

Washington Farewell

There are an estimated 450 schools in the United States named after George Washington. In November there was one less after a New Orleans school board stripped the first President's name from an elementary school and renamed it after Charles Richard Drew, a black surgeon known for his work in blood transfusion. This was only the latest name change for New Orleans which, in 1992, decided it would no longer permit schools to bear the names of slave-owners or Confederate officers. Thus have schools named for P.G.T. Beauregard and Robert E. Lee been given the names of black supreme court justice Thurgood Marshall and black astronaut Ronald McNair.

Ninety-one percent of the students in the district are black, and the school board is controlled by a five-to-two black majority. At what used to be George Washington Elementary, 98 percent of the 702 students are black, and the proposed name change met virtually no opposition from faculty, parents, or the community. After all, as Carl Galmon, a long-time New Orleans "civil rights leader" put it, "Why should African-Americans want their kids to pay respect or pay homage to someone who enslaved their ancestors?" He went on to note that "to African-Americans, George Washington has about as much meaning as David Duke." *NY Times*

Hypocrisy in High Places

The Washington DC, public schools consume \$7,300 per student every year—thousands of dollars above the national average—but are generally recognized as

the worst in the country. Congress has dreamed up a plan to give some district students vouchers of \$3,200 each so they can attend private schools in the area and perhaps get a better education.

Some of Congress' most notorious liberals are leading the fight against the plan, which would bring riffraff into the private schools favored by these same notorious liberal. Twenty members of Congress who have school-aged children live in the district, and not one patronizes public schools. Almost all of them oppose the voucher plan. Even the district's non-voting, black representative Eleanor Norton sends her children to private school. Opposition to vouchers is led by Edward Kennedy and black Senator Carol Mosley Braun, neither of whom has ever sent a child to public school. William Clinton, whose daughter attended a tony Quaker private school, also opposed the plan. *NY Post*

Out of the Mouths of Babes

A poll by MTV has learned that an increasing number of young people believe in racial separation. Sixty-eight percent agree with the statement that it is "OK if the races are basically separate from one another in our country, as long as everyone has equal opportunities." In 1991 only 41 percent agreed with this view. A different poll conducted by Time-CNN has discovered that nine out of ten black teenagers report that "racism" is a "small problem" or "not a problem at all" in their lives. *Business Wire*

*American Renaissance is edited by
Jared Taylor.*