



## Community Support for Ida B Wells:

This is my choice out of these five for who should be the name of the school. - Student

For our motto to be "The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them" would be fantastic. Ida is my strong second choice. I like that education was a big part of how she was able to move things forward. - Staff Member

She would be a great person to name our school after - Student

She sounds perfect - Student

Her story is really cool - Student

I want Ida B Wells please - Student

I studied Ida B Wells a lot a couple years ago and she seems like a valid person to have the school be named after her. - Student

Yes! An activist battling sexism, racism and violence. Education was important to her as well as fighting for what is right. Yes, absolutely her legacy would be an amazing platform from which to teach the ideals we esteem. - Parent

She embodies trials, tribulations, successes, and surviving oppression. She would be a wonderful choice for a new name. - Staff Member

A profound legacy, would be honored to call our school after her. - Parent

Sounds like an extraordinary woman of her time who fought for people of color and women. - Parent

I've always been a fan of Ida B Wells so would support this choice. - Parent

Her beliefs are probably some of the most consistent with what we're looking for! - Parent

I really like her story and her message. This is my favorite of the five amazing biographies. - Staff Member

Excellent option. Her passion for education would be a great legacy for our high school - Students. "IB Wells High School" sounds phenomenal. - Parent

I would vote for Ida B. Wells for our new school name! - Staff Member

What an amazing woman! - Parent

"Another wonderful choice and example of someone who fought to further education and justice for all. Also a great reminder of the history of slavery in our country " - Parent

I love everything she stood for with particular emphasis on educating others through writing. A fitting legacy for our community of students and families. - Parent

This is by far my favorite choice. I appreciate that she is known nationally, and was an advocate for many things, including the importance of education. - Parent

This would be a great option!! - Future Student

I believe Ida B Wells would be the right fit for our school. She was an advocate for education and one of the most important heroes in American history. - Student

Awesome choice - Parent

I also feel this is a good choice, particularly due to her work as an educator and the intersectionality within her work. - Staff Member

Wells is my other preferred candidate to be honored through the renaming of this school. I like that she valued education and used her skills to educate others on the conditions of African-Americans in the South. Her leadership in the anti-lynching crusade was very brave and her work as a civil right advocate and Black suffragette was extremely important. - Alumni

I love Ms. Wells! - Parent

Choose this one! She was such a hero. Ida B. Wells High School is a FIERCE name for a school. - Parent

She's awesome! - Parent

Wells also sounds good to me as member Class of '64. Do not let any naysayers put down this effort. - Alumni, Community Member

Her focus on education makes her a great candidate. Yes to Ms. Wells. - Community Member

I vote for her!! - Community Member

I support this name! Ida B. Wells was radical. This choice sends, in my mind, a strong message. - Community Member

This is my vote! - Community Member

She was amazing. - Community Member

Ida B. Wells would be my first choice for her focus on education, self-determination and truth. She would be a great role model for our young people. - Parent, Community Member

Prefer the school to be renamed in her honor. - Community Member

Ida B Wells would be an inspirational choice. She is an American hero, and a testament to the power of education and using one's voice to change the world. She is a profile in courage.  
- Parent

I like how intersectional her journey was and the amount of trailblazing she had to do. - Student

Yes! I like her! - Alumni

All of these women deserve great sympathy for what they had to endure. Any one of them would be an excellent choice to represent our high school. I think I prefer Wells the most, for how accomplished she was, for the fact that more people need to know about her, and simply that Wells High School has a nice ring to it. Thanks - Student

I am like the message Miss Wells sends of tolerance and honor - Community Member

As a graduate of Wilson High School (class of 1965), I strongly support re-naming the school in honor of Ida B. Wells. Wells was not only a superb writer, but also a lecturer who traveled both within the US and abroad to raise awareness of issues of concern to women and Black people, calling especially for an end to lynching. She had no patience with those who refused to act when action was called for, and she often devised unusual ways of drawing attention to inequities. Students today should be aware of her bravery and brilliance as well as her devotion to education. - Alumni, Community Member

I am very excited that Ida Wells is a choice, she is so inspiring! - Parent, Future Student

Wells is so important and has had such an impact historically speaking. Would be an awesome fit as well. - Alumni

Ida B. Wells probably deserves more credit and recognition for her dedication to make life better for all people. I would prefer a person with a connection to Oregon. - Alumni

