Dear Parents,

As you know, February is a month for observing important African Americans who have impacted our lives. As a community, we are very aware of famous African Americans such as Jackie Robinson, Michael Jordan, Martin Luther King, etc. however, we are unfamiliar with African American inventors who have impacted our lives daily. For this reason, your child is assigned a project, which focuses on African American inventors and their discoveries. For this project, there is an attached rubric to guide you as to what is expected. This rubric will be used in the grading process. This project will count as two grades: one in Language Arts and one in Social Studies. Please review this rubric carefully. There are three parts to this project:

Part One: Written Presentation: In their own words, students will type a one-page report about the inventor and his/her discoveries. Students will be graded on neatness, punctuation, sentence structure, and fluidity of the paper (is the paper easy to read). Students can use several resources: Internet, video, and book. When using these resources, make sure your resources are documented properly (please see rubric). Students can write about anything, which pertains to the inventor and his/her discoveries. This may include, but is not limited to, family history, other inventions/discoveries, where they were born, where they lived, etc.

Part Two: Visual Presentation: The students will incorporate a visual presentation with their project. Students can use one of the following for their visual presentation: poster board, mobile or a first person presentation (the student dresses and presents as the inventor). Since the project is centered on an inventor, students will need to include a picture representation of the item(s) invented and/or the actual item.

Part Three: Oral Presentation: All students will present an oral presentation of their inventor. This includes a detailed account on what they have learned in reference to their inventor. Since this is a learning experience, students will not be able to read from their report. Students will need to rehearse their researched information on their inventor. They will be graded on what they have learned (please see rubric).

This project is due February 29rd. If the project is turned in late a penalty of 10 points for each day it is late. This will be deducted from the final grade for both Language Arts and Social Studies.

A list of African American inventors is included. You may use an inventor off of this list or find one on your own.