

NAMING SCHOOL FACILITIES

General Policy Statement

The Waynesboro City School Board considers naming facilities to be a significant endeavor since the name of a facility can reflect upon students, staff, school system and community. The naming or renaming of a school and the dedication of school facilities areas or grounds is the responsibility of the School Board. The following regulations and guidelines will apply as the board considers the naming request.

Regulations

1. A Special Committee, recommended by the Superintendent, will be appointed by the School Board to serve in this capacity only. Committee members will include representation of the school facility involved, the school division and the community at-large. The Special Committee shall develop and present a recommendation to the full School Board with the rationale used in making their determination.
2. The committee's process, timeline and guidelines for soliciting and accepting recommendations will be publicized for the purpose of receiving community input in the most equitable manner possible.
3. Guidelines for naming schools and facilities:
 - Names of living persons shall not be considered except under special circumstances.
 - A nominee must have made exceptional or outstanding contributions through longevity of service, exemplary leadership, philanthropic contributions or other significant means to the school or the school division.
 - Nominations shall be made with a brief, three-paragraph, written statement containing:
 - (a) Biographical data
 - (b) Significant contributions
 - (c) Statement of why a school should be named after the person
 - Geographic names or names of individuals achieving national historical prominence may also be considered for new school facilities. These names should be clearly identifying, widely known, and recognized.
4. The recommended name or priority order preferences of the committee will include information supporting their rationale.
5. The recommended name will not cause, or contribute, to a negative impact on the school or school system. This will include information that indicates there is no negative history, reputation or financial burden that would have a negative impact on the school or school division.

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6. The recommended name will likely cause, or contribute to, a positive impact on the school or school division. This will include information that indicates there is a probable positive influence on the school through significant community support for the name and/or significant philanthropic contributions to the school, school system or school foundations.

7. Naming request may only move forward to the School Board with a positive recommendation from the Special Committee. No School Board or Special Committee action is necessary to decline a naming request. Naming requests should be declined when the criteria in this policy are not attained.

8. The Waynesboro School Board shall make every effort to include community input; however, final decisions on the naming of school facilities and the dedication of areas of school facilities or grounds shall rest entirely on the school board.

Adopted: February 11, 2014

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, sections 22.1-78, 22.1-79