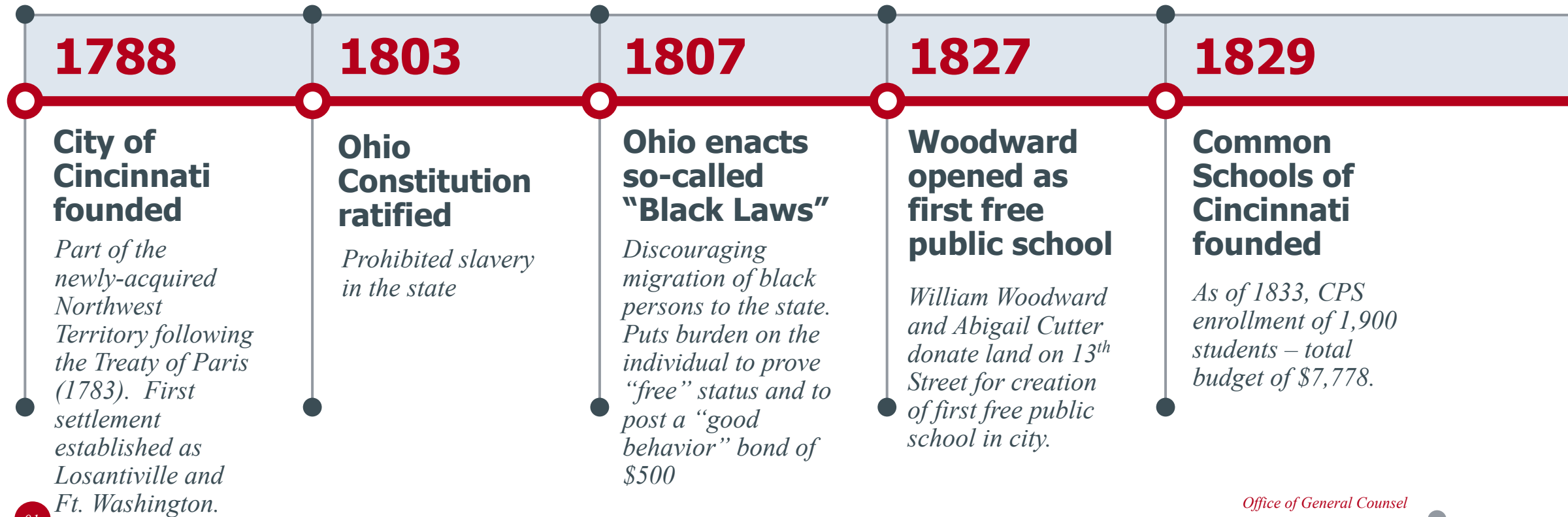
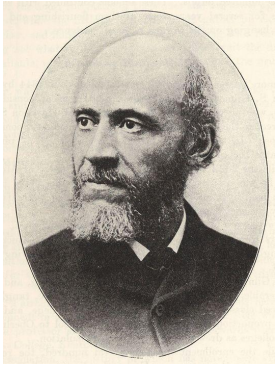


Cincinnati Public Schools

Timeline of Educating Black Students





Peter H. Clark (1829-1925)

- Abolitionist and advocate for education of black students
- First teacher employed by black schools
- Namesake of Clark Montessori



Benjamin W. Arnett (1838-1906)

- Free black representative to the Ohio House of Representatives, Republican from Greene County, Ohio (85% white district)
- Introduced legislation to phase out the Black Laws in Ohio

1852

Cincinnati Independent Colored School System founded

Financed contributions by African American residents and business owners

1858

Rev. Dangerfield Early starts school in Walnut Hills home

Later joins Cincinnati system when Walnut Hills was annexed by Cincinnati in 1870.

1872

Elm Street School constructed

Colored School Board included Joseph Early, William Hartwell Parham and Robert Gordon – who sold \$1,974 of brick for the construction of the school

1874

Merger with Cincinnati Public Schools

Predominantly white Cincinnati Board takes over and maintains largely segregated system of schools

1887

Brown-Arnett Bill enacted to eliminate Black Laws

Phases out school segregation but de facto segregation continues

Frederick Douglass School

The Frederick Douglass School in Walnut Hills was initially founded in 1858 by Rev. Dangerfield Early. Joined CPS in 1870.

