The Legacy of Fannie C. Williams Lives On
School’s namesake was a trailblazer, humanitarian, civic leader, and the ultimate educator.

Before the storms and floods of 2005, there were many schools in New Orleans that carried the names of admired African Americans—Langston Hughes, Booker T. Washington, Dr. Charles Drew, Louis Armstrong, A. P. Tureaud, Thomy Lafon, Ronald McNair, Ernest “Dutch” Morial, Phyllis Wheatley, Thurgood Marshall, and Fannie C. Williams—were among those honored.

Some of these “weathered the storm” others we may have lost forever. Our own Fannie C. Williams will continue on—her legacy is alive everyday on our campus. Every now and then, we like to review who she was and why she was honored with a school bearing her name. Here’s her story . . .

Fannie Cornelia Williams was born in Biloxi, Mississippi on Thursday, March 23, 1882. Miss Williams was born into a family of seven children.

She came to New Orleans to attend high school, later graduating from the College Prep and Normal Departments (teacher prep) of Straight University in 1904 (now Dillard University).

(Cont’d on page 2)
Her career in education began on the Gulf Coast, teaching there from 1904-1908. She returned to New Orleans and was assigned to Fisk Elementary. Her work was exceptional and the principal, Hattie V. Feger asked her to transfer to her school in 1912, the Miro School. She became the interim principal of Miro School in ’17, while Feger was on leave to further her education. The school's name was changed to Valena C. Jones during that period.

Between 1918-1920, FCW decided to continue her education at Michigan State Normal School (later named Eastern Michigan University) in Ypsilanti, Michigan. She graduated in ’20 with a BA and a Bachelors of Pedagogy. She taught one year in Albion, Michigan, returning south to Biloxi because her mother was seriously ill.

She returned to New Orleans after her mother’s death that spring and became the principal of Valena C. Jones in April of 1921. Between 1931-1939 she also worked as the principal of the Valena C. Jones Normal School, being paid an extra $225.00 a year for the additional responsibility. The Normal School was responsible for training talented high school grads for position as teachers. Both schools were housed in the same building on N. Galvez Street in the 7th Ward.

Williams was a pioneer in education, putting into place then unique opportunities for the students at Valena C. Jones. They included: kindergarten and nursery classes; annual health day, when medical professionals performed health screenings and services free; the first African American Girl Scout Troop in New Orleans; parenting classes; students visiting the sick and elderly, bringing flowers to those seniors in their community; quality student testing with the aid of experts from NOPS; she motivated healthy eating habits, encouraging students to drink milk, eat hot lunches, and not to drink soft drinks at school; her students ventured away from New Orleans on field trips to Baton Rouge, Tuskegee, and the Gulf Coast—not an easy accomplishment for a black student body in the early decades of the 20th century and Jim Crow Laws.

She retired in 1954 from Jones School, but continued to work with disabled children, illiterate adults, and Hispanics, teaching them to read. She also volunteered in an adult education program sponsored by the Council of Jewish Women. Williams loved to travel and ventured to Mexico, Europe, and most regions of the USA.

In 1977 she was the recipient of awards from the American Teachers’ Association and the National Teachers’ Association. She lived alone, with neighbors, former students and faculty looking in on her as she advanced in age. She died on June 12, 1980, at the age of 98. Between 1987-89, the 120,000 sq. ft. facility known as Fannie C. Williams Middle School was constructed in her honor. We are part of that legacy. It lives on with us each day at Fannie C. Williams Charter School. ###
Principal’s Message

March 8, 2016
Dear Parents,

You’ve probably heard that our school’s Board of Directors (C.L.A.S.S.) voted last Monday, February 29th, to begin the procedures to possibly return under the direction of the Orleans Parish School Board (aka New Orleans Public Schools).

According to an article in an online paper, The Lens, “in all cases of transfer, the nonprofit charter boards will maintain autonomy in setting school policy and hiring their top employee, but will answer ultimately to a different authorizer for overall academic, operational, and financial performance.”

We will keep you abreast of this change that we do not foresee having any reorganization of the classrooms of our students.

