

Connect with your local PDK chapter

Need to find a speaker for your next FEA meeting? Looking for a partner for the Phi Delta Kappa International Walk for Education? Seeking scholarships for your FEA students? Your local PDK chapter may be able to help!

PDK chapters, which comprise your fellow educators, can be an untapped resource for your FEA chapter. These teachers and education professionals can be a speaker's bureau for your FEA chapter, provide support to you as an advisor (ranging from acting as a sounding board for ideas to providing funding for FEA conferences), offer scholarships to your FEA students, and mentor these future educators.

But it's not just a one-way street. Your FEA members can be the speakers for the PDK chapter meeting, reporting on their plans for their year or telling about a future educators conference they just attended (especially if the PDK chapter provided financial support). Your students, especially those with computer skills, may be able to help the PDK chapter design, launch, or update its website.

Better yet, the two chapters can work together on projects. One good example is the Walk for Education. The two chapters could hold a walk together, or the PDK chapter could sponsor the FEA chapter's walk by providing funds, water, snacks, or goody bags. Finding a service project that benefits your community is another great way to work together. Last fall, the Toledo PDK chapter worked with surrounding FEA chapters on a successful book drive to benefit a school that lost its library in Hurricane Katrina. The FEA and PDK chapters collected, packaged, and shipped more than 200 boxes of books to the Louisiana school!

So how do you get started? First, find your local PDK chapter by following these steps:

1. Go to <http://www.pdkmembers.org/cgi-bin/LANSAWEB?PROCFUN+mmpr01+mmfn31+pdk+eng>.
2. Click on your state.
3. Click on a city to call up the chapter located there, along with a "Contact Our Chapter" link.

Contact your local chapter. Introduce yourself as the FEA advisor, explain that you'd like to get together to discuss ways your chapter and theirs can work together, and bring ideas for collaboration when you meet. Finally, share your success stories with us! Email them to fea@pdkintl.org, and we'll include them in future issues.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Each month, the FEA Communique will include a question. Send your response to fea@pdkintl.org by the 10th of the month. Selected responses will be published in the next month's newsletter.

What is the most successful recruitment strategy your chapter has used?

WALK FOR EDUCATION – TIPS FOR HAVING FUN WHILE RAISING MONEY!

The Third Annual Phi Delta Kappa International Walk for Education, the official FEA fundraiser, is a chance to raise money for your FEA chapter at the same time you raise awareness of the needs of your school. Sixty percent of the funds you raise can come back to your chapter to fund programs or send a delegation to the national conference. Every person who raises at least \$50 will receive a t-shirt. While most walks will be held Oct. 21, your chapter can pick a different date. Register by Sept. 21. For details, go to www.pdkintl.org/walk06/walkhome.htm.

Involve your whole chapter in raising the money for the walk. Below are some suggestions for how to involve everyone and make it fun from Pam Ferdinand and Judy Maxwell, coordinators of the Future Educator Clubs at Aurora University in Illinois. The most impor-

FEA calendar

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| Sept. 15 | Deadline to submit a workshop session proposal for national conference, www.pdkintl.org/fea/proposal.htm . |
| Sept. 21 | Deadline to register a PDK Walk for Education team to receive T-shirts, www.pdkintl.org/walk06/walkhome.htm . |
| Oct. 19 | FEA advisor training (\$40), Washington, D.C., register at www.pdkintl.org/pdkconf06/register.htm . |
| Oct. 21 | Third Annual PDK Walk for Education. |
| Oct. 31 | Deadline to return national FEA study to The Hoeny Center. |
| Dec. 1 | Deadline to turn in Walk for Education money to PDK. |
| Dec. 4 | Early bird registration deadline for national conference, www.pdkintl.org/fea/feaconf.htm . |
| Dec. 18 | Entry deadline for all competitions at the national conference, www.pdkintl.org/fea/compforms.htm . |
| Jan. 10 | Regular price registration deadline for national conference. |
| Jan. 26 | Reservation deadline at Manchester Grand Hyatt for national conference. |
| Feb. 7 | Late registration deadline for national conference. |
| Feb. 16-18 | 18th annual national FEA conference. |

tant concept is that the whole FEA club takes responsibility for raising the money and not just the walkers.