Elm Street School, also known as the Alms Place Building was dedicated in 1872, but soon outgrown by the enrollment of the school.

New, state-of-the-art building dedicated in November 1911.

- 350 seat auditorium

- Doctor's office staffed by the Public Health Department

Renamed Frederick Douglas School to try to avoid integration of the school. All teachers and the principal of Frederick Douglass were black.

More aligned to the WEB DuBois approach of the development of a smaller group of college-educated blacks, referred to by DuBois as the "Talented Tenth."



Harriet Beecher Stowe School

Porter organized a segregated school in the West End 1911 –
private kindergarten for migrant children
1914 – opened the school (principal until 1936)

School had 28 classrooms – kindergarten, science rooms, art rooms, catering department, laundry room, sewing shop, print shop, house construction room, cabinet making shop, woodworking shop, library, swimming pool, two shower rooms, doctor's office, prenatal clinic, cafeteria, gymnasium, and auditorium. Also had a farm in College Hill to teach agricultural studies.

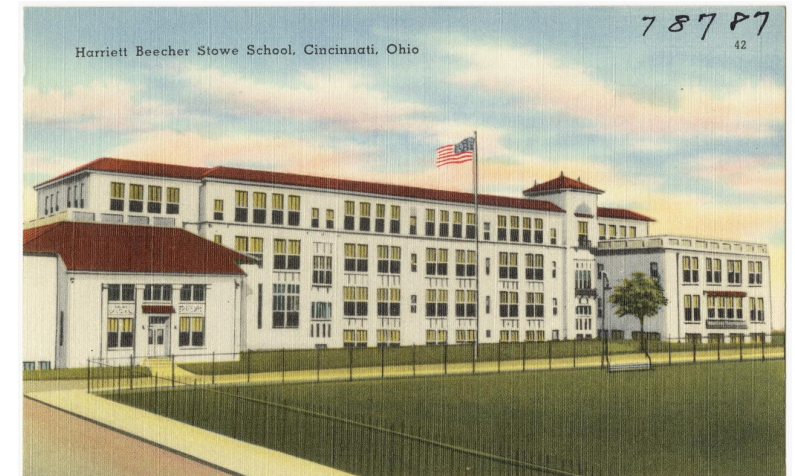
Primarily intended to serve poor, uneducated black migrant children moving north

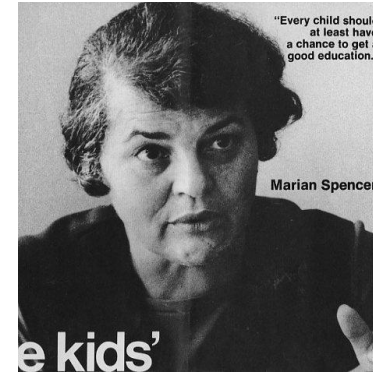
Followed the model of Booker Washington and George Washington Carver (Tuskegee Institute) – preparing African Americans for skilled manual labor and elevating themselves through material prosperity

Supported by board president Dr. John Withrow. Criticized by the NAACP and Wendell Phillips Dabney – prominent newspaper publisher argued for integration.



Jennie D. Porter
(1879-1936)
-Attended integrated schools and graduated from Hughes HS
-Kindergarten teacher at the Douglass School in Walnut Hills before opening the Harriet Beecher Stowe School
-First African American woman to earn PhD from University of Cincinnati





Marian Spencer (1920-2019)

- Elected to City Council and served as Vice Mayor
- First female president of Cincinnati NAACP
- First African American President of Cincinnati Women's Club

1915

Cincinnati NAACP founded

Wendell Dabney, first president until 1932. Followed by Theodore Berry. Critical of segregated schools – Stowe and Douglass

1916

Threatened strike by white students to remove black students from Walnut Hills HS

1954

Brown v. Board of Education

Unanimous Supreme Court decision declaring racial segregation in education to violate the US Constitution

1973

Marian Spencer runs for Bd. Of Educ.

Although unsuccessful, Spencer brings awareness to issue of equality in Cincinnati schools

1974

Bronson v. Cincinnati Bd. Of Educ. filed

Series of consent decrees in 1983 and 1984 to improve racial balance in schools in enrollment, staffing, etc. Goal of reducing Taeuber Index