



The Educator

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Presidents Message

Well, this is an interesting time to say the least. Hopefully, we are all safely socially distanced and sheltering in place as best we can. This month we have had to endure many cancellations and this impacted several key events. The Legislative Symposium, as you all know, was cancelled due to the tragic tornado damage that havoced Nashville. Then, with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, all incoming officer training for March had to be cancelled as well. In our own chapter, our meeting with Director Doyle on the status of education in Hardeman County had to be postponed in the hope of keeping ourselves and others safe and healthy.

During these trying times, reach out to one another to maintain an active support system. Ask a neighbor if they have what they need. Although our role as educators may be

paused for the time being, we still have the hearts of educators. We are willing to serve where needed and are eager to make a difference where we can. Think of those in our community that may be in need and give where you can.

In our chapter, in our town, in our state, and worldwide, my hope and expectation is that we keep this sickness at bay and exhibit the type of endurance that we are known for. May we come out of this stronger than before and ready to get back to life as we know it. But in the words of William Barclay, "Endurance is not just the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into glory." May we not only endure this hardship, but find ways to turn it into 'glory' by feeding a neighbor, praying for our state and the world, or even by just using all of our newfound time at home for a productive purpose. At the end of this pandemic tunnel, there is a

light, and I look forward to seeing all of you when we reach it.

Stay sanitized,

N. Davis

In lieu of meeting minutes:

The instructional time that has and will be missed this academic year has the ability to impact school and student performance adversely. Below is an excerpt of the message on the amendment for school and student accountability made to ensure that no individual or school is impacted negatively. A link is provided to pursue additional information about these changes.

“In response to the COVID-19 outbreak and tornado damage, the Tennessee General Assembly passed HB2818/SB2672, which waives state assessment and accountability requirements, including the 2019-20 spring administration of the TNReady and end-of-course assessments.

The amendment ensures that no school district, school,

district employee or teacher is adversely impacted by school closures, student absenteeism or other hardships related to COVID-19 and the tornadoes.

Assessment and accountability is an integral part of the Tennessee education system that enables us to learn where students are excelling and how to best meet the needs of all students. In order to waive any requirements related to assessment and accountability, a federal waiver is required and the Tennessee legislature must make changes to existing state law. Passage of this amendment makes the necessary changes for the 2019-2020 school year only.

On Monday, the Department submitted the necessary waiver to the U.S. Department of Education related to assessment and accountability.”

Read more about the amendment on the Tennessee General Assembly's website here:
<http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/BillInfo/Default.aspx?BillNumber=HB2818>

Relieve some stress!

Following are some tips to relieve possible stress induced by the pandemic:

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate.
- Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.
- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

Source:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

Additional information on the prevention and symptoms of the virus can be found at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Note from your Corresponding Secretary:

If you have any news or information you would like to see included in the newsletter, please let me know!

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We can be found on the Web!

Check out our chapter webpage at betasigma.org for up-to-date events and information!

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

