

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Lucille Shaw

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Education is Key - Alternatives in Education* Oral History project

Interview # EA-A-L-2018-019

Lucille Shaw, teacher and long-time administrator for the Chicago High School for the Agricultural Sciences, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Alternatives in Education* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Apr 12, 2018 Location: Chicago High School for the Agricultural Sciences

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 1:30 / 1.5 hrs.

Interview being  
processed

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 26, 2019.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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## Abstract

### Lucille Shaw, Alternatives in Education, EA-A-L-2018-019

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Lucille Shaw was born in Mississippi. She graduated from Quitman High School where she was involved in cheerleading, dance, FHA, choir, journalism, beta club, and drama. After high school, Lucille attended Alcorn State majoring in Business Management. She began her teaching career as a long-term substitute at the newly created Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences. She was then hired full-time at Collins and Corliss High Schools before returning to Chicago High School for the Agricultural Sciences. She taught agricultural business for five years, then became program director for five years, then chair of the Agriculture Department for fifteen years, and assistant principal for three years. Afterward, she continued working at the school on a part time basis in the area of Development.

Lucille reviews the agricultural school concept beginning in 1983 which led to CPS opening a school focusing on agriculture. The school was located on the last farm found in Chicago. She outlines the first years of the school as it utilized seven classrooms from a former elementary school and then added portables as the school expanded to grade levels 9-12 over four years. Eventually, the campus added new additions and barns and sports fields, including a five-hole golf course. Shaw also discusses the school's curriculum (college prep + six agricultural pathways), the students' daily schedules, sports and clubs, summer requirements for grades 9-10, sources of funding beyond CPS, a unique special needs program, and staff selection. Students have opportunities for overseas travels, internships, work positions, and job shadowing. The school works with many agricultural partners, including major agricultural corporations, boards of trade, and the Department of Agriculture.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences; six agricultural pathways (biotech, animal science, finance, mechanics, food service, & horticulture and landscaping); Chicago Board of Trade; United Nations Food Bank; US Dept. of Agriculture; Merchandise Mart of Chicago; horse therapy; IL Assn of Future Farmers of America

**Notes to the Reader:** Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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