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NEWS RELEASE

February 29, 2008

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Penny Creek students prepare for a "Night of the Notables"

The evening of Thursday, March 6, will bring famous characters in miniature to the halls of Penny Creek Elementary. And it will mark the conclusion of a lot of hard work on the part of second - through fifth-grade students in the school's highly capable program.

From 6:30 to 8 p.m., the students, dressed in costume, will present what they have learned about a notable historic figure. For the last two months, they have been researching their person of choice, making timelines of this person's accomplishments and the era in which the "notable" lived. They have also written photo stories and poems about notables and prepared costumes to wear on this special "Night of the Notables." Activities for the evening include parents asking "yes" and "no" questions of each costumed student in an effort to ascertain the identity of each adult being represented by each student.

The event concludes with students making speeches in character and showcasing their timelines to adult attendees.

Principal Shelley Petillo is enthusiastic about the event and what students learn in the process. In these projects, students apply and develop writing, math, and science skills; they expand their knowledge of history and cultures; they get to be artistic and creative and practice presenting to audiences, interacting with and responding to adults. Depending upon which 'notable' each student chooses, they learn about careers and life choices, about determination and adversity — sometimes even the consequences of bad choices or questionable ethics.