

WARRIOR NEWS

MARCH 2013 VOLUME 6, No. 6

FANNIE C. WILLIAMS CHARTER SCHOOL • 11755 DWYER ROAD
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70128

Visit our website at www.fcwcs.org



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Fannie C. Williams

Born: March 23, 1882

Biloxi, Mississippi

It's time to enroll your child for the 2013-2014 school year at FCWCS! Did you return the OneApp? Reserve your child's seat today!



Marching Warriors Perform in Four Parades, Carnival '13

Our marching units—band, majorettes, dance team, flag twirlers, and cheerleaders—have become “seasoned” steppers in two years. Warriors marched in Adonis, Chaos, Iris (above and below), and Thoth Parades in 2013.



Thaddeus Petit, Director

Mission Statement of Fannie C. Williams Charter School

The mission of Fannie C. Williams School is to achieve the highest academic success through collaboration of staff, parents, and community.

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Message from Our Principal/C.E.O. March 2013

Dear Parents & Friends of FCWCS,

We are closing in on the last two weeks of our Saturday Warrior Academy. It is important that students who have signed up get the last four sessions of Saturday tutoring available. Their teachers have prepared lessons that will provide them with the additional assistance they will need to be successful in April. We do not want any students disappointed when scores come back in the spring. Now is the time to prepare!

Eighth graders and their parents should be making preparations for the next academic year. Have you filled out the application for your son's or daughter's "new" school? Make sure you have at least three choices listed on the application for OneApp schools. Choosing wisely now will ensure success during their high school years. Each school

has its unique characteristics and traditions. It is important that you have an intense discussion with your child as to what type of high school program they wish to pursue.

Students who are in grades Pre-K-7 should have returned their OneApps back to FCWCS by now. We will have to let RSD know how many seats are available in classes Pre-K through 8 for next year. Current students will have "first choice" for seats for next year. But we must know that your child will return to do this. We are hoping that you have been pleased with the academic efforts here and are willing to once again entrust your child(ren) with us in 2013-2014.

There is always room for improvement and we are working diligently to improve all levels of instruction in our classrooms. We are not where we want to be, but we are striving hard to get there. One way to do this, is to have consistency in the student body—teaching the same students year after year will aid in this process. Changing large numbers of

members of the student body is not conducive to this endeavor. Also, parents should be mindful that changing a child's school every couple of years will usually not give you the results you are seeking. Students need consistency in the classroom. Each school has its own curriculum and ways of doing things. Also don't forget the social ramifications. Making new friends every few years can be difficult. In the 1990s, the Journal of the American Medical Association published a study on this issue. It was noted that transient students were 35% more likely to fail a class because of excessive changing of schools. Seventy-seven percent (77%) were likely to have behavioral problems due to unwarranted changes. This study had 10,000 students as test subjects.

We would appreciate you giving us the opportunity to educate your son/daughter during the 2013-2014 academic year.

Kelly S. Batiste, Principal/CEO

Staff Donates Time to Raising \$\$\$ for FCWCS

Did you know that since the start of the Saints and Hornets athletic seasons, members of FCWCS's staff have **volunteered their time** to work the concession stands during home games at the Superdome and the N. O. Arena? Non-profit groups staff 95% of the stands in the stadiums, allowing the groups to earn money for their organizations.



Hours were spent training and working the concession stands in order to raise money for FCWCS. Team members arrived hours before an event to prepare the stands. A game starting at noon may have meant the team arriving around 8:00 a.m. If the game ended at 3:00 p.m., the team still had to clean up and turn in

funds. The group worked on commission, earning the greatest amount of money when the staff was at least a dozen Warriors staff.



All monies earned went to FCWCS. Thanks to all the generous staff members.

Thank you Gretchen Batiste-Johnson, Bernetta

Sisco, Thaddeus Petit, Vickie Coleman, Cari White, Ashlyn Williams, Sharnell Theard, Karen LeBlanc, Phillip Britt, Terri Daigle, Ashley Singleton, Allison French, Kelly Batiste, and Janice Watts. ###



All Children Can Learn, But . . .

Our school family of educators believe that all children are capable of learning, but they must be present to do so!

