

**PROCLAMATION
For
National African American History Month
February, 2013**

WHEREAS, The Pinellas County School Board joins Americans throughout the State and nation in recognizing February, 2013 as National African American History Month; and

WHEREAS, The Pinellas County School Board celebrates the many achievements African Americans have made to our community, state, and national cultural diversity, social equality and economic success; and

WHEREAS, Established by American historian Carter G. Woodson, the original celebration of Black History Week was observed on February 12, 1926. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded to a month; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 theme "At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington" honors two important anniversaries in the history of African Americans and the United States. On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation set the United States on the path of ending slavery. On August 28, 1963, hundreds of thousands of Americans marched to the memorial of Abraham Lincoln in the continuing pursuit of equality of citizenship and self-determination. It was on this occasion that Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his celebrated "I Have a Dream" speech; and

WHEREAS, In 1994 and 2002 the Florida Legislature passed legislation to ensure that African and African American History content is taught in schools; the Pinellas County School District continues to take the necessary steps toward the infusion of African and African American History curriculum as part of the content taught and studied in PreK-grade 12; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate to call upon our schools and the community to observe this month with programs, activities and ceremonies, and for our School Board to recognize and promote these observances district wide; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Pinellas County do hereby proclaim February, 2013 as: **African American History Month** and adopted this 26th day of February, 2013

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS
COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Chairperson

Attest: _____
Superintendent