers and students during the creation of activities and processes that will drive the first quarter of the school year. This may take some additional planning and collaboration during the summer but will certainly pay off and might even be fun.
- 9. Prepare for balance: It is so easy to lose focus on your mission and goals due to burnout. It's critical to plan for a work-life balance; otherwise, it doesn't happen. What key events and activities are critical for your own family? Write your non-negotiables on a calendar and plan accordingly with your leadership team. Encourage them to follow your example.
- 10. Build a strategic summer calendar: The leaders on your team want to understand where you are headed. Ensure that you are doing so together by creating a strategic calendar, using the nine items above as a starting place. Share this with your staff and spend time together getting realigned, inspired, and excited about what is possible and attainable in the coming year.

Even though summers are full of mental work, make time to play, rest, and recharge. The work we do is challenging and constant, and we need to be emotionally and strategically ready for the fall.

Have a great summer!

This piece was originally submitted to our community forums by a reader. Due to audience interest, we've preserved it. The opinions expressed here are the writer's own.

#### ONLINE LEARNING

## **Distance Learning Strategies to Bring Back to the Classroom**

When schools closed, teachers were forced to get creative—and they've learned things they can use when they're back at school. By Sarah Cooper May 20, 2020 Updated May 22, 2020

Before my eighth-grade history students moved into online learning this spring, I had no idea about one student's affection for Cup Noodles or another's sweet way of talking about her 5-year-old brother. Perhaps I should have known, but I didn't, and I wish I had.

Distance learning has enabled these intimate glimpses into students' lives and thought processes, and I worry that these moments won't happen as much once we eventually return to campus. However, I realize that doesn't have to be the case—and so I've been thinking a lot lately about ways to translate the best aspects of online instruction to the physical classroom.

#### WHAT I WANT TO BRING BACK TO MY CLASSROOM

**Providing feedback on what works in a quick email:** With all of us being so far from each other and everything being turned in online, it feels natural to send a handful of kids two-line emails for each small assignment, highlighting something specific that worked. I'm judicious about doing this so that I don't spend forever grading quick-completion assignments. However, I do want students to know that I'm seeing their work and thinking about them.

I'd love to continue this practice back in the physical classroom, even if it's only for a minute during class while students are working on something else, because it can be more permanent and private than saying something aloud.

Following along online while talking with students about their projects: While discussing research that students have done for history projects, it's been easy to look at and comment on the group's shared Google Doc while they're in a Zoom breakout group with me. Back in the physical classroom, I'd like to carry my laptop around more often so that I'm not simply looking over their shoulders, but also engaging with them by making written comments in real time that they can follow up on later.

Screen sharing has been invaluable for helping students investigate whether a source is valid or find citation information. It's also helped me navigate tech questions, such as how to move a file into a Google Drive folder. Even in a regular classroom, I could take more time to walk individual groups through processes like these.

**Using exit tickets as a formative assessment:** I've used online exit tickets for different purposes, whether asking students to summarize their progress on a group project or to write about what made a podcast powerful. I hadn't consistently used exit tickets in the physical classroom, but now I want to. The information they provide has shaped my understanding of my students and helped me plan for the next class.

When we're back in the classroom, I'd like to think about how best to do an exit ticket according to the daily lesson. Some days it might be a Google Form so that I can compile, copy, and save information easily. Other days it might be a projected chat window where students can talk about what they found interesting about a topic. Other times, it might be an old-fashioned slip of paper so that I can keep feedback anonymous and sort ideas into categories.

Offering creative and fun summative assessments: Since we transitioned to distance learning, my students have appreciated that their teachers have assigned creative projects, both to individualize instruction and to give students a chance to socialize through virtual breakout groups. My students also like offering feedback on their classmates' projects through Google Drive and Google Forms. These compliments are much easier to pass along than the handwritten comments that students used to write in class.

**Providing space for relevant side chatter:** Even with a focus on content-driven responses, there's still room for appropriate humor and on-the-side interaction among students. I've been delighted by the informality of kids' chipping in an idea that they don't necessarily want to interrupt class to share but that they do want to get out there. (As I'm teaching, I monitor the chat, laugh along with the students, and then suggest that they lay off if it goes too long!) It would be ideal to keep this chat going every day in the physical classroom, maybe on a screen behind me, so that I can hear from every kid more frequently throughout class.

**Introducing warm-up questions about students' lives:** My favorite part of online learning has been the immediate glimpse of students' lives that they offer in the chat at the beginning of our eighth-grade U.S. history Zoom sessions each day. I post a question, students respond, and I call on a few to explain.

