

Eagle Country

Pontiac Academy for Excellence Middle School

A Note From Principal Lozelle



March 2010

Volume 10

As we enter into March, I came across an article from the Oakland Literacy Council which I thought would be beneficial to our middle school families. Email me with your thoughts and opinions on this article at lozelleb@pontiacacademy.org.

By simply opening a book, one can escape to another time and place, gain the knowledge of the world right at home. Since March is Reading Month, organizations, bookstores and libraries across Oakland county are holding activities to get people turning pages. Reading is an important skill to learn because you need it for absolutely everything. It opens up a whole new world if you can read," Oakland Literacy Council Director Carol Moraniec said. The Literacy Partnership of Southeast Michigan which includes the Oakland Literacy Council, the Macomb Literacy Partners and ProLiteracy Detroit works to expand literacy by helping adults who need individualized basic reading and English language instruction. Despite

what some might think, Moraniec said, many adults in Oakland County struggle with reading. "It's estimated at about 13 percent for Oakland County, but some areas have higher rates than others, such as Pontiac, Hazel Park and Oak Park. We have students that come to us at the very beginning level all the way up to sixth or seventh grade, but in order to be eligible for our services, you have to be reading below an eighth-grade reading level," she said. Moraniec encourages all adults who have trouble reading to seek the help of one of the three volunteer-based literacy providers involved in the Literacy Partnership of Southeast Michigan especially if the person has children. "If they're not doing well with their reading skills, then

chances are their children will end up coming to us later down the road. We'd like to put ourselves out of business by giving people help, so they can help their children and get involved with their education," she said. Throughout the month of March, Borders spokesperson Amy Stanton said, "Borders in Utica will open its doors and invite families in for "fun-filled" story hours, activities and events every Friday at 10:30 a.m. and every Saturday at 11 a.m. in celebration of Reading Month". Books open up a door to a world of adventure, discovery and imagination, and we want to try to help enhance that and invite the public into their local bookstores to celebrate this month of reading. What better way to celebrate this special month than in a bookstore?" she said.

Inside this issue:

Note from Mr. Lozelle	1
March is Reading Month	1
Upcoming Events	1
"Roots to Under-Achievement" a Parent Workshop	2
Spring Break	2
Family Literacy Night	2

Upcoming Events

- Progress Reports Distributed, March 4, 2010
- Parent Workshop "Roots to Underachievement", March 11, 2010 at 6pm
- Spring Break, April 2-9, 2010
- Board Meeting, March 16 at 6:00p.m. every 3rd Tuesday of the month
- Family Literacy Night, Thursday, March 31, 2010 at 6pm

"Roots to Under-Achievement"

Pontiac Academy for Excellence and the Teaching our Youth Organization presents "The Roots to Under Achievement" a parent workshop. Is your child struggling to achieve good grades? Do they have low or failing grades on their report card? The question is "How can we motivate our kids to achieve?" In this session we will look at the causes and strategies to repair the thought process in the underachieving student to move them on to believe that they have what it takes to succeed.



"Don't Miss the Workshop"

Final Spelling Bee Winners



1st Place Christopher Caraballo

2nd Place LaCresha Levy

3rd Place Jolyne Ovalle

Spring Break is April 2—9, 2010 (No School for Students)

“Family Reading and Math Literacy Night”

On March 31, 2010 at 6pm, Pontiac Academy for Excellence will be hosting its second semester Family Literacy Night. Reading and Math will be the focus of this event. All of the families of Pontiac Academy for Excellence will partner with the instructional staff around the district to make this the most incredible Family Literacy Night this district has ever seen. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Without offering any incentives other than the educational fun, this night promises to provide. We are asking every single parent of the Pontiac Academy for Excellence school district to participate in the grade level specific activities. This is a family affair. Your part of the family, so we will see you there!

Important Dates to Remember

March 5, Progress Reports Distributed	March 18, No School for Students—Staff Development Day
March 9 No School for Students in Grades 9, 10 & 12 MME/ACT	March 19, No School for Students—Staff Development Day
March 10, No School for Students in Grades 9, 10 & 12 MME/ACT	March 20, Saturday School for Elementary and Middle School
March 11, Half Day for Students in Grades 9, 10 & 12 MME/ACT	March 23-25, MME Make-up
March 11, Parent Workshop 6pm	March 25, Parent Appreciation Night
March 13, Saturday School for Elementary, Middle & High School	March 27, Saturday School for Elementary and Middle School
March 16, School Board Meeting	March 31, Literacy Fair

