

# School Naming Initiative:

**A.B. Hart**

**Public-submitted rationales for suggested names**

Submitted names as of 5:00p on March 4, 2022

## Proposed Name Submissions

- Kelly Miller Elementary
- Arnold Pinkney
- Benjamin Wade
- George Washington Williams
- Alonzo G. Wright (Wright Academy or Elementary)
- John Patterson Green
- Jane Edna Hunter
- Charles Drew
- E. E. Academy (Ernest Everett)
- S. S. Butler (Selena Sloan Butler)
- C. G. Woodson Academy (Carter G. Woodson)
- Charles V. Carr Elementary

## Kelly Miller Elementary

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- As the first black graduate student in Mathematics, Kelly Miller came to understand the importance of education to help foster strong black leaders. He then became a dean at Howard University and an active civil rights activist where he continued to push for access to higher education for all black Americans.

## Arnold Pinkney

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Born in Youngstown
- Political strategist and civil rights activist
- Helped elect Ohio's first black congressman, Louis Stokes, in 1968
- Managed Jesse Jackson's 1984 presidential campaign
- Advised Jesse Jackson, Carl Stokes, and Governor Richard Celeste
- Special adviser to the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus
- Co-founded Pinkney-Perry Insurance Agency, Ohio's oldest and largest minority-owned insurance company

# Benjamin Wade

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- 19<sup>th</sup> century senator
- Ardent abolitionist, support of women's and African-American suffrage, and a Northeast Ohio resident
- Within one vote of becoming President of the United States during the impeachment of Andrew Johnson
  - Members of his own party did not vote to remove President Johnson because they thought Senator Wade's ideas about universal suffrage were too radical for the time

# George Washington Williams

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Late 19<sup>th</sup> century African-American journalist, lawyer, minister, and historian who wrote the first comprehensive history of African-Americans from their own point of view
- Authored the two-volume History of the Negro Race in America from 1619 to 1880
- Founded a respected black national newspaper (The Commoner)
- First black member of the Ohio state legislature

## Alonzo G. Wright (Wright Academy or Elementary)

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Alonzo Wright was a southern migrant who came to Cleveland in the early 1910's and became the first African American to lease a Sohio Station. He created job opportunities for young blacks with hiring more black youths than any other businessman in the US. Wright left the service-station business and established Wright's Enterprises, a real-estate investment firm.

## John Patterson Green

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Born April 2, 1845, Patterson is known as the "Father of Labor Day".
- His family moved to Cleveland in 1857. He attended Central High School (1866-69), and in 1870 graduated from Union Law School, moved to South Carolina, and was admitted to the bar.
- Green returned to Cleveland in 1872 and was elected Republican justice of the peace, the first black elected to office in Cleveland. He held the post for 9 years (1873-82). In 1881 he won election to the Ohio House of Representatives. He was elected to the Ohio legislature in 1890, there introducing the bill that established Labor Day as a state holiday; the U.S. Congress made it a national holiday in 1894.



## Jane Edna Hunter

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- A pioneering African-American social worker, Hunter established the Working Girls Association in Cleveland, in 1911, to offer shelter, assistance, and education to women. It later became the Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, which provides social services for children, the elderly and people in need. A South Carolinian by birth, she moved to Cleveland in 1905 and quickly became a leader in the black community.
- A Cleveland Law School grad, she oversaw an 11-story residence for black women and was active in a number of civic- and social-minded groups and causes, including the National Association of Colored Women. She held a number of honorary university degrees and was on the board of directors and was a vice president of the NAACP.

## Charles Drew

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Charles Richard Drew was an African American physician who developed ways to process and store blood plasma in "blood banks." He directed the blood plasma programs of the United States and Great Britain in World War II, but resigned after a ruling that the blood of African Americans would be segregated. He died on April 1, 1950.

## E. E. Academy

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Ernest Everett Just was an African American biologist and educator who pioneered many areas on the physiology of development, including fertilization, experimental parthenogenesis, hydration, cell division, dehydration in living cells and ultraviolet carcinogenic radiation effects on cells. Just's legacy of accomplishments followed him long after his death, on October 27, 1941.

## S. S. Butler

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Selena Sloan Butler (1872–1964) is the founder and first president of the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers Association (NCCPT). President Herbert Hoover appointed her to the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection in 1929. During World War II, she organized the Red Cross' first black women's chapter of "Gray Ladies." When Congress merged the NCCPT with the National PTA in 1970, Butler was posthumously recognized as one of the organization's founders. Today, Butler is considered a co-founder of the National Parent-Teacher Association.[1][2]

## C. G. Woodson Academy

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- Carter G. Woodson was a scholar whose dedication to celebrating the historic contributions of Black people led to the establishment of Black History Month, marked every February since 1976. Woodson fervently believed that Black people should be proud of their heritage and all Americans should understand the largely overlooked achievements of Black Americans.

## Charles V. Carr Elementary

- The following is the rationale provided for this submission. ***Please note: this information has not been checked for accuracy!***
- CARR, CHARLES VELMON (9 November 1903-30 Apr. 1987), influential Cleveland Democrat and civil rights advocate, was born in Clarksville, Texas. Carr was brought to Cleveland by his stepfather Jesse Robertson. Carr attended CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL and EAST TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL in Cleveland, graduating from Fisk University in 1924. He was an organizer and officer of the QUINCY SAVINGS & LOAN CO., established in 1952, which made home loans to AFRICAN AMERICANS in neighborhoods where mainstream banks were reluctant to. A master of political compromise, Carr became the first black majority leader of city council in 1959. Carr proposed an ordinance that would make the possession (as opposed to the sale) of policy slips legal. The ordinance failed. Cleveland police argued that it would hinder their efforts to crack down on the numbers racket; Carr argued that the existing law simply allowed police to crack down on African Americans. Carr became a frequent critic of police harassment of the black community.

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