

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS – NAMING OF SCHOOLS, SPECIAL-PURPOSE AREAS AND TEAMS POLICY (FORMERLY NAMING OF SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL PURPOSE AREAS POLICY)

1. OBJECTIVE

To establish guiding principles and criteria for the naming and renaming of schools, special-purpose areas, and teams consistent with the Board's Mission, Values and Goals Policy (P002) and the Equity Policy (P037) commitments.

2. DEFINITIONS

Board is the Toronto District School Board which is also referred to as "TDSB".

Special-Purpose Area is a room or other sub-component area of a school other than a classroom such as an auditorium, gymnasium, wing, courtyard, garden or field that is unique or has special significance to the school.

TDSB is the Toronto District School Board which is also referred to as the "Board".

Team is any formally-organized, sports-related, recreational, curricular or extra-curricular group involving students that represents the local school and/or the TDSB. Icons associated with a team such as but not limited to mascots, logos, costumes, promotional materials, slogans, songs, and cheers are also included.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Toronto District School Board recognizes that names of schools, special-purpose areas, and teams contribute an important element to the creation of positive school climate and image and have a direct impact on students, staff, and the entire organization.

The following guiding principles ensure naming conventions build positive climate that reflects the diversity of our students and communities; value their voices; and foster a culture of equity, inclusion, dignity and mutual respect.

Naming/Renaming will:

- Reflect the TDSB's commitments as stated in the Mission, Values and Goals Policy (P022) and the Equity Policy (P037);
- Ensure student voice is at the centre of the naming/renaming process;
- Provide inspiration, dignity and respect;
- Ensure fairness and transparency;

- Consider names that have local community, district, provincial, Indigenous, Canadian or international significance and reflect the diversity of Toronto;
- Take into account the impact of colonialism and anti-Indigenous racism that are part of Canada's history and reject any names, symbols or namesakes that reinforce that history as well as the negative impacts of colonialism; and
- Not reinforce names (symbols) or namesakes (legacies), tied to systems of oppression, race, histories of discrimination, stereotypes, bias, prejudice or hate and uphold the TDSB's commitment to human rights.

4. NAMING/RENAMING SCHOOLS

Naming a New School:

Board of Trustee approval is not required to begin the naming process but is required to endorse the selection of a name.

In the case of new school construction where no school currently exists or new school formation through closure or consolidation following a review process, the naming process may proceed after the decision to construct or form a new school has been approved by the Board of Trustees.

All Other Situations:

Board of Trustee approval is required to begin the naming process and to endorse the selection of a name.

The naming of an existing school may be necessitated by a significant change in school focus, the development of a new school, identity, or a request from the school.

Names of schools must be consistent with the Board's Mission, Values and Goals Policy (P002), the Equity Policy (P037) commitments, and TDSB's guiding principles for naming.

Student voice will be at the centre of the naming/renaming process.

The TDSB will seek and accept input regarding the names of the schools but reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the name.

5. NAMING/RENAMING SPECIAL-PURPOSE AREAS

Board of Trustee approval is not required to begin the naming/renaming process or to endorse the selection of a name.

The naming/renaming of special-purpose areas will be locally determined by each school but will also be consistent with the Board's Mission, Values and

Goals Policy (P002), the Equity Policy (P037) commitments, and TDSB's guiding principles for naming.

Student voice will be at the centre of the naming/renaming process.

6. NAMING/RENAMING TEAMS

Board of Trustee approval is not required to begin the naming/renaming process or to endorse the selection of a name.

Team names and related icons will be determined locally by each school but will also be consistent with the Board's Mission, Values and Goals Policy (P002), the Equity Policy (P037) commitments, and TDSB's guiding principles for naming.

Student voice will be at the centre of the naming/renaming process.

Corporate/commercial names will not be permitted.