
Update on Process to Select a New Name for SFDHS

— TUHSD Board of Trustees —
April 13, 2021

Outline of Presentation

- BP 7310
- DLC Process to select a new name
- Timeline for selecting final 4 names
- Process for removing San Anselmo for consideration
- Decision not to consider any indigenous names
- Next Steps

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)
 - Students (5)
 - Teacher Representatives (6)
 - Classified Representative (2)
 - Parents (4)

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.

DLC Timeline

- 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

DLC Process for New Name Selection cont.

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 ennoble:

- 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

The committee agreed they would need the flexibility to make adjustments throughout the process

Process for New Name Selection: Adopted 1-21-21

The Process Outline:

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 for the elite eight names. Provided for all voters to consider each name and additional information. Posted on homepage.

Feb. 24-March 3: Quarterfinal votes *with SLCs voter guide information*

March 10-17: Semifinal votes

March 24-31: Final vote

April 1: Name approved by Site Council. Recommendation submitted to Superintendent.

Top 9 Names

- The input on the nine names began on February 25th and ran until March 3rd.
 - The Small Learning Communities developed a '[Voter Information Guide](#)' for people to learn about the names, their ideas for possible mascots, and other information.
- The voting on the top 9* names included the 4 constituency groups: students, parents, staff and community members
 - *Due to George Lucas not being sure if he wanted his name included, the DLC decided to include 9 names rather than 8*
- The top 9 names were:
 - Archie Williams
 - Awani-Wi
 - Bon Tempe
 - Creekside
 - George Lucas
 - Olema Trail
 - Red Hill
 - Ross Valley
 - San Anselmo

Decision to Remove San Anselmo from Consideration

- At the **February 11, 2021** meeting, the DLC members shared concerns about ‘San Anselmo’ that they had or that they had heard from community members
 - There were also concerns shared about the names Redhill, Ross Valley, George Lucas, and others that had been submitted for consideration
 - **At that time, the DLC voted to retain all names for the next round and revisit the concerns after the top four names were selected**
- At the **March 4, 2021** meeting, once the final four names were chosen, the name San Anselmo was among them and the DLC revisited their concerns:
 - The concerns raised include:
 - i. The students enrolled in the school come from a variety of municipalities and communities. Only one of those is San Anselmo. This name is not inclusive of all students who attend the school. This was the main concern of some DLC members
 - ii. The name St./San Anselmo/Anselms has two possible historical backgrounds; both raised concerns with some members of the DLC.
 - iii. St. Anselm has roots in the Catholic faith; as a public school we are not allowed to align with any particular faith.
 - iv. Anselmo may have been a Coast Miwok member who the white colonists added the name “St.” to, as was common for the time period.
 - v. Overall religious undertones of the name was a concern from some members.
 - vi. The shared name with St. Anselm’s School was a concern from some members.

Process for Narrowing to Two Finalists

- At the March 4, 2021 DLC meeting, the members of the council voted to remove *San Anselmo* from the name selection process
- The name that received the next highest number of votes replaced San Anselmo in the final four bracket
 - A revote was not issued after San Anselmo was removed because the DLC members felt people were able to vote for their top 3 names in the previous round
- The Final Four names that were adopted by the DLC on March 4th and put forward for input on March 10th were:
 - **Awani-wi, Bon Tempe, Creekside, and Olema Trail**
- Information on the vote for selection of the final two names was emailed to staff, students, and parents.
 - Community members accessed information on the Community Tab- Name Change section of the school website.
- The final 2 names selected via ballot were **Bon Tempe and Olema Trail**

Removal of Indigenous Names from Process

- On March 22nd, the Board of Trustees and District received a letter from the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria expressing concern over the potential use of indigenous names for the high school
- The letter stated that the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is the federally recognized tribe of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo peoples
- The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria are highly engaged in educational endeavors to promote accurate historical information
- The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria do not support the use of any native names without proper consultation and approval by the Tribe
- Principal Seabury met with the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer to discuss the potential use of indigenous names
- **On March 26th**, the DLC met and decided not to consider any indigenous names, thus removing Olema Trail, one of the two remaining names from consideration
- The DLC had been in communication with Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin during the name selection process and that group had submitted a name for consideration

Next Steps & Questions

- DLC postponed most recent meeting in order for the Board to hear this update