**Delta Sigma Chapter Meeting**

**Delta Kappa Gamma International Society**

**September 25, 6:00 p.m.**

**Boger City United Methodist Church, Lincolnton, NC**

Hosted by the Membership and Scholarship Committees, the meeting began with a welcome from Libby Fletcher. She shared her recent experience with the gift of listening. Libby provided the invocation. Kristen Reynolds led a “Tootsie Pop Get to Know You” activity where members shared their favorite colors, places to visit and something they are passionate about.

**Program on State of the State-** Kennan Eaddy welcomed and introduced Dr. Lory Morrow, Superintendent of Lincoln County Schools. Dr. Morrow shared her presentation entitled “State of the State. It is an interesting time in public education with opportunities for positive change. The first issue is the school calendar. Dr. Morrow is advocating for more flexibility that allows local boards more control to own a create their school calendar. If Lincoln County was able to develop a calendar aligned to Gaston College, students would have opportunities to begin community college course work. The General Assembly is currently listening and looking at school calendar law based on Hurricane Florence.

Dr. Morrow discussed School Performance Scores and the 15-point grading scale as it relates to the school letter grade. She is currently advocating to stay at the 15-point scale opposed to converting to a 10-point scale as it would dramatically change the scores of our schools. The current performance scores are based on 80% proficiency and 20% growth. Dr. Morrow would like to see this balanced to 50% proficiency and 50% growth for school report cards.

The reduction in class size for Kindergarten through Third Grade as mandated by the state has created a need for more teachers and classrooms. The state legislature provided a 25% Enhancement Funding for special are teachers as a partial allotment. Over the next 4 years the funding is scheduled to be increased to help balance out allotments. Currently the school district needed to use positions from the state teacher allotment. The K-3 class size reduction has created an increase in class sizes at the middle and high school levels. Dr. Morrow also noted that the law did not fund additional teacher assistants which she is currently fighting for an additional TA allotment.

Dr. Morrow addressed funding issues regarding instructional supply funds and salaries. The Superintendent is grateful for the local .25% sales tax which has helped with recent state reductions. The instructional supply funds provided by the state have been cut by 50% over the past 10 years. Textbook funds have also been cut. Dr. Morrow stated we are currently doing more with less. North Carolina currently ranks 37th in teacher pay. The General Assembly has made improvements however the raises have primarily benefited teachers early in their careers. Administrator pay in NC is currently ranked 47th in the nation. Principals are now paid a base salary based on number of students served and no longer honoring advanced degrees or experience. Dr. Morrow stated that this is an area of continued focus with elected officials.

Charter schools are an area of focus. Dr. Morrow states the we are now in a competitive market in education. We want to tell our stories and share the experiences happening in our classrooms and schools. She asks us to remind the community that we are the best school choice for their kids. Lincoln County Schools ranked 10th in Career and College Readiness indicators and 10th in proficiency on state assessments. Lincoln County is home to the largest charter school in the state. Dr. Morrow is advocating for a level playing field with charter schools. She wants the same rules, requirements and restrictions.

Each January a legislative agenda is published by the school district. A legislative breakfast is hosted for the district to share the struggles, successes and issues. Dr. Morrow closed her presentation by urging members to be an educated voter in the upcoming election.

**Business:**

**Approval of Minutes** -  Following a motion by Jennifer Huskey and a second from Gayle Reid, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2018 meeting.

Following a motion by Brenda Kinney and a second from Kristen Reynolds, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2018 planning meeting.

**Treasurer’s report** - Treasurer Laurie Sellers shared that the ending balance of the general budget for the period from March, 2018, to May, 2018, is $2,434.25. The ending balance for the Grants-in-Aid/Scholarship budget for the same period is $4,500.58 Kellie shared at the end of year scholarship dinner entertainment was provided and some winners brought additional guests than expected. Funds were moved from the general account to cover the difference.

Following a motion by Renee Smith and a second from Elaine Boysworth members voted unanimously to approve the budget.

**Committee Reports**

**Beginning Teacher Support** – 25 Gift bags were delivered to the new teachers during their September meeting. The gift bag included an electric pencil sharpener, pencils and glue stick. The message included in the note read, “Hold it together. You are sharpening the minds of the future.” The next gift will be given in November.

**Membership** – Kristen Reynolds provided DKG prospect cards for members to prepare for potential new members.

**Communication/Publicity-** Elaine Boysworth began corrections to the directory at the August meeting. Jenny Dellinger will finalize an updated directory.

**Other business:**

Dr. Hager thanked members for a great turnout in August at the Asbury Resource Center. The ARC served over 150 families during the Back to School Shopping Event. Dr. Hager shared changes that came out of the presidents meeting. Dues have will now be aligned to the DKG year. National and International currently do not receive dues until midway through the year, creating difficulties when budget planning. Next year’s dues will be paid in May. The Eta State Convention will be held May 3-5 at the Crowne Plaza in Hickory.

The Fashion Show fundraiser is slated to be held on April 13. The emcee and venue have been secured. Cindy, Nelva and Donna are looking for a new show leader.

Kennan Eaddy shared that Battleground Elementary had been awarded a $10,000 Action for Healthy Kids grant. The school is only one of four in the nation to receive this grant. The Every Kid Healthy Day of Service will be held on October 20 from 8:00-12:00. Volunteers are needed and will be fed breakfast and lunch.

Becky Heavner paid tribute to the former leaders of Delta Sigma for being instrumental in leading us to our fifth year as a chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International. She acknowledged Wanda Lutz for her leadership in various areas of our chapter in addition to our first five presidents- Gayle Reid, Elanie Jenkins, Edwina Beam, Libby Fletcher, and Rhonda Hager.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Members Present

Elaine Boysworth

Dianna Carpenter

Pat Carpenter

Jennifer Carroll

Jill Eaddy

Kennan Eaddy

Libby Fletcher

Kellie Goins

Nelva Goodson

Rhonda Hager

Becky Heavner

Jennifer Huskey

Elaine Jenkins

Donna Jolley

Judy Jones

Brenda Kinney

Wanda Lutz

Heather Myers

Tammy Price

Gayle Reid

Kristen Reynolds

Kesha Ruppe

Laurie Sellers

Judy Shuford

Renee Smith

Cindy White

Kay Wilson

Sheila Wright