

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

January 10, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: African American History Month—February 2012

WHEREAS, The history of African Americans has played an integral role in the unfolding story of America; and

WHEREAS, Prominent African Americans, including Sojourner Truth, abolitionist and activist for women's rights; the Honorable Joseph Hayne Rainey, the first African American to serve in the United States House of Representatives; Madam C. J. Walker, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and America's first self-made woman millionaire; and Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery at The Johns Hopkins Hospital who also seeks to maximize the intellectual potential of all children; and many others who through their perseverance have greatly enriched our shared American society; and

WHEREAS, Challenges remain to be addressed and confronted as African Americans continue to battle institutional racism; and

WHEREAS, Providing a quality education is the area in which our society must invest to maximize the skills and contributions of all, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools hereby declare the month of February 2012 to be "African American History Month"; and be it further

Resolved, That the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools encourage the staff, students, parents, and community to actively honor the contributions of African Americans in Montgomery County, the state, and the nation, and enhance the awareness of the impact of attitudes and expectations on the achievement of African American students.

JPS:ldd