

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

August 11, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Subject: School Renaming Process (06-29-2021-05)

Question

During the discussion regarding the *Previous New Business Item presented by Mrs. O'Neill regarding Timeline Extension—October 6, 2020, Board of Education Resolution Regarding Community Interest in Renaming*, Ms. Harris requested that staff provide background in the fall on how the six named school communities are being engaged in the renaming process; what that process will look like; and when it will begin. Please also provide what the timeline will be.

Response

The Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools, as the lead office, is in the process of reviewing Board Policy FFA, *Naming School Facilities*, for possible revisions, and staff in the Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement (OSFSE) is coordinating efforts to ensure public engagement on the policy revisions. Simultaneously, the Board is reviewing the names of six schools: Montgomery Blair, Col. Zadok Magruder, Richard Montgomery, and Thomas S. Wootton high schools; and Francis Scott Key and John Poole middle schools, desiring to determine if there is community interest in renaming these schools.

In coordination, OSFSE staff and Office of the General Counsel staff are developing a timeline to prioritize the review of Board Policy FFA, such that the process for the previously named communities do not get conflated with the policy review and confuse or frustrate the affected communities. In the timeline is the plan to engage school communities and stakeholders, in general, in the policy review with preliminary recommendations by October 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Everett Davis, acting associate superintendent for student and family support and engagement, or Dr. Cheryl L. Dyson, area associate superintendent, Office of the Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Schools, via email.

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Executive Staff
Ms. Webb