



# PRIDE @ GLEC & IN LIFE

Pride Day Lesson 1

# WARM-UP

Why is pride in oneself important?

How do you show that you are proud of yourself?

Why is school pride important?

What can we do to encourage others in our school to have and show school pride?

# VOCABULARY

Pride

Proud

Anglo

African-Americans

Freedman

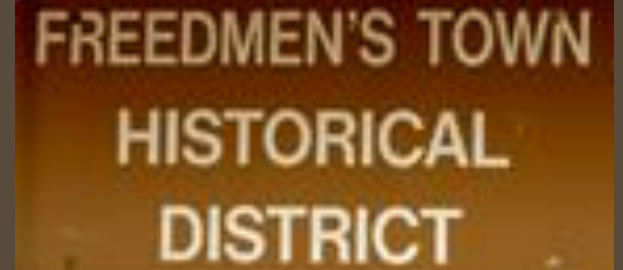
Flourished

The Gregory Institute

The Gregory School

Gregory-Lincoln Education Center

# WHERE DID WE COME FROM?



Built in 1926, The Gregory School today stands as a monument honoring the memories and sacrifices of a past generation of African-Americans that lived and thrived during a period in history where segregation, civil rights oppression and educational disadvantages were the norm.

The two-story, 20,000-square-foot former elementary school named after Edgar M. Gregory, a Union officer and Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the Texas area, has been vacant since 1980 and is located in Freedman's Town Historical District, in Houston's Fourth Ward. **This area is considered to be the city's oldest established African-American community.**

The first 1,000 freed slaves settled and developed this small community after the Civil War to exist independent of the Anglo community that did not accept them.

They selected the area because land was cheap, and because Anglos did not want to live along the swampy southern edge of Buffalo Bayou which was susceptible to flooding.

Freedman's Town grew rapidly, many African-Americans of the time became self-sustaining businessmen, their establishments flourished, and they provided whatever the community needed to thrive.

# WHERE DID WE COME FROM?



**These Houstonians created their own utilities and services and even paved the streets with bricks they hand-made.**

The heart of the town was the community's church where the Freedmen's Bureau and the American Mission Association opened schools within the church to provide adults with literacy and basic math skills.

By 1870, the Texas Legislature created public schools for African-Americans and the Gregory Institute was opened.

By 1872, most students and teachers left the closed Freedmen's Bureau schools to attend the Gregory Institute.

By 1876, The Gregory Institute became a part of the Houston Independent School District and the Gregory School became the first public education institution for African-American children.

The State Historical Commission designated the Gregory School building as a State Archaeological Landmark. This designation is the highest historical landmark classification that can be placed on any building.

# TRACING OUR PRIDE

Tracing the school's history back to the Gregory Institute (1870), how old is the legacy of Gregory-Lincoln Education Center?

What was Houston like when the Gregory Institute was in existence?

What were the students like at the Gregory Institute?



WHAT DO YOU SEE IN THIS PICTURE?





# THE SCHOOLS



1870  
The Gregory  
Institute



1926  
The Gregory  
School



1966  
Gregory-Lincoln



# WOULD THE STUDENTS OF THE GREGORY INSTITUTE BE PROUD OF US?



2008

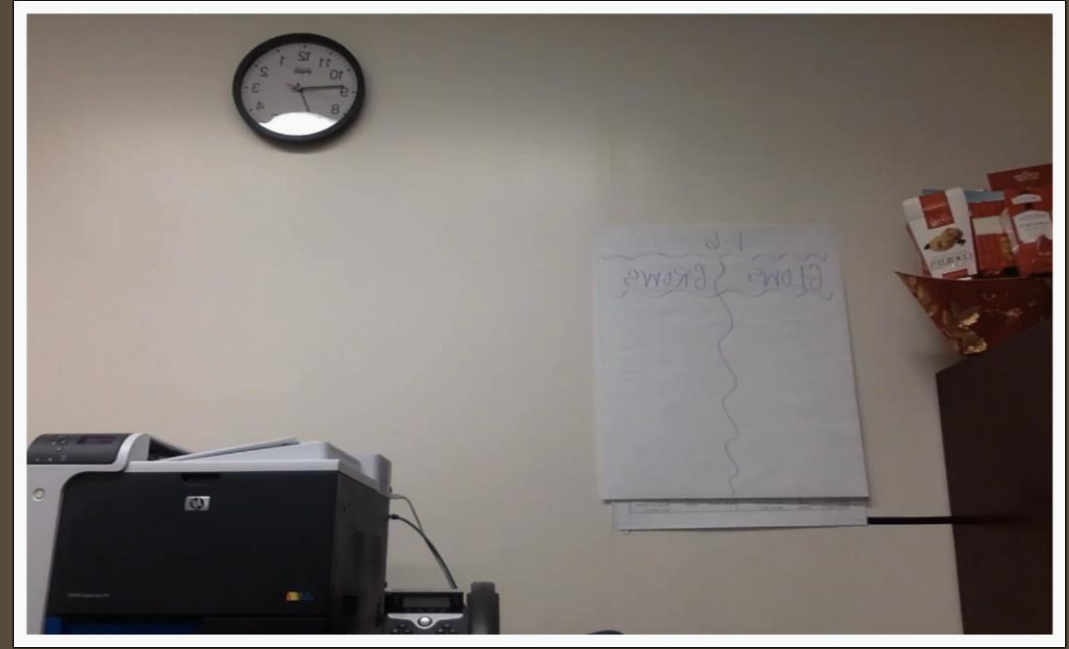
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# CHALLENGE ACCEPTED — BUILDING SCHOOL PRIDE

The Example



The Challenge



# HOMEROOM PRIDE CHALLENGE

- ☐ Complete the planning form as a homeroom class
- ☐ As a class, create an acronym for the word PRIDE
- ☐ Identify at least five student clubs or activities that would be an awesome addition to GLEC
- ☐ Identify teachers who would make the best sponsors for the identified clubs
- ☐ Identify a possible song to use for our lip sync performance: song must be positive, clean lyrics, and personifies our campus
- ☐ Identify a class spokesperson who will meet with the admin team and other class reps to share your ideas, plan for clubs, and plan the full video
- ☐ As you plan, keep in mind that we must include ideas and songs that will fit for all students PK-8
- ☐ Class representatives will meet on Wednesday, January 11, 2016 during Pride Hours