

THELMA WASHINGTON

Thelma Washington, Class of 1955, was a popular elementary school teacher in White Plains for 30 years and has been an active contributor to many community organizations, particularly those that help children.

A graduate of the White Plains Public Schools, beginning at Post Road Elementary, she was a cabinet member of the GO at the High School. Ms. Washington received a BS Degree from Plattsburgh State Teachers College and started her teaching career at Willowbrook State School on Staten Island. She went on to earn Masters Degrees from Columbia University Teachers College and the College of New Rochelle.

Ms. Washington came to White Plains as a Special Education teacher in 1961. She taught at North Street, Eastview and Battle Hill Schools and at Mamaroneck Avenue School, as a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher for 26 years. Over the years she also taught at Head Start and nursery and adult education programs, participated in the writing of the first Curriculum Guide for the inclusion of African-Americans in White Plains and helped organize the first elementary school class for children with special emotional problems.

Active in the community, Ms. Washington has served as Director of the Winbrook Study Center for African-American students and was Board Secretary of the George Washington Carver Center Tutorial Program. She is president of the Parkway Homes Civic Association, works on voter registration drives for the NAACP, tutors students, and coordinates financial aid workshops. She has also participated in food drives for the homeless and is a leader in Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the Union Baptist Church.

Ms. Washington has received volunteer awards from numerous organizations and has been recognized for her service to children by proclamations from White Plains and Westchester County.

