

MINUTES OF EPSILON CHAPTER, DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
January 11, 2007
Jesse C. Carson High School

The Epsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma met on January 11, 2007 at the new Jesse C. Carson High School. President Gerri Blackwelder called the meeting to order.

Members were invited into the lobby where they were treated to an impromptu demonstration by several high school students belonging to Carson's STEP troupe.

President Blackwelder introduced our chapter's two new honorary members, Flo Peck and Phyllis Martin. Susan Waller presented scholarships to Shirley Disseler and Jennifer Lentz and again encouraged members to pursue their educational goals with their own scholarships.

Sharon Deal outlined the process for nominating new members to the chapter this spring. She highlighted several new criteria including the fact that non-certified women, including assistants, are now eligible for nomination and membership. In addition, one signature for recommendation is now enough for the application process, in contrast to previous years. A profile of chapter members was provided which showed that 46% of our present membership are now retired educators with the greatest number of remaining members, 14%, in elementary education. All women were encouraged to get involved in this year's nomination process. Dr. Martha West suggested this would be an important issue to mail to members not in attendance.

Adair Doran introduced the afternoon's speaker, Mr. Brian Whitson, from Salisbury High School. Mr. Whitson is a current chemistry teacher and former teacher of the year. He was also a North Carolina teaching fellow in 1998. He spoke of his experiences in the state's Teaching Fellows Program. North Carolina offers five hundred of these competitive scholarship loans per year in an effort to boost the numbers entering the state's teaching profession. The program is currently offered on eighteen campuses in North Carolina. Students who complete the program will have one year of the cost of their loan forgiven for each year they teach in North Carolina.

President Blackwelder offered the members who could stay an opportunity to tour the new facilities with her at Jesse C. Carson High School. The meeting was then adjourned until March 8, 2007 at the Waterworks Art Gallery.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Foster, corresponding secretary.