

Valley District Conference 11/04/2023

Good Morning Valley Sisters

As small child my relatives and parents' friends would ask me "What do you want to be when you grow up?" My answer would always vary according to what was popular at the time on television or what I had been studying about in school. If you were like me, when you were young, all sort of exciting things appealed to you. Maybe you might have said you wanted to be an astronaut, a firefighter, doctor, work with computers or a teacher. What you wanted to be could change from month to month or even day to today. As a child anything is possible, because you have your whole life and everything ahead of you. As some might say "The sky is the limit".

What allows us to become the best we can be in the future, is influenced by those who have the greatest impact on our lives. This impact is determined by our parents, friends, neighborhood, school environment or perhaps it is a combination of many events throughout our lives. This impact can be either positive or negative. Studies have shown that children having positive experiences in their lives have a greater chance of success and obtaining their greatest potential as adults. The importance of providing positive experiences during childhood cannot be minimized, whereas negative experiences are hard to overcome and can give the child a disadvantage in life.

How each child is treated in their day to day lives will have a lasting effect on their future. We know educators can have a tremendous impact on the students in their classroom by providing many positive experiences. As educators we know our compassion and understanding, along with classroom lessons, impact each child in ways that might not be noted or recognized at that time. It is important to always realize that a positive attitude, an encouraging word or even just a smile are important in "Impacting the Future" of our students and instilling the values that will help them succeed in life. Today, we will be hearing about a project which provides many opportunities for children. This

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project works to achieve a positive impact on children they work with so they can succeed in life and achieve their greatest potential.

Closing

Today we have had fun catching up with sisters we might not have seen for a while as we enjoyed the hospitality of our Fresno/Modesto Sisters. We have enjoyed the tasty boxed lunches from Panera and the suspense of the who would win the raffle prizes from the drawings. We were fortunate to be able to listen to an informative speaker from the Sweet Potato Project. We have learned how this project is 'Impacting the Future' of students in the Fresno Area and working to provide hope for the students it serves. As we leave here this afternoon we need to continue to remember how we are all connected In Alpha Delta Kappa and how our organization brings us together as "We Step Into The Future" to work together to insure our organizations progress in the years ahead.