Love her story - Parent, Community Member

I vote Ida B Wells - Community Member

I really appreciate the accomplishments and positive messages attributed to Ida Wells. Her

accomplishments in Civil Rights demonstrate conviction and heroism. - Alumni

Ms. Wells is an amazing. She is a wonderful candidate. - Community Member

I would choose Ida B. Wells but all of these women are absolutely amazing and I will be even more proud of being an alum - Alumni

"Ida B Well is my #1 vote for the name of the school.  
Her belief in regards to education "...education was important, that spreading and sharing knowledge was the key to a more tolerant and just society"" Is what our society is missing and needs now and moving forward. " - Community Member

"I think that WHAT she fought for and WHEN she was fighting for it is SOOOO relevant to why we're even having this conversation/name changing happen, George Floyd. Some wouldn't call it a lynching, I would call it one of the most public ones in recent times. Ida B Wells would be my choice." - Community Member

It's time to begin to right our wrongs. Let's turn the light bright. - Community Member

"Renaming our school after Ms. Wells would be very honorable and just feels right.  
"The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them," seems like an excellent motto for education!" - Alumni

Please choose Ida B Wells!! - Alumni

Love it! - Community Member

Impressive biography, she would be an inspiration to students and the community. -  
Parent, Community Member

I think Ida B. Wells would be a great name for a high school. She was a teacher, entrepreneur, journalist, writer ... I appreciate that her story is not primarily a story about living in slavery, so students now can identify with her more. - Community Member

Why did I never learn about her in either of my history classes? Regular or AP? - Alumni

Tough choices. All these amazing women were trailblazers of their time. I am so grateful that my incoming freshman daughter ... will be attending a school that honors people of her likeness ... My top choice is Ida B Wells. A fighter for gender equality, civil rights, education, and justice. We carry on the fight for these in our present day. She represents us, and we represent her. Her name would be symbolic of the baton she's passed on to us to continue to fight. -  
Parent

Ida also has my vote. - Community Member

Ida B Wells is my first choice for renaming WHS. She is a remarkable and important early Black, female activist, and her belief in the importance of education is a no-brainer when considering someone to associate with a high school... - Alumni

She represents the importance of education and how we can use it to change our world around us, while standing up for people of color. - Student

This is my choice vote. I agree with Ida B. Wells. - Future Student

An American hero - Alumni

I vote for her - Community Member

This one!! - Student

I really like this name because she sounds like a very good person. And the quote is very true. That is why I think that this is a very good name for our school. - Future Student

I choose this one - Parent

All of the choices are absolutely incredible. I vote for Ida B. Wells. She embodied so many of the things we hope our children will fight for in this world & I would feel so proud to send my kids to a school named in her honor, using her guiding principles to further their education about the needs of the world. Really, I will proud to send them to a school named after any of these inspirational women, but that's my vote:) - Community Member

I think you should name the school after Ida B. Wells - Future Student

I think Ida B. Wells is very relevant to education and schools, and she is one of my favorite candidates because of her message of truth and equality. It is very important to a school to spread a good message and that is just what Ida B. Wells did. Her story of progression from slavery to being one of the most important civil rights activists is extremely meaningful as well. - Future Student

Ida B. Wells was both a fearless Black woman in the face of literal physical danger and a fearless crusading journalist who never shied away from writing and printing the truth. In these times, both in view of attacks on the press and also wide spread racial fears and tensions within our country, Ida B. Wells is a human being of courageous character all people and especially high school students can look up to. I support renaming Woodrow Wilson High School as Ida. B. Wells High School. - Alumni

She is a great inspiration for students. She would be a perfect pick. - Community Member

Great legacy of fighting for women's and black people's rights. - Alumni

Love her focus on education and access. - Parent

I strongly support Ida B. Wells. She was a contemporary of Woodrow Wilson and her brave and pioneering efforts to end white supremacy were directly opposed by Wilson. It would be a just change and would allow many teachable moments as the lives of Wilson and Wells and their time are examined and discussed as the school transitions to her name. - Staff Member

Choice #1 what an amazing person and a true fighter for justice... - Parent

I think this would be a great choice! - Community Member

Her trajectory is amazing and I love her quote! She is my first choice though all are deserving. - Parent, - Community Member

My top choice of those offered. Ms. Wells' role as a journalist and a founding member of the NAACP reflect passion, commitment, intellect, strength, and achievement at a national level, both historically and to this day. A key figure in the history of this nation, and a strong choice. - Staff Member