~Kelly S. Batiste, Principal/CEO

Can We Contact You in an Emergency?
Is your contact information up-to-date? In case of an emergency, we need to be able to reach you . . .

On Tues., February 23rd, extreme weather came through our region, necessitating the early dismissal of school. A winter storm was predicted to head our way, just around the normal dismissal time in the afternoon. Weather forecasters warned of possible tornadoes. Pass through LaPlace and Convent, LA today, you know they were right!

We needed to contact you, our parents/guardians, to let you know we were dismissing classes at noon. The RoboCal System (automated phone system) went into action about 8 am, automatically calling parent’s cell phones or landlines so that you could make arrangements to receive your children. The news media (TV) also broadcast school closures. However, scores of numbers were no longer valid—the numbers were changed and we did not have the newest numbers.

Please remember to stop in the main office or send a note with your newest contact information (name, address, phone numbers, etc.). It is imperative that we know how to contact you in cases of emergencies. ####

PTO Meetings
(5 - 6 p.m.)

Wed., Sept. 23
Wed., Nov. 18
Wed., February 24
Wed., May 4

Report Card
Conferences
(4 - 6 p.m.)

Wed., October 21
Wed., January 6
Wed., March 30

Thurs., May 26 (Time: TBA)

Wednesdays
are important days . . .
Make sure you check your child’s backpack for important documents in their Warrior Folders!

Responsibility Trackers, memos, monthly Warrior News, Progress Reports, etc. all go home on Wednesdays!

2015-2016 Progress Reports

September 16
November 18
January 25
April 18

(Progress Reports are sent home via students)

Upcoming School Holidays

Teacher PD
Mar 11 (1/2 day for students)
Spring Break
Mar 21-28
Teacher PD
May 20 (1/2 day for students)
Mark your calendars!

Parents who read the Warrior News are in the know! Are you?

Dallas’s mother, Rae Harrell, read the February issue of the Warrior News and sent the coupon on page 5 back to school within 2 days. Dallas was able to pick a prize from Mrs. Batiste’s treasure chest! The Pre-K student was ecstatic!
Silverback Society Returns for 2nd Year
Mentoring Program Aims to Develop Boys into Men

The male mentoring program known as the Silverback Society Mentorship Program has returned for its second consecutive year at FCWCS.

Male students in the Class of 2020 (8th graders) are exposed to these mentors from our community—helping our oldest scholars transition from boyhood to manhood.

Each week a group of about six trained adult males visit our campus to mentor our 8th grade males. These gentlemen are from all walks of life.

The Society forms an agreement with the boys they groom for manhood. The organization states that its purpose is to be committed to lead generations. The mentors commit one hour per week for 20 weeks to improve our community through working with youth.

Welcome back gentlemen and thank you.

Mentor: someone who teaches or gives help or advise to a less experienced or often younger person (def. from the Merriam Webster Dictionary). Synonyms: adviser, coach, guide, teacher, instructor, counselor, tutor, trainer.

Top Cookie Seller for this Year
Brandy Tardy, Grade 4

Troop Leader D. Barnett has informed the WN that Troop #41296 of FCWCS, top salesperson is Brandy Tardy. Brandy has sold 88 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies!

Our Girl Scouts still have a few boxes left if you are seeking cookies. Available are: Thin Mints, Shortbread, and Peanut Butter Patties. Each box is $4.00. See Troop Leader Barnett to make a purchase! ###

Did you send RSVP back to school for this fun-filled, educational family night? The night won’t be complete without your family in attendance! We’re cooking dinner!

2nd Annual
S.T.E.A.M. Night @ FCWCS
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics)

Exciting hands-on science, technology, engineering, art, and projects, games and experiments for the entire family. Something for ALL AGES! Bring the family . . .

Wednesday, March 9th
Warrior Gym
5-7 pm
Dinner Served

7th Annual
Donuts with Dad

Looking for all fathers, grandfathers, or father-figures to visit and share a couple of hours with our Warriors on

Friday, April 22nd
Time: tba

Serving the world’s best donuts for the world’s best dads!

Don’t forget to RSVP when the invites are sent home . . .

Scenes on right from last year’s S.T.E.A.M. Night (March 12th) and Donuts with Dad (March 27th) at our school.