State law mandates that elementary and middle school students may not be absent more than 12 days during the academic year to be eligible for promotion to the next grade. Students missing 13 days or more will repeat the grade next year, regardless of the student's **Grade Point Average (GPA)**.

We are also concerned about the number of parents who request early release. We understand emergencies do occur, but parents should be aware that frequent early releases results in missed time in the classroom—learning opportunities students can never get back. Also, students checked out before 1:30 p.m. are counted as absent for 1/2 day.

Parents are also asked not to check children out of class after 2:45 p.m. It is very disruptive to the classroom's and school's dismissal procedures. **The school day ends at 3:15 p.m. daily.**

Thanks for your cooperation in helping to enhance the amount of time students spend actively learning. ###



From the Desk of Nurse Robichaux

What are Empty Calories?

We hear the word "calorie" used all the time. But, exactly what is it? It is simply defined as the unit used to measure the energy value of food.

Calories are necessary in food to maintain the body's vital functions and basic metabolic rate. How many calories do you need daily depends on factors such as age, gender, activity level, and lean muscle mass. Eating too few calories for a long period of time will cause individuals to become underweight, have muscle atrophy, poor immunity from diseases, and eventually, organ failure. Too many calories is often the problem most Americans face today. It can cause you to gain weight, increase the probability of heart disease, develop type II diabetes, and cancer.

Empty calories come from foods and drinks that contain solid fats and/or added sugars. These fats and added sugars add calories to the food, but contain few or no nutrients (nourishment for growth and maintenance for life). This is why calories from solid fats and added sugars are called empty calories.

—cont'd on pg. 3



Saturday Warrior Academy Prepares Students for Spring Assessments

Warrior Academy assists students academically, through a variety of fun and engaging lessons, as they work toward successful attainment of at least "Basic" proficiency rating on this year's iLEAP/LEAP assessment in the Spring.

Students selected for SWA should arrive by 9:00 a.m. Classes end at 11:00 a.m. Remaining dates for SWA are March 9, March 16, March 23, and April 6.

Parents are responsible for dropping their child off and picking them up promptly at 11:00 a.m. on the above Saturdays. **Regular attendance is critical.**

"Terri" Williams, CAO
###

Happy Birthday Fannie C. Williams

School's namesake born 131 years ago March 23rd



Fannie C. Williams, the New Orleans educator for whom our school was named, was born on March 23, 1882 in Biloxi, Mississippi. How did a native of Biloxi end up with her name on a New Orleans East school?

Ms. Williams received her high school and undergraduate education in New Orleans from Straight College (later Dillard University) in 1904. She taught in Gulfport and Pass Christian for about eight years. She also taught in Michigan before returning to New Orleans in 1921.

The remainder of her long career as an educator took place in New Orleans Public Schools. Fannie Williams worked as a teacher at Fisk Elementary. She later became principal of the Miro School (later known as Valena C. Jones Elementary), where she guided staff and students from 1921-1954. During this time, she helped to institute a health program for students, early childhood education, field trips away from the city, scouting, testing for special needs, and help groups for parents. She died in 1980 at the age of 98. New Orleans Public Schools (NOPS) honored her memory with a school—Fannie C. Williams Middle in 1988. Our new FCWCS is the second building named in honor of this outstanding educator.

###

Upcoming Calendar Events

March 1

4th Quarter Begins

March 5

JA in a Day (Grades 1-4)

March 9

World of Smiles Family Day

March 12-14

ANET Interim Assessment 4 (A4)

Grades 2-8

March 13

3rd Quarter Report Card Conf.

Time: 4-6 p.m.

March 15

3rd Quarter Awards Celebration

Time: TBA

2013-2014 School Applications

due, return them FCWCS

March 18

P.T.A. Mtg. at 4:00 p.m.

March 19

LEAP Phase I, Grades 4 & 8

C.L.A.S.S. Board of Directors Mtg.

6:00 p.m.

March 22

Donut for Dads, 8:30 a.m.

March 26

Too Good for Drugs Begins
(Enrichment Classes)

March 29

NO SCHOOL, Good Friday

April 8-11

LEAP/iLEAP/iTBS/LAA2 Testing

April 16

C.L.A.S.S. BOD Mtg.

6:00 p.m.

April 19

NO SCHOOL, Spring Break

April 22-26

Scholastic Book Fair

April 23

C.L.A.S.S. Mtg., 6 p.m.

