

## LOCAL EDUCATOR RECEIVES \$6,000 SCHOLARSHIP



Dedra Davis , Art teacher at Andrews Elementary and Andrews High School in Andrews, NC has received the Blanton Centennial Scholarship from The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The honor society for women educators promotes excellence in education and personal and professional growth of women educators, leading in the field of graduate scholarships given to members and emphasizing leadership development for its more than 100,000 members in 17 countries. A member of the Society's Alpha Iota Chapter in Western North Carolina, Davis is enrolled in East Carolina University, where she pursuing her Masters in Instructional Technology in Education.

Dr. Kathleen Harned of Tennessee, International Scholarships Committee Chairman, announced the recipients following the committee's recent meeting at International Headquarters in Austin, Texas. "We granted 26 Scholarships of \$6,000 each for 2011," Harned said.

Recipients must have earned a Bachelor's Degree, be enrolled in a recognized graduate program and have been a Society member for at least three years to qualify for scholarship consideration. Since its scholarship program began in 1940, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has given 988 women educators \$3.9 million in scholarships.

In addition to the international scholarships, many state organizations and local chapters have scholarship funds to assist members pursuing graduate study. In 2010 state and chapter organizations provided approximately \$350,000 for scholarships for members. At the international level during the same time period, the Society spent \$150,000 for scholarships. The honor organization of key women educators was formed in Austin, Texas, on May 11, 1929, by Dr. Annie Webb Blanton from a nucleus of 12 founders representing all levels of education, kindergarten through university, from various parts of Texas. Professor of rural education at the University of Texas, Dr. Blanton was elected president of the Texas State Teachers' Association in 1916, the first woman to hold the office. Blanton was also the first woman to serve Texas as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, having been elected to that post in 1918.