

POLICY

PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Naming of Schools and Facilities

7250 NAMING OF SCHOOLS AND FACILITIES

School buildings or separate school facilities shall be named only by formal action of the Board of Education. In naming schools and facilities, the Board shall strive to honor the traditions and high ideals of this district and the community it serves.

The Board of Education considers all names recommended by the School Naming Committee and the Superintendent. Suggestions or questions concerning this procedure should be directed to the Superintendent.

School facilities include: school sites and any district centralized support centers or support areas as athletic fields, stadiums, gymnasiums, libraries, early childhood centers, pools, performing art centers, and media centers.

The School Naming Committee will be composed of a minimum of three and a maximum of four voting school board commissioners. Meetings will be held as determined by the Superintendent or as called by the designated chairperson.

Schools and school facilities may be named after a location, special theme or person.

In naming a school after a person, the following elements will be utilized by the committee. Special consideration should be given to names of deceased persons.

ELEMENT

Contribution to Education
Contribution to Society
Contribution to Paterson
Historical Contribution
International Contribution
Multicultural Contribution
Ethical Character



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Deceased

Primary consideration should be given to individuals who have made a significant contribution to education in the community, the state, the nation or the world. In addition to societal contributions, the moral character of the individual should be considered. Documentation should accompany proposals for each suggested name.

Contribution to Education: would include exemplary service as a teacher, principal or district, state, or federal administrator, author, parent or advocate for the betterment of education for children.

Contribution to Society: would include significant work that continues to enhance the cultural, intellectual, philosophical, and humanitarian aspects of the community including books, speeches, acts of leadership and statesmanship.

Contribution to Paterson: would include direct, positive impact on the nature of life in the City of Paterson and its people.

International Contribution: would include demonstrated acts that have had a positive impact on the lives of many people in many parts of the world. Recognizing that the ethnic and cultural composition of a local school community will change, and that names will be permanent, the name selected should have broad acceptance in a multicultural society.

Multicultural Contribution: would include work toward promoting respect for diversity, pluralism, inclusion, and tolerance.

Ethical Character: would include a person who has demonstrated by unselfish actions his or her strong commitment to the greater good of the community and the larger society.



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Names of retired district employees are eligible to be considered three years after their retirement from the district. No corporate donors shall be able to purchase naming rights at any district school or facility.

Anyone may submit a suggestion for a school or facility name to the School Naming Committee and Board of Education. If available, the name, age, place of birth, and whether the person is living or deceased should be submitted with the résumé. The submission should include a chronology of the person's education and employment service, and the person's contribution to service-oriented activities. District staff, parents, students, or other members of the Paterson community are important. If available, community survey data and other information believed appropriate and supportive should also be submitted.

The Chairperson of the School Naming Committee will forward selections to the Board of Education through the Superintendent for consideration by the Board.

Adopted: 20 December 2002