April 24

4th Quarter Progress Reports Issued

April TBA

PBS Spring Bling (Spring Festival)
for students who follow the 4Ps

May 2

Promotion Pictures Taken

May 3

Voices of FCWCS (Choir) @
Jazz Fest

May 8-9

8th Grade Final Exams

May 10

Muffins for Mom

Time: TBA, Location: Warrior Café

Upcoming Calendar Events

(cont'd from left)

May 13-17

8th Grade Spirit Week

May 13-14

4th Quarter Final Exams

May 14

Last Day for Enrichment Classes

May 16

Pre-K Closing Program, Time:
TBA

Location: FCWCS

May 17

Kindergarten Closing Program,
Time: TBA

Location: FCWCS

May 18

8th Grade Closing Ceremony
Time & Place: TBA

May 20

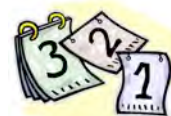
Awards Program, Grades 1-7

May 21

C.L.A.S.S. Meeting, 6 p.m.

May 23

Last Day for Students
(4th Quarter Ends)



Don't forget to mark your calendars!

From the desk of . . .

(cont'd from pg. 2)

Solid fats are fats that are solid at room temperature, like butter, beef fat, and shortening. Some solid fats are found in foods naturally, but they are also added when foods are processed by manufacturers or when cooked. Added sugars and syrups are found in foods or drinks when processed or prepared. They both make food more tasty, but they add calories. The most empty calories for today's Americans can be found in:

- Cakes, cookies, pastries, and donuts (solid fat & added sugars)
- Sodas, energy drinks, sports drinks, and fruit drinks (added sugars) —*cont'd, pg. 4*



From the desk of . . .

- Cheese (solid fat)
- Pizza (solid fat)
- Ice Cream (solid fat and added sugars)
- Sausages, hot dogs, bacon, and ribs (solid fat).

These foods and beverages are the major sources of empty calories in our food driven culture, but there are substitutes for them. Low-fat cheese and hot dogs can be found in supermarkets. Choosing water, milk, or sugar-free soda instead of sugar laden beverages will help.

Then there are some foods that all their calories are empty calories. Candy is the main culprit in this group. But, be aware that there are foods with needed nutrients that contain solid fats and added sugars. With a little planning, great substitutes can be made to avoid these empty calories:

Foods with **some** empty calories

- Sweetened applesauce (added sugars)
- Regular ground beef, 75% lean (solid fats)
- Fried chicken (solid fats from frying and skin)
- Sugar-sweetened cereals (added sugars)
- Whole milk (solid fats)

Foods with **few or no** empty calories

- Unsweetened applesauce
- Extra lean beef, 95% or more lean
- Baked chicken breast without the skin
- Unsweetened cereals
- Fat-free milk

A small amount of empty calories will not harm you, but Americans (especially New Orleanians) are not known for eating in moderation! We should all work on limiting our intake of empty calories. It may result in a healthier and longer life.

###

Works cited: www.choosemyplate.gov
www.healthaliciousness.com

Black History Door Decorating Contest Judging February 25, 2013

Doors were decorated in celebration of Black History Month. They were judged on craftsmanship, completeness, creativity, visual impact/student's work and content. The winners were: 1. Ms. Tolliver (Rm. 1202) 2. Ms. A. Jones (1101) 3. Ms. D. I. Williams (2103) 4. Ms. Singleton (1203). Congratulations ladies!

Celebrating Our Legacy Through the Arts—Black History Month @ FCWCS



February rolls around each year with a committee being formed to plan and execute our annual Black History festivities. This year's team has chosen

“Celebrating Our Legacy Through the Arts” as our theme. We believe we were able to expose students to the richness of Black History through music, dance, visual arts, and literature. The importance of HBCU (Historical Black Colleges and Universities) was also told to students.

Members of the planning committee are: T. Williams, T. Daigle, B. Sisco, K. Wright, P. Britt, A. Jones, K. Cobbins, D. Andrew, S. Warren, S. Theriot, K. LeBlanc, and D. Whittington. Special kudos to Ms. K. LeBlanc and Mr. P. Britt for the set decorations.