Wells is a great candidate! She shows that standing up for what you believe in is important, kids these days need to hear that. Being unique is incredible and I wish I was taught that when I was in school. - Community Member

I would vote her because she believed that all races and talents mattered and sounds like a good person. - Future Student

I love this person. She has a very good quote too. - Future Student

I vote for the school to be named after Ida B. Wells. -8th grader Student

I vote for her. I think out of all of these amazing women, Pulitzer and co-founding the NAACP stand out from the rest... - Parent, Future Student, Community Member

For sure our vote: A lasting message of determination, valor, and tolerance among all students and staff. Ida B. Wells once said, "The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them" No other words need to be said!... - Parent, Alumni

Ida B Wells is my choice. I also sent the finalists list to my mother in the UK who also chose Ida. I'm a huge fan of this woman who many still do not know her name and the important part she played in women's rights as well as her early role in the NAACP. Any of these women would be fitting but my choice is this incredible woman. Thank you. My heart was so happy to see this list this morning. - Parent

Ida B. Wells is my favorite choice for the renaming. She was an inspiring activist, and had a huge impact nationwide. - Alumni

I pick Ida as she is well known and embraced education and using the skills she learned to make positive changes in the world - Parent

If we name the school after Ida, it will be so cool! ... - Future Student

Ida B. Wells is also another great candidate because she is all about equality and women's rights. Her campaigning helped, as she was a part of the NACW - Student

Her quote alone is honestly an amazing reason to have her as the new name of our high school, and its only emphasized by her ability to persevere and make a change despite being born into slavery. - Student

Amazing human and would be a good name. - Future Student

She would be a great choice. - Student

I like how she saw everyone as equal. - Student, - Future Student

I think Ida is a great choice! - Student

I think she's my first pick, she seems like she represents our community's ideals (at least much better than Wilson) and actually deserves something named after her. Plus Wells high school doesn't sound too bad. - Student

I really like what she stands for - Student

I'm also a huge fan of this great person! - Community Member

I think she would be a good choice since she held a lot of values and represents something people in this community need and believe in - Student

You should pick Wells - Student

This is also a great choice. - Student

This is my favorite option - Student

Education themes fit really well with us being a school, as mentioned really iconic and well known. - Student

I like that she thinks that every person, no matter their race, religion, or creed deserved a shot. I think if we changed the school name to her name, that would send a positive message. - Student

Ida Wells would be a good choice because of her contribution to the civil rights movement and

her focus on education and sharing and spreading knowledge. - Student

This is my first choice. - Student

All great options, but Ida B. Wells is amazing and the pick I think would be the best - Student

One of the best candidates for the naming. - Student

With her apparent passion for writing, truth, and education, I think this is who I identify with most. Also, naming a school after someone who valued education is very fitting. - Student

She is a really strong woman who stood for women from all around the world. - Student

She is powerful women who stood for the rights of women - Student

I think that Ida B. Wells would be the best person to name our school after. She believed in all kinds of people and she also believed strongly in education. She was a hard working woman and a powerful activist. She should be looked up to and that is why she would be our school name.  
- Student

She seems nice, I like her story and it seems like she would be a worthy candidate. - Student

My favorite! - Student

Best sounding name for the school, also amazing woman to look up to, as a black person this is the sort of representation - Student

An incredible woman who be great choice for naming the school after - Student

She's my favorite candidate because of how relentlessly she fought for civil rights. - Student

She seems like a very good candidate for a school name. She stood for knowledge and education (very good), and excepted all people no matter their differences (something all schools should thrive to uphold and represent). - Student

I vote for this. I think that Ida B. Wells would be the best choice, although all of these women are incredible role models that we should honor in every way possible. - Future Student

This selection stands out for her emphasis on education and journalism. - Community Member

As a mother of two daughters who will attend Wilson High over the next 7 years, I am thrilled with the options presented here. Thank you to the committee for their work and for providing



these choices. I would be happy for the school to be renamed for any of these accomplished women ... I heartily endorse Ida B. Wells. By honoring Ida B. Wells, the school would teach new generations of students and families about someone who was not only a trailblazer for civil rights and women's rights, but also a dogged investigative journalist who risked her life to shine a light on the darkest places in American society. To rename the school for her would be to announce that our community cares about civil rights, women's rights, justice for all, and the need for a strong, free press to help uncover wrongdoing, protect our rights, and elevate the voices of those who don't hold power. My vote is for Ida B. Wells! - Parent

