

of governments sustained by the votes of ignorant negroes and conducted in the interest of adventurers.

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The Policy of the congressional leaders wrought...a veritable overthrow of civilization in the South....in their determination to "put the white South under the heel of the black South."

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The white men were roused by a mere instinct of self-preservation.....until at last there had sprung into existence a great Ku Klux Klan, a veritable empire of the South, to protect the southern country.

Whereas, Wilson's predecessors, Theodore Roosevelt and William Taft, whose records on race issues were hardly perfect, nonetheless stood well above Wilson on these issues, appointing numerous Black federal officials, for instance.²

Whereas, for a number of years, students, teachers and others have been working to change the name of the high school to better reflect the values of the community; and

Whereas, a group of Wilson teachers wrote in a 2015 petition, "we do a disservice to all students by remaining uncritical and silent on the legacy of Woodrow Wilson."; and

Whereas, the DC History and Justice Collective initiated a movement to change the name of Wilson High School to ensure that the name of the school should reflect our city's values; and

Whereas, on June 23, the representatives of all 8 wards on the State Board of Education sent a letter to Chancellor Lewis Ferebee asking for fast action on the grassroots demand to change the name of Woodrow Wilson High School; and

Whereas, this summer Mayor Muriel Bowser highlighted the creation of the District of Columbia Facilities and Commemorative Expressions Working Group (DC FACES) to evaluate named public spaces in Washington, DC and provide recommended actions, including removing, renaming, and/or contextualizing the building, public space, or monument; and

Whereas, the Executive Director of the working group noted, "Buildings, statues, and public spaces are symbols that represent people, ideas, and institutions"; and

² See, eg, Raab Collection, President Theodore Roosevelt Announces His Determination to Make the First Appointment of a Black Person to a Federal Post in Any State," (Roosevelt said that the goal of his first appointment should be to secure "*the man of one color...the rights that no one would grudge him if he were of another color.*") accessed at <https://www.raabcollection.com/presidential-autographs/roosevelt-african-american>.

Whereas, on September 15, 2020, DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson has called a hearing before the Council’s Committee of the Whole on PR 23-892, “Sense of the Council Woodrow Wilson High School Renaming Protocol Resolution of 2020.”

Now, therefore, in recognition of these considerations, ANC 3E adopts the following resolution:

Resolved, ANC 3E supports the DC Council resolution which supports efforts to reconsider the name of Woodrow Wilson High School and calls on DCPS to, as was done with the Washington Football Team, immediately remove the offending portions of the name (Woodrow), and use community input to consider whether the name of Wilson High School should be further changed, and if so, what name should be selected

Further, ANC 3E believes as the Wilson High School renaming project has now been ongoing for a number of years, DCPS and the DC Council should move with all due haste to rename Wilson to ensure that no future classes are graduating from a school building named after a racist.

The resolution passed by a vote of 4-0-0 at a properly noticed meeting held on September 17th, 2020, at which a quorum was present, with Commissioners Bender, Hall, McHugh, and Quinn in attendance.

ANC 3E

By Jonathan Bender, Chairperson