“IT IS EASIER TO RAISE HEALTHY CHILDREN THAN TO FIX BROKEN MEN.” – Frederick Douglass (1818-1895, social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, statesman)
NED Show Motivates Students
*Character Education Program Well Received by Student Body*

Ask any Warrior and they will probably be able to tell you NED means NEVER GIVE UP; ENCOURAGE OTHERS; and DO YOUR BEST!

The NED Show came to FCW on Thurs., February 25th and took the entire school by storm. Two assemblies were held, providing the entire school an opportunity to hear and see this motivational program regarding building character.

No one on staff could remember ever seeing the upper grades so attentive to the message being delivered by the performer and his friend “NED.” Did you get a request from your Warrior for money for a yo-yo? That probably was unexpected. Kids wanting a yo-yo, a toy that does not plug in and is not digital. Why? The NED performer had one going through out his presentation.

For 25 years, The NED Show has used yo-to tricks in its assembly performances. It makes the show fun and unforgettable. The yo-yos also provide the way to pay for the assembly with the Pay-it-Forward plan. Getting NED here cost FCWCS nothing because some other school paid our way. We agreed to sell yo-yos for the next school’s assembly. Guess what, it worked! By the close of last week, Counselor Edmond had sold $1204.00 of yo-yos and paraphernalia.

What a great experience for our students. We are trying to develop them academically, socially, artistically, mentally, and emotionally. Developing boys and girls into adults who Never Give Up • Encourage Others • and always Do Their Best!  

###

Pelican’s Training Camp
Headed to FCWCS

March 17th is St. Patrick’s Day AND also the day the Jr. Pelican’s Training Camp is returning for the second time to our school.

Have you returned your child’s consent form to school? They can’t participate without it!

This activity is open to students in grades 3-8.  

###

**Coming soon to the a library near you (FCWCS’s library) is the . . .**

**Scholastic Book Fair**
April 18-22, 2016
Fannie C. Williams Charter School Library

Novels, Science-Fiction, Reference Books, Journals, Picture Books, Pencils, Posters, etc.

See you at the Book Fair

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.” –Margaret Fuller

“The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.” –Dr. Seuss

Scene from last year’s 1st Jr. Pelican’s Training Camp at FCWCS. Mrs. Calhoon and Kayla (left).


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 2016 issue of WARRIOR NEWS . . .

Please enter my child in this month’s drawing for the 2015-2016 school year!

Student’s Name ___________________________________________ Grade ____ Rm. No. _____

please write legibly

Parent’s Name _______________________________________ Parent’s Signature __________________________________
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!

Cut this part of the page, fill out the back side (pg. 6) and return it to school to enter the drawing. SAVE the rest of the WN.

Keep the Warrior News to stay abreast of FCW Charter’s activities for this Spring!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Our 7th Annual Box Tops for Education effort was awesome. We surpassed last year's collection by 1,546 coupons!

The Box Tops for Education Campaign has earned the school’s treasury $535.60!

Special shout out to the Kindergarten Class of Ms. L. Henry for being the top contributors.

2nd Place - The ISC (Main Office)
3rd Place - Mrs. A. Williams’s 1st Graders

Please continue sending in these valuable coupons . . . we’re starting the 2016-2017 campaign.

–Mrs. K. LeBlanc, Sponsor

Last Month’s Black History Contest, NO Winners

WN readers, did you know there was a contest in the pages of last month’s issue? The Editor was trying to give away two $10.00 gift cards to McDonald’s! But, no takers.

If you visit page 2 of February’s issue, there were 10 questions you needed to answer to be a winner. And believe it or not, most of the answers were in the pages of the issue.

We love that you like to look at the pictures within these pages, but the words are also very important.

So let’s try this once again! You have one week from the issuance of this paper to answer the following questions about our namesake Fannie C. Williams. Research the answers (check the old WN and the school’s website for answers to the questions) and turn in the correct responses on a sheet of paper (with your name and grade) to Ms. Smith in Rm. 1703, in the computer lab. Two (2) prizes are available for the first two (2) contestants with the most correct answers. Contest ends in 7 days. One prize per family. Good luck!