Lighter questions have included: What did you have for breakfast or lunch today? What is something you've enjoyed creating or doing with your hands this week?

Heavier questions have included: What is something nice you could do (or have done) for someone else while in quarantine? What have you learned about yourself or others while at home?

For the last question, I have loved hearing from some seemingly extroverted students who found that they were enjoying time alone, and vice versa. Some kids have discovered that they like cooking, and others like their siblings' sense of humor. I have also heard from a few kids whose answers concerned me, and I followed up later with them or their counselor.

In a recent survey, a number of students said that they also love this daily warm-up, that it makes "the feel of this class familiar and comfortable." I plan to incorporate this quick check-in either by voice or onscreen, or both, when we're back together in real life—which I hope will be sooner rather than later.



#### **DELTA PI CHAPTER- WE ARE FAMILY**

**Ctrl+Click to follow link above** 



# PLEASE SUBMIT REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S GREETING & CHAPTER ACTIVITIES FOR "THE COURIER"

SUBMIT MATERIALS ELECTRONICALLY ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE'S LINK:

www.nspdk.org/courier-submissions

- Details on how the materials are to be submitted are on this website link.
  - All entries must come through the form on the website link above Jarian R. Graham

**National Public Relations Director** 



## August 15, 2020



# 2020 SOUTHEAST VIRTUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

10:00 A.M. Central Time

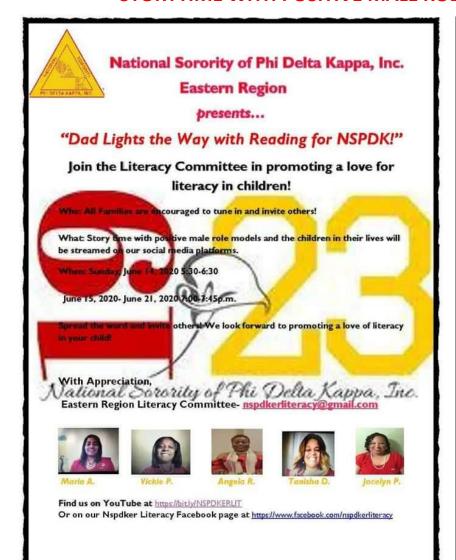
# ALL FINANCIAL SORORS INVITED TO ATTEND AT NO COST OTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW LATER

Dr. Etta F. Carter, Supreme Basileus

Rose P. Anderson, Southeast Regional Director

Brenda J. Jackson, Southeast Member-at-Large

#### STORYTIME WITH POSITIVE MALE ROLE MODELS...



To the Men in Our Lives, we thank you.