Love her ties to education and success above all odds against her - Alumni

My favorite submission - education/knowledge driven, suffragette and civil rights advocate - Parent

I'd like to vote for her - Alumni

Love this. Solid choice. - Alumni

I think this should be the new name!!! - Student

Ida B. Wells is my top choice because of her tireless search for the truth and willingness to shed light on injustice. With the namesake of Wells, the journalism program at the school will have a lot to live up to, which is exciting and essential these days. - Staff Member

Fantastic choice! She embodies the high school's core values. She is inspiring and worth honoring! - Parent

I think it would be awesome to name our school after Ida B Wells. All the candidates are great options, but I think what Ida stood for is what our school needs to be about and emphasize. - Student

I think Wells represents an idea that a lot of teachers and students at Wilson have, I would love to have our school named after her. - Student

I think it would be great if our school was named after her - Student

Favorite - Student

I think Wells epitomizes the inclusivity that we are striving for in renaming the school. - Staff Member

I love the quote "The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them," It was orientated around the injustice of slavery, but it could also mean so much for people dealing with emotional manipulation & distress from conditioning. This one. - Student

She was very hard working and open minded. - Student

What an amazing advocate! - Student

Ida B. Wells is the name for us!!! - Student, Community Member

She just seems right. She spread good morals that our school should too. I would chose her to be our schools new name. - Student

I like how much Ida valued education---I think that's a good connection for our school's new namesake despite the fact that she had no connection to Oregon. - Student

Also would be proud to go to a school with her name on it. - Student

Ida is also in my top three, because her beliefs are so inspiring and would set a good example for our school. - Student

I think she sets a great precedent for the message we want our school to send. - Student

I really like this one and I think it would make a great name for the school! - Student

Wells was passionate about education, which I think greatly aligns with the values that our school believes in and wants to teach our students. Wells is a great mixture of a powerful historical figure who worked tirelessly to build a better world. She would be a great choice for our school. - Student

I think I did a project on her, so I might be bias, but this is my vote. - Student

She seems like an outstanding individual and role model and she would be a great person to name the school after. - Student

Wells High sounds epic. - Student

I think people would love to walk into the doors of Ida B Wells High School - Student

I really like the thought of naming the school after Ida. I knew vaguely who she was but I would love to know more and put some more light of her name. - Student, Community Member

I would say that she's pretty powerful - Student

I think she's an excellent example. - Student

Great choice, she was regarded as an American hero so that sounds like an amazing choice for Wilson. My top choice - Student

I think she's cool - Student

I think that Ida B. Wells is a great choice. - Student

What she did was fascinating to read! - Student

Also super swag!! - Student

My favorite message/story in relation to what our school should strive to be - Student

"I think Ida B. Wells is the best candidate for whom to name the school. On a recent trip to the Black History Museum in Washington, I learned about her important contributions in raising awareness of lynchings and other terrorism visited upon African Americans in the Jim Crow South. She used words to make change, and she was a contemporary of Woodrow Wilson, so I think it would be fitting to name the school for her. - Community Member

I would be immensely proud to say that I go to Ida B. Wells High School. She was an amazing woman and embodies all the values our school should represent. - Student

I really like her story & her view on things! At the last part, "Remembered as one of the most important civil rights advocates of the 19th century, Wells is an American hero." and the first part, "As someone who believed that every person, no matter their race, religion, or creed deserved a shot." really settled it for me. - Student

I believe that Wells would be a good option. I especially appreciate the quote and the values behind it listed in the description above. We definitely are turning the light of truth on our current school name and attempting to right this wrong.- Staff Member

Ida B Wells would be a great person to name our school after because she stood for everything we as a school want to stand for. - Student

I think it would be wonderful to have our school named after her! - Student

I'd love to see the school renamed for Ida B. Wells based on her belief that education is vital to assure a tolerant and just society. - Community Member

I think Ida B. Wells is a great person to rename a school after! - Community Member

An amazing person and a great option. - Parent, Community Member

Strong influence on education and gender equality make this a great option. - Parent

She is a well-known, important figure in United States and African American history. She would be a wonderful choice to replace Woodrow Wilson as the namesake for Wilson high. - Future Student

