

## The History of the Clara B. Ford Academy Phoenix

At Clara B. Ford Academy, the phoenix stands as a powerful symbol of resilience, transformation, and renewal. Just as the mythical phoenix rises from its ashes, our students embrace new beginnings, overcoming past challenges to shape brighter futures.

The choice of the phoenix as our mascot reflects the core of our school's mission: to engage our students with a multifaceted approach offering recovery, change, and hope. Every student who walks through our doors carries a unique story, often marked by adversity. At Clara B. Ford Academy, we provide a safe, trauma-informed environment that fosters growth and healing. The phoenix embodies this journey, reminding us all that strength is born from struggle.

The key integrated into the phoenix's design represents unlocking potential. Through personalized support, education, and mentorship, our students gain the tools they need to navigate the challenges of today and achieve their goals. The open book beneath the phoenix symbolizes the knowledge and skills our students acquire, preparing them to become contributing adults equipped with twenty-first-century skills.

The phoenix serves as a reminder that transformation is possible for everyone. It reflects our belief in every student's ability to rise, rebuild, and embrace a future defined by resilience and hope. At Clara B. Ford Academy, we celebrate the spirit of the phoenix in each student's journey toward recovery and success.