



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA



DKG · Illinois
Expect Great Things

September 2018

Dear Leaders,

It has been said that DKG women are busy, busy, busy in a variety of activities including teaching, volunteering at church or a neighborhood school, coaching, caring for others, providing workshops, you name it we do it! I thank all of you for your service and answering the call – no matter who is on the other end of the email or phone. Our next big state event is the Fall Executive Board Meeting which will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Bloomington on Friday/Saturday, September 21-22, 2018. Please bring your laptop if you wish to access any documents we may be referring to over the course of the two days. I have included another *Draft of the Strategic Action Plan* for your review and this will also be discussed Friday evening. We will vote to approve this SAP on Saturday morning. Last month I provided an outline of our agenda for the meeting and I will send you the detailed one on September 15. Friday evening you will be provided time to meet and talk with your State Ambassador and this is a good time to bring your goals for your chapter and discuss any other issues you wish to address before the visit. I have attached the updated list of Illinois leaders and DKG International leaders for you to include in your yearbook if you wish. You are encouraged to bring three copies of your yearbook – one for me, one for Bev Johns and the other for Kammie Richter. We will have bins for you to drop them off. Please feel free to send us an electronic version to save paper and copy costs. Speaking of dropping off things – traditionally we donate school supplies for teachers and Box Tops for Education and put them in boxes labeled with an area number. At the end of the Executive Board Meeting we will choose one lucky winner from each area to take the items back to a school or schools of her choice! Remember if you are unable to attend the meeting please send a person in your place so that your chapter is represented at the meeting.

You may have visited the DKG Illinois Website and noticed a few changes. Rene DeGuzman, our webmaster, and I worked to “simplify” the location of information to make it more user friendly. The Forms tab no longer exists, it was long and complicated. Instead, forms are now associated with the committee promoting a nomination, application, or registration. For example, under Scholarship you will find the Scholarship Brochure, Special Study Stipend Application and Rubric, and the Scholarship Application and Rubric. Under Women in the Arts you will find registration for Creative Arts Retreat and the application for M. Josephine O’Neil award. Under Educational Excellence you will find nomination forms for Grant In-Aid and Florence A. Cook, call for workshops proposals and other tips for chapter programs. Now is the time to begin thinking about a project you would like to submit for the Foundation for Educational Studies award and all updated documents are under the Foundation tab.

Sharon Vinson, State Treasurer, has included forms that are important for you to review before the meeting on Saturday. Thank you for reviewing them in advance. Want to hear fantastic news?! I know I do ☺ Sharon completed Form 16 for International and she is delighted to report that 47 chapters gave 145 grants this past year totaling \$49,674 and eight chapters gave 24 scholarships totaling \$3587. Illinois rocks in support of teaching and learning!

Save the date! Saturday, October 20, 2018 is the Legislative Seminar which will be held at the Lincoln Library in Springfield from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Linda Lucke, our Legislative Chair has already secured speakers from the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability on the Illinois budget and legislation funding, a lobbyist from IEA on the current legislative landscape, a speaker from ISBE on current certification and education requirements, and a speaker from TRS on pensions. This is an impressive line-up of individuals and we have also contacted the candidates for governor to speak with the group. We hold hope they may attend. I have attached the Legislative Seminar registration form for you to complete and return to Linda. Let's carpool and support this important event!

The Literacy Committee is excited to announce the two book selections for the 2019 convention. The first selection is [These Schools Belong to you and Me: Why We Can't Afford to Abandon Our Public Schools](#) by Deborah Meier and Emily Gasoi. Now more than ever we need to be able to support the importance of publicly funded schools. This book explores ways that we can both save and improve the public -school system to empower all students. The second book is [A Fall of Marigolds](#) by Susan Meissner. This book connects the story of two women whose lives are touched by tragedy 100 years apart. We are happy to announce that both book talks will take place on the Saturday of convention in order for more members to join the discussions.

I am so appreciative of each and every one of you and I look forward to visiting with you at your chapter meetings and other functions. Please continue to invite me and I will do my best to attend. Enjoy the long weekend and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Executive Board Meeting.

We are Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide – always *Expect Great Things!*

Best,

Debbie LeBlanc
DKG – Illinois
State President