

Deaf Culture Question of the Week – March 21-25, 2011  
Bill Newell, Principal Washington School for the Deaf

Thanks to those readers who have completed the DCQW Survey.  
If you haven't completed it, please take a moment to do so. You will provide us with valuable feedback. See link at bottom of this week's question.

Which was the first day school program for the deaf founded in the US.

- a. Detroit Day School for the Deaf
- b. Horace Mann School for the Deaf
- c. Phoenix Day School for the Deaf
- d. Marlton School for the Deaf

Answer: “b” – Horace Mann School for the Deaf

“Day Schools” are comprehensive “deaf and hard of hearing children only” schools similar in most ways to residential schools for the deaf except that they do not have a residential component. In other words children are bused daily to the school and return home to their families daily. All state residential schools admit students who live in a certain radius of the school to attend as “day students.” But “Day Schools for the Deaf” were developed specifically to offer educational services in a “deaf school” environment without a residential component. These schools developed and are located for the most part in large metropolitan areas where there exists a sufficient number of deaf and hard of hearing students that can justify the centralization of resources in one school.

Horace Mann School for the Deaf is the oldest example of a Day School for deaf students in the United States. It was founded in 1869 and is still operating today. Visit the websites of these “day schools” to get a flavor for the programs they offer. You will note the websites, the services, and student activities will resemble what you would see at a state residential school for the deaf. The only major difference is that students do not reside over night Monday through Friday on campus.

[Detroit Day School for the Deaf](#)

[Horace Mann School for the Deaf](#)

[Phoenix Day School for the Deaf](#)

[Marlton Charter School for the Deaf](#)

**Please take a few minutes to complete the DCQW Survey:**

We will continue collecting feedback with this survey until April 1. If you have not yet taken the opportunity to complete the survey, please do so soon. It is completely anonymous. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L7RQNVX>

Note: All previous issues of DCQW are archived at the Washington School for the Deaf [website](#).