



DTEC TAG Monthly Newsletter

Happy New Year! We are so excited to rebuild in preparation for the upcoming year! Below are some guiding themes we'll be focused on as we continue the work of the Delta Teacher Efficacy Campaign.

- Every Student Succeeds (ESSA) Act
- Critical Race Theory
- Whole Child Approach
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Culturally Relevant Teaching, Learning & Leadership

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Sisterhood, Scholarship & Service

The 2021 55th Annual DST Convention was a success!

We were able to engage both Deltas & non-Deltas at our exhibition booth and our theme, "Education Now! Equity Warriors: We Who Learn, Teach," was a huge conversation starter with attendees. Not only did the DTEC-TAG team solicit donations but there were several high-level networking opportunities for funding participants, expansion and partnerships. We also hope you enjoyed the free giveaways at the booth!

We really focused on engaging convention attendees, educators and their affiliates as crucial community stakeholders. We garnered 35 in person and 100+ virtual attendees at our DTEC-TAG workshop session. In addition to being able to engage Equity Warriors in all six states, we are also looking to expand to 2 additional states this year.

Could your city be next?



2022 Programmatic Offerings

Jan. 22nd: Roundtable for Equity Warriors

Jan 27th: Education NOW! Webinar Series

Feb: Teacher Talk Podcast

Feb: Equity Warriors Teach In

March: Delta Days in The Nation's Capital

March: Statewide Advocacy Engagement

May: National Education Symposium

June: DTEC-TAG Expansion Announcement

July: Summer Professional Development Series

Sept: Education NOW! Scholar-Practitioner Webinar Series



DTEC-TAG National Program Syllabus

In 2013, with funding from the BMGF, the Delta Research & Educational Foundation (DREF), in partnership with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., launched the Delta Teacher Efficacy Campaign (DTEC) project, which focused on improving teacher effectiveness through professional development on teacher self-efficacy, advocacy on teacher effectiveness through community town hall meetings, and the publication of research on the subject in DREF's scholarly journal. In 2017, the foundation supported the current investment with DREF through a new component -- Teachers Advocating for Great Chance (TAG) to build up a teacher advocacy component, engaging the 240 teachers who participated in the professional development portion of DTEC. In partnership with The Gates Foundation for the funded year 2021-2023, DREF's educational program DTEC-TAG elevates education advocacy; while, like many organizations, navigating the impact of COVID-19 on its work.

Launching Education NOW! Webinar Series - January 27, 2022 6:00pm-7:30pm

The Education NOW! Webinar Series is an opportunity for DTEC-TAG Equity Warriors, Educators, and key education stakeholders in our community to obtain the tools and resources from scholar-practitioners with various perspectives to enlighten the notion of "the state of education" affairs at this moment. NOW!



Dr. Akosua Lesesne is an educational design leader with expertise in Education for Black liberation, grades 6-12, and the Black teaching tradition. She will be joining us as the guest speaker for our very first Education Now! Webinar series of 2022.

She began her career as a high school social studies instructor and has 17 years of teaching, instructional coaching, and district-level leadership experience within five major, predominantly Black and Latinx urban school districts along the east coast. Akosua was one of the chief architects of a flagship district-wide Black male mentoring program with Broward County Public Schools, served on the grant writing team that won the district a \$5 million High School Graduation Initiative grant from the United States Department of Education to expand this program, and oversaw the expansion of this program model throughout the district. Her work defending and inspiring our most vulnerable youth has earned her praise from students, parents, colleagues, and renowned educational scholars

alike. In her latest book, McArthur "Genius" Award-winning educator and renowned author Lisa Delpit wrote this about Lesesne's impact, "Your tireless efforts to give our children brighter futures is exhausting to watch, but so inspires me to continue the struggle." In addition to founding and leading Lesesne Learning, Akosua is the Founder and CEO of The Lesesne Collective Corp d/b/a Sisters in Education Circle (SIEC) and the SIEC Retreat Host. She earned a Bachelor's degree, cum laude, from Harvard University, a Master of Arts in Teaching from Tufts University, and a Doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education.

You can learn more about her work via her website www.sietreat.org

Let Us Know Your Thoughts

What are some of your concerns about the "state of education" in the never ending COVID-19 climate? Please feel free to email your thoughts to DTEC-TAG@deltafoundation.net.

Director's Message



A Word From Our Program Director...

Welcome to DTEC-TAG 3.0 Programming!

As your new Program Director of the Delta Research and Educational Foundation's (DREF) Delta Teacher Efficacy Campaign - Teachers Advocating to lead Great change (TAG) program (DTEC-TAG), I officially welcome you to our monthly newsletter. I look forward to bringing awareness to and addressing the need to increase teacher efficacy through a reflective professional development model. DTEC-TAG aims to equip DTEC trained educators with tools to build advocacy projects that raise awareness about education policies such as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and provide digital programming to include conversations around social-emotional learning, distance learning, and other relevant topics. This upcoming calendar year will be filled with programming that will challenge the post-COVID trajectory of education. The Equity Warrior teams will continue to be a crucial component of our execution strategy. The Gates grant includes expanding the Equity Warrior teams to two additional states. In addition, we've included an objective of providing thought leadership on strategies to accelerate learning for Black and brown students as they have returned to school in a COVID-19 pandemic climate. Now, more than ever, our children are experiencing various race, class, and gender disparities that affect their learning. We will think critically, engage in policy and provide

solutions. I encourage you to join us with the engagement of 3.0 Programming as we elevate EDUCATION NOW! Thank you for your continued support.

Kenya C. Ramey, MA-M.Ed.
"She who learns, teaches."