



Washoe County School District School Naming Committee Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2020

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the School Naming Committee was called to order at 5:32 p.m. This meeting was held remotely due to the current state of emergency declared by the Governor because of the COVID-19 virus.

1.02 ROLL CALL

Chair Clynne Cook and Members Victor Sherbondy, Lisa Loader, Marianne Coduti, Christiana Frank, Frank Perez, Renee Martin, Alejandro Mejia and Scott Benton were present at roll call. Members Carly Lott and Alyson Castro were absent at roll call. Staff Liaison Samantha Fredrickson was also present.

1.03 PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

1.04 Action to Adopt the Agenda

There was no discussion on the adoption of the agenda.

On Motion by Alejandro Mejia, second by Frank Perez, the School Naming Committee adopted the agenda as presented (Yea: Clynne Cook, Victor Sherbondy, Lisa Loader, Marianne Coduti, Christiana Frank, Renee Martin, Alejandro Mejia, Frank Perez and Scott Benton) Final Resolution: Motion carried 9-0

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION

2.01 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 5, 2020 SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE MEETING.

There was no discussion or suggested changes to the minutes.

On Motion by Renee Martin, second by Marianne Coduti, the School Naming Committee approved the minutes of the meeting from February 5, 2020 (Yea: Clynne Cook, Victor Sherbondy, Lisa Loader, Renee Martin, Marianne Coduti, Christiana

Frank, Frank Perez, Alejandro Mejia and Scott Benton) Final Resolution: Motion carried 9-0

2.02 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SEMI-FINALIST NAME SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE COLD SPRINGS AREA, THE COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO THOSE SEMI-FINALISTS, AND THE CREATION OF A FINALIST LIST OF NO MORE THAN THREE NAMES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO BE RECOMMENDED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Irene Payne, WCSD Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, welcomed the committee then turned it over to Samantha Fredrickson, Public Relations Specialist, who presented information regarding the school naming survey which was made available to Cold Springs community members, staff and students. The survey was open from February 7, 2020 through February 24, 2020.

Public Comment was submitted before the meeting via email only. No comments were read aloud during the meeting, the names only of the individuals that submitted public comment were read. Names were read prior to committee discussion.

- Hayley Rasmussen-Ball
- Brian Leon
- James Tucker
- Marie Benincasa
- Tori Dunlap
- Sherry Warr
- Helena Inskeep
- Beck Marko
- Michelle Butler

Committee members discussed the results and asked clarifying questions. Each committee member individually gave their suggestions for finalist names, and discussed their choices. Committee members then gave their individual score totals for each of the top names. Ms. Fredrickson totaled those complete committee scores.

On Motion by Scott Benton, second by Frank Perez, that the School Naming Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees a finalist list of no more than three names for the name of the new elementary school in the Cold Springs area consisting of the following names: Michael Inskeep, Whitelake and Sessions W "Buck" Wheeler. (Yea: Clynne Cook, Victor Sherbondy, Lisa Loader, Renee Martin, Marianne Coduti, Frank Perez, Christiana Frank, Alejandro Mejia and Scott Benton.) Motion Carried 9-0.

3. CLOSING ITEMS

3.01 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

This was the last School Naming Committee meeting for the 2019-20 school year. The next meeting is TBD.

3.02 PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment given.

3.03 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business, Chair Clyyne Cook adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

From: [Marie Benincasa](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New elementary school in Cold Springs
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 7:31:15 PM

Tom Owens Elementary- the original principal at NVHS

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Tori Dunlap](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, May 9, 2020 9:44:07 AM

Springs Elementary.

Spring Valley Elementary

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [James Tucker](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Idea for name
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 6:20:20 PM

Cold Springs Elementary

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Brian Leon](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] School
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 6:18:46 PM

I think the name should be Michael landsberry

Brian Leon

From: [Hayley Rasmussen](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mike Inskeep
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 3:15:41 PM

I was a student of Mr. Inskeep in middle school, but the teaching didn't stop there. He continued the support to me through high school and even after. His energy and exuberance for teaching was inspiring. He could encourage even the most depressed and lazy students to do their best. I wish, with all my heart, that his name will live on. I beg you to consider this, he was an incredible man.

