

# Eagle Country

## Pontiac Academy for Excellence Middle School

### *A Note From Principal Lozelle*

Rosa Louise McCauley was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama. Her refusal to surrender her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery, Alabama, bus spurred on a city-wide boycott and helped launch nation-wide efforts to end segregation of public facilities. **Montgomery Bus Boycott** The Montgomery, Alabama city code required that all public transportation be segregated and that bus drivers had the "powers of a police officer of the city while in actual charge of any bus for the purposes of carrying out the provisions" of the code. While operating a bus, drivers were required to provide separate but equal accommodations for white and black passengers by assigning seats. This was accomplished with a line roughly in the middle of the bus separating white passengers in the front of the bus and African-American passengers in the back. When an African-American passenger boarded the bus, they had to get on at the front to pay their fare and then get off and

re-board the bus at the back door. When the seats in the front of the bus filled up and more white passengers got on, the bus driver would move back the sign separating black and white passengers and, if necessary, ask black passengers give up their seat. On December 1, 1955, after a long day at work at the Montgomery Fair department store, Rosa Parks boarded the Cleveland Avenue bus for home. She took a seat in the first of several rows designated for "colored" passengers. Though the city's bus ordinance did give drivers the authority to assign seats, it didn't specifically give them the authority to demand a passenger to give up a seat to anyone (regardless of color). However, Montgomery bus drivers had adopted the custom of requiring

black passengers to give up their seats to white passengers, when no other seats were available. If the black passenger protested, the bus driver had the authority to refuse service and could call the police to have them removed. As the bus Rosa was riding continued on its route, it began to fill with white passengers. Eventually, the bus was full and the driver noticed that several white passengers were standing in the aisle. He stopped the bus and moved the sign separating the two sections back one row and asked four black passengers to give up their seats. Three complied, but Rosa refused and remained seated. The driver demanded, "Why don't you stand up?" to which Rosa replied, "I don't think I should have to stand up." The driver called the police and had her arrested. Later, she recalled that her refusal wasn't because she was physically tired, but that she was tired of giving in.

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Volume 9

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#### Upcoming Events

- Report Cards Distributed, February 4, 2010
- Parent Teacher Conferences, February 4, 2010
- Mid-Winter Break, February 15-19, 2010
- Board Meeting, February 15 at 6:00p.m. every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

#### *February is Black History month*

In 1915, **Dr. Carter G. Woodson** and Rev. Jesse E. Moorland co-founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). Their goal was to research and bring awareness to the largely ignored, yet crucial role black people played in American and world history. The following year, Woodson published and distributed his findings in *The Journal of Negro History*. He founded the publication with the hope that it would dispel popular mistruths. He also hoped to educate black people about their cultural background and instill them with a sense of pride in their race.



# Pontiac Rotary Student of the Month

On May 27, 1996 my mother Jerreece Barber gave birth to a baby girl named Kayla Kierra Noel. I grew up on the east side of Pontiac for six years, and then I moved on the north side of Pontiac for four years. During living on the east and south side of Pontiac, I attended Pontiac Academy for Excellence for eight years. In 1st grade I attended Great Lakes Academy. In kindergarten through 8th grade, I got all A's and maybe one B. Within those years, I had many awards given to me. Here are some of the awards: A & B Honor Roll, Best Student of the Month, Writing Award, Cesar Chavez Award and many more. While attending Pontiac Academy for Excellence in kindergarten I attended Cheerleading and Hip Hop. In 2nd grade I was a cheerleader. In 7th & 8th grade I played volleyball. My favorite thing to do is cook, because I love the taste of all types of food. My favorite types of food are ribs and fries, Mexican food, Chinese food, and many other cultures of food. My favorite colors are pink and green. I like to shop and go to the mall.

Kayla Noel, 8th Grader

## Mid-Winter Break is February 15—19, 2010

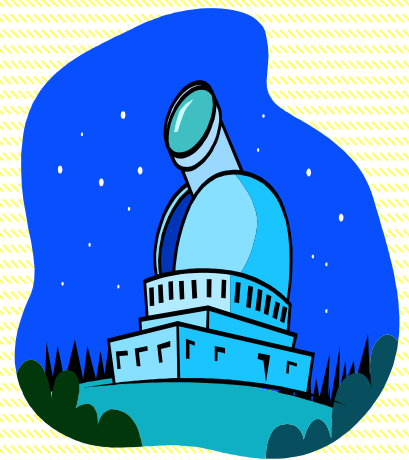
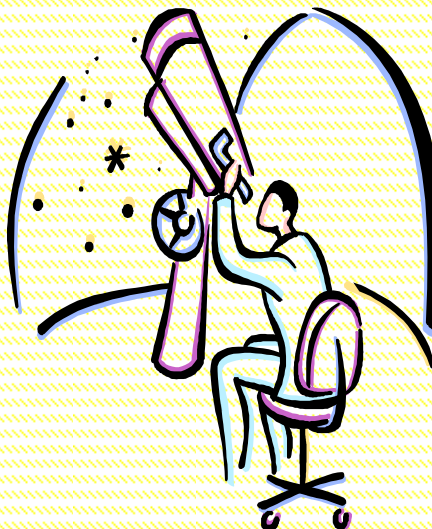


### “6th Grade Spelling Bee Winners”

- 1st Place—Jarron George
- 2nd Place—Tavian Moore
- 3rd Place—Janee Evans

## Upcoming Event to PAE—Mobile Planetarium

Kramer Entertainment will be holding assemblies for Middle School Students for African American History. Kramer Entertainment will bring a Planetarium to Pontiac Academy and host 45 minute assemblies in celebration of Black History. Assembly will feature “Lucy Cradle”.



# After school tutoring

It's February 2010 and the tutoring for Middle School is still going very well. Students will be able to receive after school tutoring from their core teachers. We highly recommend all students to take advantage of this opportunity. Each student will have access for help in one or more of their core classes during the week. The student only has to talk to their classroom teacher and find out what days are available to them. After school tutoring is an enrichment session. Students who attend will get help with key concepts by working in small groups with the teacher.

## Monday

### Band

Sarver D110 7:15am–7:40am

## Tuesday

### Math

Sodee 315 7:00am to 7:30 am

### Writing

Wolak 314 7:00am to 7:45 am

### Computers

Kropp D207 7:15am to 7:45am

### Band

Sarver D110 7:15am–7:40am

## Wednesday

### Math

Schulman 306 3:45pm to 4:30pm

### Homework Club

Avitia-Moore 302 3:30pm to 4:30 pm

### Computers

Kropp D207 7:15am to 7:45am

### Band

Sarver D110 7:15am–7:40am

## Thursday

### Math

Mason 312 3:45pm to 4:15pm

### S. Studies

Branch 304 3:45pm to 4:45pm

### Computers

Kropp D207 7:15am to 7:45am

### Band

Sarver D110 7:15am–7:40am

## Friday

### Band

Sarver D110 7:15am–7:40am



## Important Dates to Remember.....

- February 4—Parent/Teachers Conferences 4p.m. to 7p.m.**
- February 5—No School for Students—Parent Teacher Conference 8a.m.—12p.m.**
- February 10—Parent Workshop “Roots to Underachievement”**
- February 11—Count Day**
- February 15 thru 19—No School for Students Mid-Winter Break**
- February 15 thru 19—Staff Development Days**
- February 16—School Board Meeting**
- February 22—Students Return**
- February 27—Saturday School for Elementary, Middle and High School**