Pictures in our FCWCS Photo Album (on pages 5 and 6) for this month should illustrate what a good time and great educational experience it was for all.

###

“It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength.” —Maya Angelou
 Poet, b. 4/4/1928



Ernest proudly displays his orange shirt and guitar “Let’s Rock” pin. FCWCS had eight students to take part in Saturday’s race.

Our **ING Kids Rock Team** was established by Coach Herbert. The fitness race was held in City Park on February 23rd for grades K-7. Eight students took part in this activity. It is a non-timed, non-competitive event for children. It stresses physical activity as a way of combating childhood obesity. Dean-of-Students B. Sisco served as chaperone for this year’s group.

###



Physical Education goes so much better when in uniform. Shirt & shorts only \$20.00 (\$5 more for XL adult sizes).

1st Place Door - Celebrating Black History Through the Arts (Ms. Tolliver, Rm. 1202).



2nd Place Door - Our Words, Our Legacy (Ms. A. Jones, Rm. 1101).





Scenes from our HBCU (Historical Black Colleges & Universities) Step Show on Friday, February 22, 2013.

The Winners were:
1st Place: 7th Grade Girls (Ms. D. I. Williams);
2nd Place: 8th Grade Girls (Ms. T. Williams);
3rd Place: 7th Grade Boys (Ms. Brown);
Honorable Mention: Pre-K Class (Ms. Guidry).



The road to college begins at Fannie C. Williams Charter School!



Black History T-Shirt Design Winners (above)



Annual Black History Program

Celebrating Our Legacy through the Arts

March 1, 2013



Featured guest at this year's program was drummer Sullivan Dabney Jr. and the Muzik Jazz Band!

Registration for 2013-2014 Happening Now!

Applications for enrollment for next school year have been sent home to all current students. Parents are asked to immediately return them to FCWCS. It is imperative that we know how many of our present students will be

re-joining us next year (all we hope). Administration will have to let RSD know how many seats are available for new students.

Do you have questions or concerns regarding the OneApp process? Call the school's office for assistance at 504.373.6228. ###

Calling all Warrior Parents & Guardians:

We want all current Warriors to return next year—have you returned the OneApp to secure your child's seat? It's very important to ensure a spot for next year now! We want your child back. Make it happen.



Website Marks One Year

It has been one year (March 9th) since FCWCS launched it's website—fcwcs.org.

The website contains pictures and information—everything you could ever want to know about Fannie C. Williams Charter School.

Statistics compiled by the webmaster (LS3 Studios) indicates that the site has had “hits” from 37 states, with most visits coming from the states of Louisiana, Texas, California, New York, and Illinois. Viewers in Colombia, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Great Britain,

Germany, Japan, China, Brazil, and Mexico have visited our site.

The **WN** for April '12, December '11, and March '12 were our biggest downloads thus far. Pages getting the biggest “hits” are the Calendar, Message from Our Principal, Our Family of Learners & Teachers, and the **WARRIOR NEWS**. The biggest traffic day is Wednesday, with 2:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. being the heaviest times for viewing.

More than 11,000 visitors, viewing on average 8 pages per visit, have stopped by to see **FCWCS** online. ###



Our girls basketball team prepared during the enrichment period at ExpandedED Learning.

ExpandedED Helps to Offer Variety of Activities to Students

Afternoons are busy times at FCWCS. At 3:20 p.m. school buses pull out the yard. But inside the building are hundreds of students who will be on campus until 6:00 p.m. These students are part of the ExpandedED Learning Time Program, under the auspices of V.I.E.T (Vietnamese Initiatives in Economic Training). Students are divided into groups by grade level and/or activity. Homework is the first task to be handled. About 4:30, the teams and groups emerge. There's track, karate, band,

basketball, videography, dance, majorettes, flag twirlers, cheerleaders, debate, aerobics and an art program. There's something for everybody.

The Afterschool Academy (known as ExpandedED Learning Time or ELT at FCWCS) was started in 2001 to ensure that children in Pre-K through 8 had a safe and structured environment after the traditional school day. Homework assistance and enrichment activities make this a perfect way to end the school day, Monday through Thursday. ###

2012-2013 Debate Team



Debate Team to Compete Saturday, March 9th

Ms. Cynthia Smith (ExpandedED Program) has announced that the Debate Team will be competing on March 9th at Lafayette School. One of our newest organizations, has students in the middle school competing in a formal contest of argumentation against other teams.

