

Recommendation for a New Name for Sir Francis Drake HS

TUHSD Board of Trustees
May 11, 2021



TUHSD Board Policy 7310

The Board of Trustees shall use the following criteria in naming schools, individual buildings, or portions of buildings:

1. In honor of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to students and to public education, OR
2. In recognition of the geographic areas in which the school or building is located.

Procedures for Name Selection

Recommendations for naming schools, individual buildings, or portions of buildings shall be forwarded to the Superintendent from the appropriate site governance body after that body confers with appropriate student, faculty, and community groups.

The Superintendent shall forward such recommendations to the Board for approval.

If the name of a school, individual building, or portion of a building necessitates any costs, the school shall bear that cost.

Legal Reference: EC 35160 Article 4. Powers and Duties

Drake Leadership Council-DLC

- The School's Site Council (SSC)-the site governing body
 - Governed by Ed Code:
 - **TITLE 2. ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION [33000 - 65001]** (*Title 2 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.*) **DIVISION 4. INSTRUCTION AND SERVICES [46000 - 65001]** (*Division 4 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.*) **PART 38. SCHOOL SITE COUNCILS [65000 - 65001]**
 - **The DLC/Site Council consists of:**
 - Administrator (1)
 - Teacher Representatives (6)
 - Classified Representative (2)
 - Parents (4)
 - Students (5)

The 'community sector' (parents and students) must numerically match the 'school sector'. Each constituency is elected by members of that constituency (i.e., students elect student representatives, parents elect parent representatives, teachers elected teacher representatives and classified employees elect class representatives). Parent representatives serve 2 year terms, all other representatives serve 1 year terms.

Timeline

- June 2020- School staff formed an exploratory committee
- July 2020- Board Meeting agenda item on name change process
- September 22, 2020- Board meeting agenda item providing an update on the process
- On November 19, 2020 the DLC voted to bring a name change recommendation to the Board of Trustees
- On December 10, 2020 the DLC held a meeting to discuss a process for selecting a new name
- On January 14, 2021 the DLC drafted the guiding principles for selecting a new name
- On January 21, 2021 the DLC adopted the process and timeline for a new name selection including the committee agreed they would need the flexibility to make adjustments throughout the process.
 - **Jan. 28-Feb. 3:** School and community communication and opening online ranking vote for the four constituency groups, with a short blurb on each of the ~80 names.
- The DLC determined the following weighting system:
 - Students (25%); Staff (25%); Parents (25%); Community At-Large (25%)
 - **Top eight overall choices seeded into brackets** (1 vs 8, 2 vs 7, etc) for Elite Eight voting.
 - **Feb. 5-23:** Small Learning Community student (frosh/soph) project to produce “voter guide” information. Posted on homepage.
 - **Feb. 24-March 3:** Quarterfinal votes *with SLCs voter guide information*
 - **March 10-17:** Semifinal votes
- April 13, 2021- Board agenda item providing an update on process to date
- May 6, 2021- DLC votes to approve Archie Williams High as the recommendation to the Superintendent.

DLC Process for New Name Selection

1327 Site Committee Additional Guiding Principles:

For identifying new school name possibilities, the committee will consider using any of the following criteria:

- Are grounded in social, economic justice and diversity
- Are named for people who have a local contribution, and or/ attended and/or who were faculty in TUHSD schools
- Recognize those who contributed in positive ways to our community
- Consider the topography and honor heritage of the land and include the location to give deeper appreciation to indigenous peoples
- Reflect the diversity of peoples who have lived in our community
- Honor individuals, living or deceased, who have made outstanding contributions to humanity, conservation and sustainability

We will not enoble:

- Anyone directly involved in the colonization of people
- Slave owners or participants in enslavement
- Perpetuators of genocide or slavery
- Those who exploit, oppress or are connected to the abuse of human rights or the environment
- Those who are known racists and/or white supremacists and/or espoused racist beliefs

Meetings Regarding the Name Change Process and Name Selection

- The Board had 3 public agenda items on the name change in the past 9 months
- The DLC held 3 listening sessions and 15 meetings during the past 9 months
- Each of the meetings above provided opportunities for public comment

Archie Williams Selected as New Name Recommendation

- **After the April 13th Board Meeting, the DLC revisited names that had received a high number of votes on the initial name selection poll**
- **Archie Williams was a top selection from the early voting from the stakeholders**
- **The DLC discussed -over 2 meetings on April 29th and May 6th-several names that had been top selections**
- **The DLC voted 13-0-1 in favor of recommending Archie Williams as the new name for the high school**

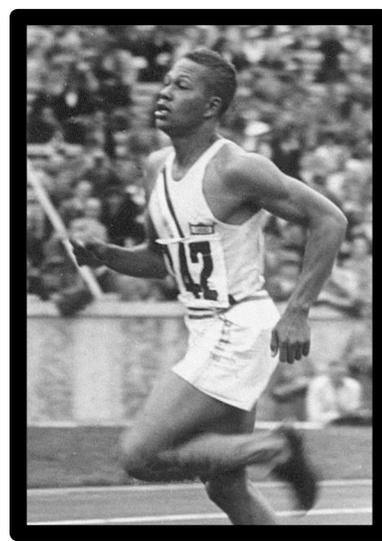


Information about Archie Williams

- From Oakland, CA
- Earned Degree in Mechanical Engineering- UC Berkeley, 1939
- Won the Gold Medal for the 400 meter-dash at the 1936 Olympics
- Joined the Tuskegee Airmen during WWII, as a flight instructor
- Studied Meteorology at UCLA.¹
- Served as a weather officer in the US Army until 1964 and retired as a lieutenant colonel.¹
- Earned an Aeronautical Engineering Degree at Air Force Institute of Technology.²
- Taught science and computer science at Sir Francis Drake High School for 21 years
- According to the Cal News, Williams said of deciding to become a teacher:

*"I started thinking about what I could do," Williams said in the oral history.
"I enjoy teaching. I just needed to learn how to run a slide projector."³*

1. <https://www.nytimes.com/1993/06/26/obituaries/archie-williams-is-dead-at-78-won-a-gold-at-berlin-olympics.html>
2. <http://blog.ametsoc.org/news/a-meteorologist-who-changed-the-world/>
3. <https://calbears.com/news/2015/2/11/209885700.aspx>



Questions and Discussion