**Mr. Anthony Williams** 

Mr. Cleven McKinney

**Dr. Raymond Perry-Moore** 

Mr. Lamar Holman

Mr. Sam Laury

Mr. Earl Wilkerson

Mr. Reginald A. Lawson

Mr. Christopher Grant

Mr. Jim Dorvil

Mr. Kenyatta Livingston

**Mr. Damien Harris** 

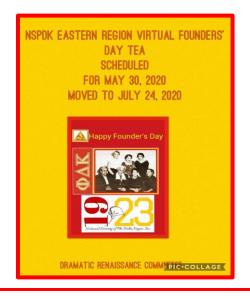
Mr. George Butler

**Mr. Howard Sharps** 

**Mr. Donnell Potts** 

**Mr. Charles Watts** 

Click on link to view: <u>Dad Lights the Way with Reading for NSPDK!</u>

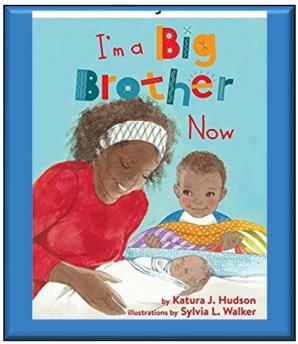


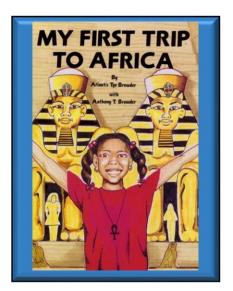


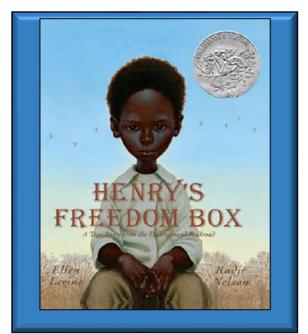
## **CHILDREN'S BOOK**

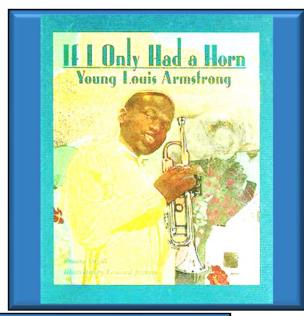
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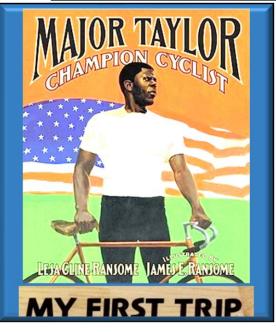














# NSPDK e-LEARNING ACADEMY

## **VISIT OUR RESOURCE SITE**

www.NSPDKAcademy.org

or

visit our National Website and click

the NSPDK e-Learning ribbon

to link you to some amazing online web-based resources! <a href="https://www.nspdk.org">www.nspdk.org</a>

### My Story

#### By Soror Frances Faulks

As I lay awake this morning, one of my friends "dinged" me with the text that said her Pastor asked them to read aloud a particular scripture daily. I had already been told of this request from one of my church members.

My thoughts went to the concept of **INSTANT REPLAY**. In some football arenas, referees, coaches, ask for **INSTANT REPLAY**. It is used to assess a play for advancement or sometimes offer penalties. The thought is REPEAT, REVIEW, with the intent of assessing fully what occurs.

I went further in thought to our RITUALSTIC scripture, Romans 12: 9-18.

I thought, as sorors we repeat these scriptures on occasion within our various ceremonies. How about an **INSTANT REPLAY**. What if we are commissioned to daily read, out loud, our scriptural challenge, and think how it has and will impact our sisterhood.

If we absorb its content and not just read or recite it as a ritual, we will have a new understanding of the value of that scripture to the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. and what our Founders commissioned for us.

So I say, do an **INSTANT REPLAY** as we journey through this *COVID-19* crisis, and review our shortcomings and our victories as an opportunity for us individually and collectively to "Move" our sorority to a "First Down" or even a "**TOUCHDOWN**".

My first **INSTANT REPLAY**: "Let LOVE be without dissimilation... to ALL sorors, and LEADERS" ... (now that's a challenge for us with some of our sorors, ... and the POTUS). But scripture commissions!

Abhor that which is evil, CLEAVE to that which is **GOOD**. There is some bad in the best of us, and some good in the worst of us, hmm! Scripture!

Be kindly affectioned one to another. (Not for show, but for the love of doing to others as we would have them do unto us.)

", continuing instant in PRAYER. INSTANT REPLAY!!!!

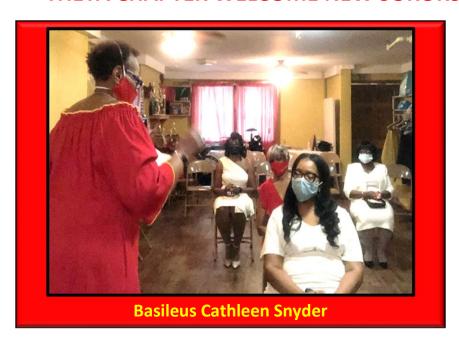
#### READ the whole chapter to the end and on to the first verse of Chapter 13.

This pandemic circumstance, as we are halted in our daily coming and goings, can be just what God wants us to do from scripture reading, prayer and absorbing OUR spiritual commandments.

Do know that you ARE loved. Thank you, God, for our blessings.



#### THETA CHAPTER WELCOME NEW SORORS-





Theta's New Sorors
From Left to Right: Jewell Mendoza, Kisha Banyan, Renee Cook.

## Epsilon Beta Chapter Provides Masks for Elderly, Sick, and Shut-in Due to Corona Virus-Covid-19

The Sorors of Epsilon Beta Chapter purchased over 100 masks to pass out to the elderly, sick, and shut-in for the community and family members. Masks were ordered from someone who was making them. Sorors me in a spot at Sam's parking lot to pick up and pay for their masks. Even though we practiced safe distancing, we were overly excited to see each other in person. Each Soror passed out masks to people that they knew in the community that needed a mask. The recipients were incredibly pleased that someone remembered them. Extremely rewarding day!



