



Washoe County School District School Naming Committee Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2018

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the School Naming Committee was called to order at 5:32 p.m. in the WCSD Central Administration Building, 425 E. Ninth Street, Board Room, Reno, Nevada.

1.02 Roll Call

Committee Members Elisabeth Genasci, Frank Perez, Renee Martin, Jennifer Hampton, Alyson Castro and Scott Benton were present at roll call. Victor Sherbondy, Carly Lott, Clyyne Cook, Mercedes de la Garza and Maddelin Osterman were absent at roll call. Staff Liaison, Riley Sutton was also present.

1.03 Public Comment

No public comment given.

1.04 Action to Adopt the Agenda

Motion from Renee Martin and second by Frank Perez to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Items for Discussion, Presentation and/or Action

2.01 Discussion and Possible Approval of the Minutes from the October 10, 2018 Naming Committee meeting

Motion from Renee Martin to approve the October meeting minutes. Second by Frank Perez.

A brief recess took place for committee members to review the October meeting minutes. Committee member Scott Benton requested the notes be updated to reflect the correct spelling of his last name.

Renee Martin amended her original motion to reflect the requested change, second by Frank Perez. Motion carried unanimously.

2.02 Discussion and Possible Action on Semi-Finalist Name Submissions For the New Elementary School in Spanish Springs, the community responses to those semi-finalists, and the creation of a finalist list of no more than three names based on individual rankings of committee members to be recommended to the Board of Trustees

Committee Liaison, Riley Sutton, briefly explained to the committee the process for creating the finalist list.

2.02 Public Comment

Dave Robertson, Martin Wright, Keith Primus, Richard Posadas and Adam Wygnanski spoke in support of the name John Bohach for the new elementary school in Spanish Springs.

Tim Henderson spoke in support of the name Sessions S. Wheeler for the new elementary school in Spanish Springs.

Randi Thompson, Todd Torvinen, Megan Ochs, Lucius Kane and Alicia Herz (on behalf of David Weiss) spoke in support of the name Marce Herz for the new elementary school in Spanish Springs.

Due to some inconsistencies, Tim Henderson was asked to verify the proper spelling for name submission. Mr. Henderson verified it to be "Sessions S. Wheeler."

2.02 Committee Discussion:

Scott Benton asked for clarification on the ranking sheet and how the community got to this point. Mr. Sutton explained that once the semi-finalist list was created, that list was put back out to the community on our website and through social media outlets for another vote. A total of 78 community responses were received, the totals on the ranking sheet reflect those 78 community responses.

Elisabeth Genasci asked about advertisement as there were fewer community responses received for this than in previous voting rounds. Mr. Sutton explained that he felt we did promote sufficiently, however, suggestions are welcomed.

Scott Benton asked about the community survey looked like, as he did not view the survey. Mr. Sutton explained that the survey simply asked for the rank order of each participant for the 12 names provided on the semi-finalist list.

Renee Martin wanted to know which names have previously been moved forward due to being a finalist for the naming of another school. Mr. Sutton clarified that the following names have all been previous finalists: Michael Landsberry, Debbie Smith, Ann Carlson, John Bohach and Sun Valley.

Other discussion included the question and explanation of why both Debbie Smith and John Bohach have been passed up, or previously pulled from the list

Committee members Elisabeth Genasci, Renee Martin, Scott Benton and Frank Perez then expressed a few candidate names that they felt passionately about.

Committee members discussed and then gave their individual point rankings for their top three finalists: three points for their top pick, two points for their second place pick, and one point for their third place pick. Mr. Sutton tallied points. The top three choices in order were John Bohach, Marce Herz and Sessions S. Wheeler. This was a non-binding point total allowing discussion from the committee.

Motion by Scott Benton, second by Frank Perez, to forward the names John Bohach, Marce Herz and Sessions S. Wheeler to a future meeting of the Board of Trustees for final consideration for the name of the new elementary school in Spanish Springs. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Closing Items

3.01 Announcement of Next Meeting

Mr. Sutton announced that he hopes to be ready with the survey and responses in time for the December meeting to then compile a semi-finalist list for the new middle school in Arrowcreek.

Announced that the finalist list determined today will go forward to the WCSD Board of Trustees at the November 27, 2018 meeting beginning at 2:00pm.

The next School Naming Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018.

There will be no School Naming Committee meeting in January, 2019.

3.02 Public Comment

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No public comment given.

3.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business, Chair Elisabeth Genasci adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.