Contest Questions for March
1. Fannie C. Williams, our school’s namesake, was principal of what 7th Ward school until retiring in 1954?
2. What does the “C” stand for in Fannie C. Williams?
3. Name the First Lady (President’s wife) who visited FCW at her 7th Ward school?
4. What local HBCU has a building named Williams Hall after Fannie C. Williams?
5. When and where was Fannie C. Williams born?
6. Why did FCW leave the city of her birth to move to New Orleans?
7. The first African American Girl Scout Troop in New Orleans was at Miss Williams’s 7th Ward elementary school. What was the Troop Number?
8. Miss Williams began her teaching career in New Orleans at what school in 1908 (hint: Louis Armstrong attended this school when he wasn’t truant. Strong possibility she may have known the young Louis, wow!)?
9. A historical marker has been recently erected at FCW’s former school on N. Galvez Street. It refers to Fannie C. Williams as a _______ in Public Education.
10. Name one innovation to African American public education in New Orleans that was pioneered at the school on N. Galvez St. in the 7th Ward by Fannie C. Williams.

Contest ends 7 days from the first issuance of this paper at 3:15 pm.

“The teachers affect eternity; no one can tell where their influence stops.” —Henry Brooks Adams (1838-1918, historian and descended from two American Presidents, John and John Quincy Adams).
I-Ready Top Scholars (Most Growth)
Diagnostic 3

GOLDEN SCHOLARS

READING

Grade  | Scholar     
-------|-------------
K      | Alyse Benson
1      | Renard Anderson
2      | Derron Adams
3      | Chassidy Coston
4      | Charity Porter
5      | Shayna Sykes
6      | Taj Johnson
7      | Shamuar Combs
8      | Vincent Joseph

MATHEMATICS

Grade  | Scholar     
-------|-------------
K      | Isaiah Jones
1      | Shealyn Washington
2      | Ayonna Dokes
3      | Darriyelle Adams
4      | Tyree Strowder
5      | Ty’vae Brumfield
6      | Terence Brumfield
7      | Ed’Monty Ramee
8      | Reginald Bolden

A HUGE SHOUTOUT TO THE 5TH GRADE CLASS OF 2023!

Ms. Voorhies’s 5th Grade Homeroom contributed the most donations for the month of February. Thank you class.

The entire Warrior Family turned in 400 lbs. of food to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana! The class was treated to a pizza party for their unselfish contribution to a needed resource in our community.

Thank you parents for allowing our Warriors to “raid” your pantries. 1 in 6 households in Louisiana are at risk for hunger. The rising cost of food, housing, and utilities has increased the need for emergency food assistance, according to the organizations website (no-hunger.org).

Are you in need or do you know someone who needs assistance? The New Orleans facility can be reached at

1.855.392.9338

We accomplish a lot in 177 days of school!
It's field trip time for the 1st Graders. They're off to the Children's Museum on March 1st. Great way to start the month off! Photo by S. Theard.

Annual HBCU StepShow Winners, Feb. 19th

The NED Show came to "town" presenting two assemblies for our student body on February 25th. NED motivated students to NEVER GIVE UP, ENCOURAGE OTHERS, and always DO THEIR BEST! Great message. Thanks Mrs. J. Edmond for bringing NED to Warrior Land.

Winners from the Annual HBCU StepShow . . .

1st Place 8th Grade Boys (top) representing Arkansas, Teacher Ms. N. Simmons;

2nd Place 1st Graders representing FAMU & Tuskegee, Teacher Mrs. A. Williams;

3rd Place 8th Grade Girls representing Hampton U, photographed with Principal Batiste. Congratulations to all who participated!

An ice cream social is a great way to end the day, Feb. 26th for these I-Ready Scholars on the rise.
The 9th Annual Black History Program was definitely a worth-seeing production! Each year we celebrate the heritage of our students—a tradition going back to our first year as Fannie C. Williams Elementary in 2007-2008. Producers and Directors, Ms. S. Jordan, Mrs. T. Daigle, and Mr. T. Washington, definitely raised the bar this year. As always, the Art Department—Mr. P. Britt, Mrs. K. LeBlanc, and Mrs. S. Kennedy-Jones, talents added so much to the production. The Warrior Band, under the direction of Mr. D. Jones, always closing it out sounding so good. Stage crew of one—Ms. B. Sisco, kept the sound going! Classroom teachers, your class productions were “on point.” Students on stage, good job, good job! Good job to all involved. I've seen all nine of these productions. This year's and the 8th Annual are definitely among my faves.

