School Renaming Task Force Meeting Minutes  
April 17, 2018  


Call to Order at 5:30pm  

Purposes  
- To hear public comment on meaningful criteria  
- To have unanswered questions about timeline, process or purpose clarified  
- To identify meaningful criteria for campuses to evaluate proposed names  

Agenda  
5:00 Informal Dinner  
5:30 Public Comment  
  - Welcome: Brian Hill, M.Ed. Special Projects Lead for the Superintendent  
  - Remarks from Chair: Barbara Spears-Corbett  
  - Schedule and Meeting Format: Lynda Baker, Facilitator  
  - Public Comment  
6:00 Task Force Context  
  - Meeting Report and Website Resource Review  
  - Agenda, Expectations, Agreements  
  - School Name Criteria:  
    - What qualities, experiences or reputation might a person have that would represent our district and task force values?  
7:30 Next Meeting, Next Steps  
  - Evaluation  
7:45 Adjourn
Public Comment
Public comment was heard from the following speakers:

1. Abel Ruiz
2. Derek Castillo
3. James Ellerbrock
4. Vincent Tovar
5. Jimmy Nassour
6. Melanie Plowman

With no one else signed up to speak, public comment finished at 5:56pm

Expectations
The task force held consensus upon expectations and reviewed the agreements and conditions of the Courageous Conversations About Race Protocol.

Expectations Agreements for meeting:

- Use public comments
- Come out with criteria
- Process of how to get to those meaningful values - consider location
- Honor public comment
- Deal with timeline: go through timeline
- Benefit each school (criteria)
- Ensure not rushing
- Deepen discussion of qualities
- Clear criteria for deep & meaningful conversation
- Get caught up
- Explore - engage communities, understand where coming from
- Spirit of cooperation and efficiency
- Consider each campus, i.e. Johnston campus, LASA, and Eastside

Courageous Conversation About Race Protocol:

We must agree to:

- Stay engaged
- Speak your truth
• Experience discomfort
• Expect and accept nonclosure

Parking Lot
Questions and concerns the Task Force would like to address when appropriate.
• Location of subsequent meetings
• Community involvement
• Timing for the future involvement
• How to provide leadership to CACs

Criteria:
What qualities, values or reputation might a person or place have that would represent our district and task force values?

Summary of Criteria required:
• Individual, group, organization
• Place (landmark, neighborhood)
• Not in use in District
• If individual: living, if deceased. If deceased, must be over 12 months, or military.
• Embodies qualities of excellence and values
• Significant contribution or connection

Criteria Developed by Task Force:
Inspirational & historically connected
For example:
• Has positive history/ relationship with school community
• Impacted students/ families that they encountered
• Community holds them in high regard
• Served/meaningful engaged particular school community
• An individual that made everyone feel included
• Values public education
• Fought for community/school
• Historical reference. “It has a story”

**Servant Leader**

For Example:

• Compassionate advocate for the underprivileged
• Contributions to diverse communities
• Empowered and empowering
• Compassionate humanitarian
• Someone that recognized and helped others
• Resilience- staying focused in face of adversity
• Valued all citizens in Austin

**Respect for Integrity & Strong Principles**

• Embodies innovative excellence
• Name would stand the test of time
• Courageous, honest, genuine, truthful
• Leader- accountable of actions and words
• Has an unquestionable reputation
• Fortitude- strength of character

**Embodies Equity and Social Justice**

For example:

• Member of a community that has been traditionally marginalized
• Someone who challenged injustice or removed systematic barriers
• Commitment to equity and inclusiveness
• Person in renaming community who has advocated for anti-racism
• Racial background reflects school population
• Recognition of the past that reconciles history
Visionary
For example:
- Brilliance: positive, intelligent, emits positivity and motivation
- Steadfast: consistency of purpose and commitment
- Trailblazing: pioneer in opening doors and creating opportunities
- Visionary: inspiring in thought and action

Commitment to Education
For example:
- Intellectually curious and wise
- Commitment to serving others
- Lifelong learner, loves learning, growth mindset
- Collaboration: ability to work across many interests
- Career - inspires/inspired others
- A “lover” not a “Fighter,” {clarified as a unifier versus a divider}

Meeting Close and Evaluation

What went well?
- Many voices
- Came up with criteria and realized need to finish criteria by adding “place” criteria
- Fun
- Build community
- Reflected on community comment

What might we want to change?
- Spend more time on the charge - focus on the charge
- Strategic community engagement in the criteria, part of the criteria

Meeting Adjourned 7:47pm