Hayley Rasmussen-Ball, DVM

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michelle Butler](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Michael Inskeep Elementary
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:47:51 PM

Hello! I wanted to express our families desire to name the new elementary school after Michael Inskeep. First off, I wanted to mention that Mr. Inskeep had and will always have a special place in the Cold Springs community. He was a very beloved teacher out here. I feel like when we name a school in needs to directly be related to the area. Mr Inskeep was that and more. He was the epitome of what we all desire in a teacher. He was welcoming, a joy to be around and completely inspiring. He went out of his way to make a child feel safe, loved and cared for. Isn't that what we would want in a school as well? A place for a child to feel safe loved and cared for? Sometimes a school is the only place a child receives that. Mr Inskeep was an inspiration and it would be a huge honor for his family, his friends and his students. I have encouraged students to reach out and share their stories with you guys about Mr Inskeep. For my son, he was welcoming he found my sons interest in history and amplified it. Now I have a 9th grader who's tells me that he's going to teach history when he grows up. Mr Inskeep also coached basketball. He encouraged my son to try out and even called me to keep this worrying mom at ease if they were running late from a game. I really hope that you consider to have our new elementary school named after him. He's a true unsung hero to our Cold Springs Community.

Kind Regards,

Michelle Butler
Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch Leader

From: [justbeckmarko](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Cold Springs New elementary school
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 9:50:51 AM

Dear naming committee,

I am writing the committee to ask that you please consider naming the new elementary school in Cold Springs after Mr. Michael Inskeep. When we moved to Cold Springs, my oldest daughter struggled with the change. She did not know anyone in the area and started her 8th grade year at a new school. Mr. Inskeep took her under his wing and always kept an eye out for her. He was such an amazing teacher. My daughter is now going to school to be a teacher because of him. He changed lives and had a major impact on our community. Please help our community honor this very special man and let his memory be a part of our community by naming this school after him. He truly was that important of a person and we miss him so very much.

Beck Marko

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Fredrickson, Samantha G](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: FW: Email to the Naming Committee
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 8:31:48 AM

From: Helena Inskeep [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:03 AM
To: Fredrickson, Samantha G <Samantha.Fredrickson@WashoeSchools.net>
Subject: Email to the Naming Committee

To Those On The Naming Committee,

Recently my family and I discovered that my father, who passed away two years ago from a blood clot after knee replacement surgery, has been nominated to have the new Cold Springs Elementary School named after him. It is a testament to him and to his devotion to the Cold Springs area that he was nominated and put up for a vote without our family being aware of any of this.

While there are many options to name this new school, I believe that none are more suited to the Cold Springs area itself. My family lived in Rancho Haven for 25 years and my dad found joy in a career teaching Math and Social Studies at O'Brian Middle School before moving over to Cold Springs Middle School after it opened. He coached boys and girls basketball at both schools as well as track and cross country. My dad would get to work early and come home late because he really loved what he did and he really loved his students. When Cold Springs faced extreme budget cuts years ago, my dad became the only fulltime Social Studies teacher in the entire school but he still kept his devotion and assisted the rest of the staff in lessons and planning for a subject that wasn't their own.

Outside of his work at the school my father was always giving back. Through serving on the volunteer fire department for over a decade, to coaching and refereeing AYSO and Basketball all over the North Valleys, he never hid from a chance to help or volunteer. The Cold Springs area wasn't just where my dad worked but was a part of his community.

In 2017 my dad had what should have been routine knee replacement surgery. Instead he developed a blood clot which stopped his heart and, although the doctors were able to revive him after 45 min of CPR, he was virtually brain dead and my family took him off of life support. Needless to say we were and still are reeling at the sudden and unexpected void that was left with his passing.

I know that my opinion is a biased one but my dad was truly an inspiration. He was always helping those around him, supporting them, encouraging them. We'd stop for a soda at the gas station down the street from Cold Springs and he'd chat with the guy behind the counter because he'd taught that man's daughter and he wanted to know how she was doing. He'd go to wrestling matches or school concerts to support his students as well as his coworkers. He'd take trips to Washington DC or with People to People chaperoning students around the world in order to broaden their horizons and encourage knowledge and understanding. His dedication was endless and as an adult I am amazed at the energy that he freely gave away to anyone around him. On top of all of this he was a wonderful husband to my mother and the best father a person could ask for.

I'm sure there are others that deserve to have an elementary school named after them but my dad dedicated his time and energy and compassion to Cold Springs and I can't think of a better

name to remind children of what is beautiful and important in their own community.

Regardless of your decision thank you so very much for giving my dad the honor of considering him and for filling my family's heart with the love and support of those that made this nomination happen.

Sincerest Warmth and Regards,

From: [Warr, Sherry](#)
To: [School Naming](#)
Subject: Freedom Hill
Date: Sunday, May 10, 2020 7:50:51 AM

My family and friends all want our new elementary school to be named Freedom Hill. During this time of separation and loneliness we need a name that represents our reason we all need to stay united. This hill that all of Cold Springs holds so dearly to our hearts reminds us daily that we are all one body standing together. Together we are strong and can survive and overcome any adversity. Freedom Hill represents the spirit of the people that built and maintain our beloved United States.

Thank you for listening to our feelings and thoughts!

Sherry Warr
Special Education
Desert Heights Elementary
13948 Mount Bismark Street
Reno, NV 89506