### National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc.

"To Promote a Spirit of Sisterhood Among Teachers and to Promote the Highest Ideals of the Teaching Profession"

## **FAR WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

Conference Theme: "Be the Light...Nurture the Light...Pass on the Light"

AUGUST 1, 2020

8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Virtual Conference for all Financial Sorors at No Cost

Soror Dr. Elcendia Nord, Regional Director

Soror Dr. Etta F. Carter, Supreme Basileus

Soror Ruth Curry, Member-at-Large

**Host - Delta Upsilon Chapter** 

Cheryl McClellan, Basileus

SEE YOU AUGUST 1ST.

YOU ARE IMPORTANT!!!

## HAVE A BLESSED,

## SAFE,

## **AND**

## **HEALTHY SUMMER!**





Jarian R. Graham, M. ED
National Public Relations Director
nspdk.pr@gmail.com





## NATIONAL SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA, INC.

## 2020 REGIONAL CONFERENCES - RESCHEDULED DATES

Region	Conference	Final Date	<b>Format</b>	Additional Information*
<b>Eastern Region</b>	2020 Spring	Friday - Saturday	Zoom Virtual	Open to Eastern Region Sorors, KOT's
Dr. Patsy S. Squire,	Regional	July 24-25, 2020	Meeting/	and National Executive Council
Regional Director	Conference	Two Days	Webinar	
Southeast Region	2020 Spring	Saturday	Zoom Virtual	Open to Southeast Region Sorors
Ms. Rose	Regional	August 15, 2020	Meeting	and National Executive Council
Anderson,	Conference	One Day	Wiccing	and National Exceditive council
Regional Director				
Midwest Region	2020 Spring	Saturday	Zoom Virtual	Open to Midwest Region Sorors
Ms. Tiffany	Regional	September 19, 2020	Meeting	and National Executive Council
Pritchett,	Conference	One Day		
Regional Director				
<b>Southwest Region</b>	2020 Spring	Saturday	Zoom Virtual	Open to Southwest Region Sorors,
Ms. Anita O'Neal,	Regional	September 26, 2020	Meeting	KOT's
Regional Director	Conference	One Day		and National Executive Council
Far West Region	2020 Spring	Saturday,	Zoom Virtual	Open to Far West Region Sorors
Dr. Elcendia Nord,	Regional	August 1, 2020	Meeting	and National Executive Council
Regional Director	Conference	One Day		

<sup>\*</sup>Additional information will be provided by the Regional Directors

### **RESCHEDULED 2020 DATES**

#### **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND OTHER NATIONAL MEETINGS**

Date/Time	Fall Meeting	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
September 21-22	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	Mrs. Charlotte	Zoom Virtual	To be provided by Chair
Monday/Tuesday		Williams, Past	Meeting	
11:30-3:30 EST		Supreme		
		Basileus		
October 15-16	National	Dr. Etta F.	Zoom Virtual	To be provided by Chair
Thursday/Friday	<b>Executive Council</b>	Carter,	Meeting	
10:00 – 3:30 Central		Supreme		Lunch – 30 minutes
		Basileus		
To Be Determined	National	Ms. Lisa	То Ве	To be provided by President
	Perpetual	Frieson,	Determined	
	<b>Foundation Board</b>	President		
August 13, 2020 - Th	2023 Centennial	Ms. Margarette	Zoom Virtual	Two meetings – Committee will
Sept. 10, 2020 - Th	Planning	Galloway, Chair	Meetings	report to NEC - 10/16/2020
6 PM Central	Committee			
-both days				
To Be Determined	National	Mr. Alexander	То Ве	To be provided by President
	<b>Anthropos Board</b>	Smith, Jr., Pres.	Determined	

## 2021 One Day Regional Conferences and 98th Anniversary Conclave

<b>Dates</b>	Meeting	<b>Chair</b>	Location
Fri-Sat, July 16-17, 2021	Pre-Conclave - National	Dr. Etta F. Carter,	Omni Orlando Resort
	Executive Council	Supreme Basileus	@Champions Gate
Monday, July 19, 2021	<b>One-Day Regional Conferences</b>	Regional Directors	Omni Orlando
			Resort
Tue -Thu, July 20-22	98 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conclave	Dr. Etta F. Carter	Omni Orlando
			Resorts
Friday, July 23, 2021	Post-Conclave - NEC	Dr. Etta F. Carter	Omni Orlando
			Resorts

National Anthropos Board and Perpetual Board Meetings – To Be Determined





Remember to wear...



