



Ceremony Script for KDP Members Graduating From Teacher Prep Programs

Overview for Chapter Counselor and Leaders:

This script is written to celebrate and honor graduating members, but please note the members are not graduating from KDP. They are graduating from their teacher candidate journey with KDP. They should plan to continue their new teacher journey with KDP. Members are in the middle of their KDP journey at this stage, as KDP's engagement and support continues through their third year of teaching if they choose to continue as active members of KDP National.

This is an optional ceremony, which may occur immediately following the initiation ritual to recognize graduating members at the same meeting. This ceremony is appropriate at any time during the final semester leading to graduation. It can be delivered in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format. The ceremony is only appropriate for members who are current with KDP National and meet minimum Chapter requirements. Celebrating and honoring teachers is a core focus of KDP; please celebrate and honor your graduating members, if possible.

Prior to the ceremony, lay the honor cords and/or stoles on the table next to initiation paraphernalia, such as the chapter charter, candles, member pins, and certificates. Use a KDP tablecloth for the ceremony table and a KDP banner for the podium, if possible.

Counselor: During the Initiation Ceremony, we affirmed our commitment to the principles of KDP: Knowledge, Duty, Power. These principles guide us in our personal and professional lives.

As you continue to exemplify KDP's values of Excellence, Integrity, Expertise, Equity, Diversity, and Empathy, you will affect the lives of thousands of students as their role model and teacher. Your students will look to you as a source of guidance and mastery. Never forget that your

duty as a teacher implies living so that others are strengthened and inspired.

As a KDP member, you stand on the shoulders of great historical figures in education who were also KDP members. Your commitment to educational excellence puts you in the company of esteemed trailblazers like John Dewey, Albert Einstein, Margaret Mead, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jean Piaget, George Washington Carver, Jane Addams, and many more.

You have the whole world ahead of you and are writing your legacy as I speak. Someday, your name may be added to KDP's legacy list of trailblazers in education. KDP members will look to your teaching legacy for inspiration as they build their own legacy.

The KDP community impacts the lives of others only as far as each KDP member continues to embody its virtues. You shall inspire and strengthen others to pursue unbiased inquiry, peace, and social justice by encouraging students to lead self-actualized lives.

Teachers and trailblazers need to be inspired, celebrated, and supported, too! KDP will continue to provide you with the recognition, support and tools you will need as a new teacher. Think of KDP as part of your New Teacher Tribe, with tens of thousands of like-minded members and a national staff to support and guide you beyond graduation, along your new teacher journey.

As a KDP member, you will continue to receive valuable support through your first 3 years of teaching to ensure you have the tools, resources, and community of educators to help you evolve from being a new teacher to becoming a teacher of excellence.

Please rely on KDP National's New Teacher Member Experience Team for access to extensive resources—from New Teacher Chats to events to an online teacher community; financial perks through classroom teacher grants and member discounts; and numerous opportunities for you to grow as a leader and professional.

One day, when you become a teacher of excellence, we ask you to reach back and give a hand to KDP members following in your footsteps. You will be an inspiration for the next generation of new teachers!

The KDP legacy is now yours to steward: So to teach, that our words inspire a will to learn; So to serve, that each day may enhance the growth of exploring minds; So to live, that we may guide young and old to know the truth.

On behalf of the Board of Kappa Delta Pi (and Chapter), I recognize each of you as an exemplary member of the KDP National Honor Society in Education as you transition from being a teacher candidate to launching your professional journey to become a teacher of excellence. Please go forth and provide quality, equitable education for all.

Graduates, when I call your name, please come forward to receive your honor cords.

(Ask graduates to come forward and receive their honor cords (and/or stoles) when their names are read. If time and numbers allow, briefly state a contribution each graduate has made to the chapter. If you have members attending virtually, remember to read their names and recognize them too.)