It teaches the ideals of reasoned argument, tolerance for different points of view and rigorous self-examination. Seldom do opposing views see the opposition side. But debaters feel that *“it is better to debate a question without settling it, than to settle a question without debating it.”* Good luck team.

(Above quote from the French philosopher Joseph Joubert). ###



Visit our website—fcwcs.org—for information regarding the great things happening on campus.

Warriors are always prompt, polite, productive, and prepared!

WARRIOR NEWS MARCH 2013



PBS Encourages Positive Behavior

Our PBS Team emphasizes the use of proactive, educative, and reinforcement-based strategies to achieve positive behavior and lifestyle outcomes. The team attempts to recognize good behavior more than problem behavior. Students are rewarded

on "Fannie Fridays" for doing the right thing during the week. The picture on the left shows our younger students preparing to watch a Christmas movie in the gym. They were also treated to hot chocolate and cookies. Following the 4Ps has its rewards!

###

Reading Intervention

The dictionary defines the word "intervention" as taking action to improve something. Our Reading Interventionists do just that. These professionals consult with the classroom teacher and employ assessment and observation data to target students who need additional help. Their job is to improve specific reading skills such as, letter-naming, initial sounds, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Our RI specialists are veteran teachers who are helping students gain that most important skill for all learning to come—reading. ###



Mrs. D. Barnett (above right) and a student receiving additional help with reading skills. Mrs. C. Lewis is the interventionist for the upper grades.



Modular Buildings Leaving

After six years of intensive usage, the 10 modular buildings are leaving what is now the rear of the campus. The buildings were a common sight in New Orleans after the storm. FCW opened with these buildings as

classrooms and administration offices on September 4, 2007. We used them until our move to the new building on October 23, 2012. They should all be cleared by the end of March 2013. The office building and cafeteria have been slated for reuse in other locales in Louisiana. ###



Gifted & Talented Visual Arts Students Explore Surroundings

Sheleen Jones-Adenle, FCWCS's Gifted and Talented Visual Arts teacher, employs unique ways of teaching our gifted visual arts students. You can often witness Jones-Adenle instructing students by using their surroundings—the lines and angles of the school's building and displays in the many glass cases on campus become unique lessons in

drawing, architecture, or painting.

Recently, the class employed the books in a display of Black History books as a "jumping off point" for their latest project. They were able to garner names of famous African Americans for a project that included drawing portraits of these extraordinary Americans when they were of elementary or middle school age.

###

Did you read this issue of **WARRIOR NEWS**? It was prepared especially for parents and friends of FCWCS!

We've got a monthly drawing for a prize for those Warriors whose parents send this coupon (*within 2 school days of receiving the WN*) back after reading these pages for important information about our great school!

Let us know you've read these pages by signing the backside of this coupon on page 9.

**BULLY
FREE
ZONE**

Ziah Haynes, 3rd Grader, won last month's prize because his mother reads the Warrior News!

Save this issue of the **WARRIOR NEWS** to keep abreast of FCW Charter's activities for March.





Parents, keep your family safe by . . .

- not allowing yourself to be distracted while driving
- slow down to 20 mph in the school zone
- do not allow kids to unbuckle until the car comes to a complete stop!



Parents Leaders Educators Dare to Get Engaged! Take the PLEDGE! to improve educational outcomes for all children

GETENGAGED
NOLA.ORG

Uniforms are mandatory—
All Warriors are expected to be in complete uniform daily. Parents should review pg. 6 of the Family Handbook and the school's website for uniform Dos and Don'ts!

2012-2013 Grading Quarters

1st Quarter
August 9 - October 4

2nd Quarter
October 5 - December 13

3rd Quarter
December 14 - February 28

4th Quarter
March 1 - May 23

**Great schools always have
a great P.T.A.! Join us.**



Lost & Found Swelling

We've got quite a few coats, jackets, sweaters that are in need of their owners to claim them. **Students' outerwear should always contain their names in the inside (near the labels) so that they can be returned to them if lost on campus.** Remember, any clothing not claimed by the end of the school year will be sent to Goodwill Industries. Please come and check the Lost & Found rack in the **nurse's office** ASAP. Thanks.