I think that naming our school after Ida B. Wells would be a good way to show our ideals and goals as school. Teaching high school students about her gives them knowledge about why knowledge is important. It's important to know how far we have come in terms of social justice and how far we still have to go. Being taught the importance of education from a young age is a message that I believe schools would want to get to students. - Student

I think she is the best choice - Student, Community Member

I think Ida B. Wells would be the best person, of those listed here, to represent Wilson. Personally, she stands out to me from the other candidates because of her stance on showing the truth and equality. I identify strongly with her message that everyone "deserves a shot" no matter where they come from or who they are, and I believe this makes her an especially good choice for Wilson to be renamed after. She represents everything we are striving to become -- open, accepting, and fighting for a better, more equal world, through educating ourselves and persevering no matter what obstacles the world throws at us. As a current Wilson student, I would be honored to have Ida B. Wells represent my school! - Student

While any of these women listed would make a great namesake, I believe Ida B. Wells most espouses the values our family is trying to teach our young daughter. - Parent

I love that Ida B. Wells founded several civil rights organizations. Seeking equity and justice were her life's work. - Parent

I would love for the school to be renamed after this amazing woman. It's hard to choose between all of the candidates! - Parent, Future Student

I think Ida B. Wells would be a wonderful name for the school ... Ms. Wells would add dignity to an embarrassing past. And being somewhat unknown would give people an opportunity to study about some history of African Americans. - Alumni

Dear Wilson High School, or what soon may be Wells High School. My name is XXXX and I am a sixth grader at XXX. I live a couple blocks away from your school and I will attend high school there. During the start of this year I studied Ida B. Wells for a school project and when I heard that she was one of your top 5 leaders to rename Wilson I thought I would share my opinion. I am completely on board with your choice to re-name Wilson and think Ida B. Wells would be a perfect replacement. She faced multiple crises at an early age, including the deaths of her parents and some friends. These incidents broadly shaped her outlook and impact on the world. Wells was a writer, a teacher, and an activist for equal rights. Standing up for women and Black people was not an easy job for anyone, especially for an African-American, but Wells had a mindset of perseverance and continued on with her work even as hurtful words and death threats were thrown her way. Also, she was a teacher, so it would feel nice to have a school named after someone who wanted to give every child an equal education. These are qualities and qualifications that made her such a true leader in those times, and also things that make her a perfect leader to have a school named after now. Renaming Wilson to Ida B. Well High School

would also have some convenient bonuses. For example, you could still keep your “W” around and flying high. I am aware that people had the idea to be clever and change from Woodrow Wilson to Harriet Wilson, and although it would mean the school would still be called “Wilson” for the same reasons I do not think it is a good idea. She was a good person who has the qualifications to be a school namesake but the problem concludes in how the names are the same. If you rename from one Wilson to another people will not recognize the change and, from my understanding, you would like to be known as a school who is now named after an African-American Woman. If you keep the name Wilson the change will just bounce off of people. If you re-name to Wells, people will have to remember the change when they say it and it will be more appreciated and acknowledged as a new and exciting change. As one of your future students I hope you consider my opinion and reasoning. Ida B. Wells is someone who you would feel proud to hold the name of. Best of Wishes, XXXX - Future Student

Outstanding write up and a brave lady. - Alumni

Wells would be my vote! A worthy namesake, indeed. - Parent

I believe Wells is the strongest choice because her life and work best "Represent the educational, racial, and social equity values to which we aspire." Of the two more iconic women in the list, she is slightly more modern and I believe it will be easier for our students to see themselves reflected in her life and work. Although she is relatively well known, she definitely fits the criteria of someone who has traditionally been overlooked in history. As a history teacher I can say that she only recently became a more prominent figure in US history curricula and her representation in textbooks and other materials tends to be supplemental rather than embedded in the story of our country. Her life story is in many ways the story of the modern United States and can be used to inspire students as we study the history of slavery, reconstruction, suffrage, and the progressive era. It is easy to focus on the pain and trauma of this history without also providing students counter-narratives of resistance and resiliency. Wells' life and work provide that counter-narrative, not only through her anti-lynching work, but also her impact as a suffragist and journalist who promoted variety of progressive issues. (Not that this should have an impact on your decision, but if we choose Wells we could also change our mascot to "The Muckrakers," which would be amazing.) - Staff Member

My first choice - Parent, Community Member

As the description states, Ida B. Wells believed in equality and equal opportunity for all which is why naming our school after her would align with our values. She would be the perfect person to name our school after. - Student