Turner Elementary

This school, named in honor of George W. Turner, is located at 5218 East Clay in the southeastern part of the Fresno Unified School District. It is an elementary school serving children in grades K-6.

George W. Turner grew up in Fresno and attended local schools and graduated from Fresno High School in the mid 1880's. He went into business and became active in the civic life of the community. He was appointed United States Postmaster for Fresno which included oversight then as now of smaller post offices in the geographic area for some distance surrounding Fresno. He occupied this office for the period of 1921 to 1933. Throughout his life both Mr. Turner and his wife were very active in the civic and political life of the city and county and for that matter beyond this immediate area. He was well known as a civic leader and greatly respected.

George Turner was elected to the local Board of Education and served on it for 25 years, one of the longest terms of any Board member in the history of the district. He was president of the Board of Education from 1939 to 1951, and was active during the time the district was expanding rapidly during and following World War II. Mr. Turner made himself very knowledgeable regarding public school affairs, particularly school finances. He was influential in establishing a policy of purchasing school sites at a "reasonable" figure in appropriate locations before there was immediate need for the building of new schools and before land prices reached their peak. He led in the then policy of the district for local neighborhood schools.