—The Editor

P.S. Love the professional musicians, nice touch!

It's March 2nd!
Do you know who's birthday it is? Dr. Seuss (aka Theodor Seuss Geisel) children's writer and lover of Grinches and Green Eggs & Ham!
Did you know that March is **Save Your Vision Month**? This is the 79th year that this designation has been assigned to the month of March.

Eye injuries of all types occur at a rate of more than 2,000 per day. Most of these injuries occurred from falling or flying objects, or sparks striking the eye, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. An estimated 1,000 eye injuries occur in the American workplaces alone. This makes adults just as susceptible to eye injuries as children.

Children, as well as adults, should have yearly check ups to take care of their eyes. A good eye exam keeps your eyes healthy; children and adults who wear glasses, should ensure that their prescription is accurate. Eye exams can detect early signs of eye disease, helping you maintain your healthy vision for decades to come.

Did you know that eye exams can also discover the following health issues: diabetes, hypertension, autoimmune disorders, high cholesterol, thyroid disease, and cancer. The eyes are often called the “windows to your soul.” They also allow your eye doctor to see elsewhere. ###

**Warrior News March 2016**

**The school day starts at 8:00 am daily.** Every student should be in place by 8:00 am. Students eating breakfast should be here no later than 7:45 am. Students are late at 8:01 am. Remember, tardy students are missing important classroom instruction. ###

**C.L.A.S.S.** is the governing body (Board of Directors) for FCWCS. The Board of Directors meets every third Tuesday of every other month. **The next meeting is scheduled on April 19, 2016.** ###

Upcoming
Campus
March 2016
1-2 iReady Progress Monitoring
4 Black History Fannie Factor
7-9 3rd Quarter Exams
10 Pictures with the Bunny
10 STEAM Family Night
11 1/2 day for students, school dismisses at 12 NOON
11 3rd Quarter Ends (44)
14 4th Quarter Begins
17 Founder’s Day Special Luncheon
17 Jr. Pelicans Training Camp
20-22 HBCU 8th Grade Tour to Atlanta
21-28 Spring Break, NO SCHOOL
23 Fannie C. Williams Birthday (1882-1980)
29-31 Annual Spring Scholastic Book Fair
30 3rd Quarter Report Card Conferences, 4-6 pm
31 SMARS (Student Mentor Academic Review Sessions)

Earrings ARE NOT allowed on boys at FCWCS at no time while on campus! Female students wearing earrings should wear studs or nickel-sized hoops.

Nose rings or visible body piercings or not acceptable articles for our students. Parents are asked to refer to page 15 in the Family Handbook for additional information. ###

“Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.” –H. Jackson Brown, Jr. (1940- , American Author best known for the book “Life’s Little Instruction Book.”)

“**The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.**”

—Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968, Civil Rights & Peace Movement Leader, Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Baptist Minister)

“You can never be too overdressed or overeducated.” – Oscar Wilde (1854-1900, playwright, novelist, poet, essayist)
Afterschool Program . . .
is in session Monday through
Thursday, 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.
There is NO after school session on
FRIDAYS! All students are dismissed
from school on Fridays at 3:15 pm
SHARP!

We appreciate your assistance.
Questions or concerns? See Dean Sisco.
###

State Law requires
that elementary and
middle school
students must be
present at least 167
days of the 177
school days to be
eligible for promotion
to the next grade. ###

Pencils for Sale!
.25 cents each

See Mrs. Leblanc or
Ms. Theard to make a
purchase!

Homework

Assistance can be found at . . .
HomeworkLA.org
provided by the Homework Louisiana for
residents/students of Louisiana, kindergarten
through adult learners!
LIVE Assistance available!!!

Warriors are always . . .
PROMPT
POLITE
PREPARED and
PRODUCTIVE!
We follow the 4Ps each and every day!!!

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. ###