1. Establish 2-3 days that you plan as a club to get donations for the walk and target certain geographical location(s) each time: 1) a section of town, 2) a subdivision, 3) a whole town (our high school serves 5 small towns), etc. Set a time period (1 hour, 2 hours) and then meet somewhere (a member's house, a pizza place) to compare amounts received and to have fun!
2. Make a shoe pattern where donors can write their names and then sell them for \$1.00 each and hang them up in the school. They can be sold to students, teachers, and administrators.
3. Choose a day at school to ask for donations. The advisor should give advance information to faculty/staff to pave the way for the FEA members to ask for donations. FEA members can wear FEA shirts or do a dress up day ('50s, Western) to make it more fun.

TEACHING IS AS VALUABLE AS GOLD... SO DIG IT!

That's the theme for the 2007 conference, which will be held Feb. 16-18, 2007, at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, California.

Online registration

Online registration will be available in November at www.futureeducators.org. To take advantage of it, you need two things: a credit card and your chapter's number. A letter will be sent to you this month that contains your chapter's number. Use this to guarantee you get the charter chapter rate. (You can email fea@pdkintl.org or call 800-766-1156 and ask for FEA if you misplace it.) You will keep the signed attendee information sheets and print out and send us confirmation that you have them in your files.

Workshop session proposals due Sept. 15

There's still time for your chapter to submit a workshop session proposal. Go to www.pdkintl.org/fea/proposal.htm for details and a link to the online submission form.

National competitions guidelines online

Competition information for the national conference is online at www.pdkintl.org/fea/compforms.htm. The deadline to enter all competitions is Dec. 18.

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

FEA Honor Society

Take your FEA chapter to the next level by implementing the FEA Honor Society this year! We want to encourage good grades and active members, and this might be the incentive your students need to become more involved. Look for a letter to arrive in September with more details.

Advisor training Oct. 19

An advisor training session will be held in conjunction with Phi Delta Kappa International's Summit on

Public Education. The advisor training (\$40/person) will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 19 at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C. Go to www.pdkintl.org/pdkconf06/register.htm to read more details in the summit brochure and registration form, and then register online. Space is limited – don't delay!

Promote FEA and survey teachers

One of the questions we frequently receive is whether FEA members go on to become teachers. Thanks to a partnership among FEA, the Hoenny Center, and The University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL), we will begin to answer that question. High school advisors will receive a survey about FEA from the Hoenny Center (www.hoennycenter.org) in mid-September. Included in the survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, is a page for your FEA members to use to interview teachers in your district. We want to know how many of your teachers belonged to future educator clubs in high school. Have your members wear their FEA T-shirts, and don't forget to send them to middle schools and elementary schools. Please help us gather this important information! An added bonus is that all chapters meeting an Oct. 31 deadline to return the surveys will be eligible to win one of three \$200 prizes or FEA merchandise. A workshop session at the national conference will discuss the study's results.

Appreciate teachers in October

Every year, the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) encourages communities to honor the professionalism and dedication of their teachers. ACEI is preparing for its annual celebration of the Week of the Classroom Teacher (Oct. 1-7) and UNESCO's World Teachers' Day (Oct. 5). A detailed planning guide filled with tips, suggestions and sample materials to help honor teachers is at www.acei.org/wcthp.htm.

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH – THE NEW FEA SLING BAG

Each month, the newsletter will feature one FEA product in bulk, offered at a special sale price only to FEA charter chapters. Buy blue urban sling bags (item number FEASLING) and your chapter members can promote FEA in style! Regular price is \$17. If you buy 10 bags or more, you pay only \$15.25 each, a savings of 10 percent. Orders must be placed by phone for you to receive the sale price. Call 800-766-1156 and ask for the Order Department.