

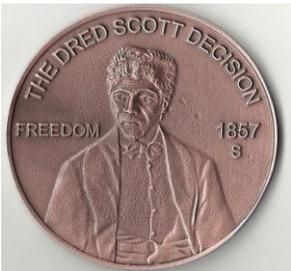
School Letterhead

(Current Date)

Dear Parents,

From _____ to _____ our school will have an opportunity to help make history. We are part of an exciting plan to establish a statue of Dred and Harriet Scott, to recognize their 11 year struggle for freedom. The statue will be the first in the nation honoring the Scotts. It will be located in the heart of downtown St. Louis, near the Old Courthouse – the site of the first two Dred Scott trials. The Dred Scott Decision in 1857 was a major catalyst that brought on the Civil War, motivated Abraham Lincoln to run for President and resulted in the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the United States Constitution. In little more than a decade after that decision, our nation abolished slavery, granted equal citizenship to all and guaranteed the right to vote regardless of race.

Our participation in the penny drive is in recognition of a fund-raising tradition used to successfully engage school children in civic events. In the mid 1930's, St. Louis public school children collected pennies in order to save the home of Dred Scott's attorney, Roswell Field, from demolition. With your participation, the **Dred Scott Statue Penny Drive** will engage our *citizens of tomorrow* building civic pride, while discovering St. Louis' role in this historic chapter. In the future, they will be able to point to a St. Louis monument they helped to build – one that acknowledges past events while instilling pride in the role that S. Louisians played. (Please do not allow your children go door to door)



The sponsor of the penny drive, BMO Harris Bank, has agreed to be the repository of the penny drive donations. In addition, they are the sponsors of a brand new 3" Scott-Lincoln commemorative penny. This collectable, designed by the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation, in recognition of the 150 years since the since the Dred Scott Decision commemorates the courage and tenacity of the man, Dred Scott. Our school will receive a coin as a thank you for our participation. To learn more about the coin visit www.thedredscottfoundation.org.

So, gather your loose change, as we participate in a spirited game between our classes, other elementary schools in the district and our rival schools, to raise a statue to the role St. Louis played in a crucial chapter in United States history. Family and friends may send checks to the school or directly to BMO Harris Bank, made out to The Dred Scott Heritage Foundation.

Yours truly,

(Teacher/Principal)