Did you know Fannie C. Williams Charter School's students are transported daily to and from our campus via Berry Transportation, a local company? Do you have questions or concerns regarding bus transportation?

Berry Transportation

www.berrytransportation.com

504.365.8327



C.L.A.S.S.
is scheduled to hold its
**Board of Directors
Meetings**
on the following

Tuesdays
6:00 p.m.
March 19
April 16
May 21

Location on campus:
Warrior Café



WARRIOR NEWS MARCH 2013

Important Academic Dates

March 13
3rd Quarter Report Cards Issued @
Parental Conferences, 4-6 p.m.
April 24
4th Quarter Progress Reports Issued
May 8-9
8th Grade Final Exams
May 13-14
Final Exams, Grades (1-7)
May 23
4th Quarter Grades Issued
May 28
LEAP Remediation Begins
(Summer School)



WARRIOR NEWS

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WARRIOR NEWS is published monthly during the academic school year by the Faculty & Staff of the school, under the auspices of **Community Leaders Advocating Student Success** - Debra Dean, President, Candice Forest, Duane Stelly, Donnyette Love, Al Edwards, Emily Roubion, and Brenda Flint-Minor

Kelly S. Batiste, CEO/Principal
Tarynesa "Terri" Williams, CAO
Terry M. Smith, Photographer & Editor
FCWCS Faculty & Staff, Contributors

Cut me out and send me back to school within 2 school days.

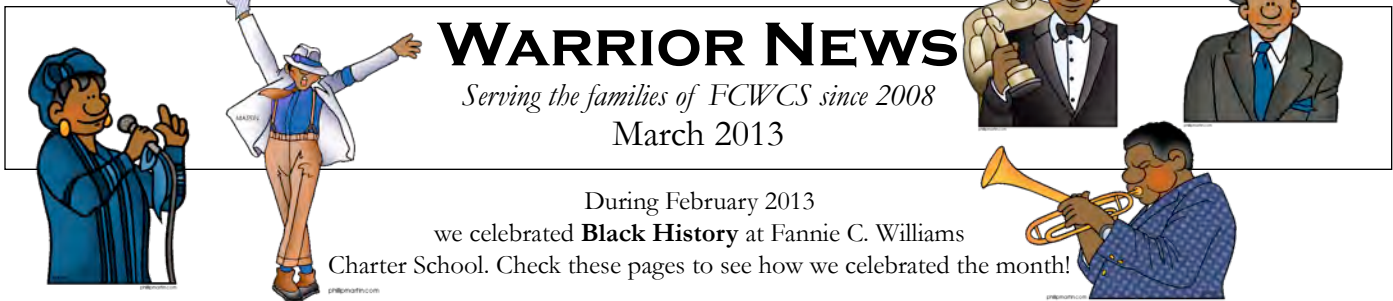
Save this issue to keep abreast of all the good things happening at Fannie C. Williams Charter School.

I've read the March 2013 issue of **WARRIOR NEWS** . . . please enter my child in this month's drawing!

Child's Name _____ Grade _____ Rm. No. _____

please write legibly (print the name above)

Parent's Name _____ Parent's Signature _____



*"Until lions have their historians,
tales of the hunt shall always
glorify the hunters."
—African Proverb*

*"The thing about black history is that the truth is so
much more complex than anything you could make
up." —Henry Louis Gates*

*"I don't want a Black History Month. Black history
is American history." —Morgan Freeman*

*"As we celebrate Black History Month we should be
grateful for the achievements they made and inspired
by their legacies to continue their work." —Marty
Meehan*

*"So many people of color who made major
contributions to American history have been trapped
in the purgatory of history." —Henry Louis Gates*

*"It is my hope that as we commemorate Black
History Month in the future, we will continue to
celebrate the many achievements and rich culture of
African-Americans." —Eliot Engel*

*"I did a book in 1996, an overview of black history.
In the process I became more aware of a lot of the
black inventors of the 19th century." —Kareem
Abdul-Jabbar*

*"Out of the huts of history's shame I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain I rise . . ." —
Maya Angelou*

*"If you don't stand for something, you will fall for
anything." —Malcolm X*

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Postage

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fcwcs.org