



Atlanta Public Schools Naming and Renaming Committee



POLICY FDC Naming and Renaming of APS Facilities

The Atlanta Board of Education recognizes that the selection of a name for a facility is a vital component of its public image. The board will proceed with care and will ensure that the name selected will reflect honorably on the Atlanta Public Schools and the community. When a facility is to be named or a name change is proposed, the board chair shall appoint a special committee to consider nominations and make a recommendation to the board. The committee shall comprise five (5) to seven (7) members and shall include the board member and the City Council member representing the district in which the facility is located. Other members of the committee may include, but are not limited to, representatives of the following groups: the Neighborhood Planning Unit, school or district administration, and school or cluster parent groups.

The following shall apply:

1. Nominations will be accepted by the committee from individuals, organizations or board members. The name(s) of the sponsor(s) of the nomination must be included. Each nomination must be in writing and must include noteworthy reasons to justify the nomination.
2. Consideration will be given to names of local communities, neighborhoods, streets, landmarks, and individuals who have made a significant contribution. Names of individuals will be considered only after they have been deceased for five years.
3. The name recommended will not duplicate, cause confusion, or otherwise conflict with the names of existing facilities in the school system.
4. In the event a compelling reason to do so arises, any restrictions herein set forth may be waived by a unanimous vote of the board.

Naming Rooms in an Existing Facility

Upon the recommendation of the local school council or the parent-teacher organization, the school principal may name a room or designate some area on the school's property in honor of an individual or group that has performed outstanding service to the school. The criteria listed above do not apply to these site-specific designations.

Dedication of New Schools and Additions to Schools

Following the completion and occupancy of a new school building, a public ceremony shall be scheduled as soon as possible to dedicate the new facility properly. Following the completion and occupancy of a major addition, an opportunity shall be provided for interested citizens to visit the school and view the new addition. The occasion may be an open house or rededication (or both) as deemed appropriate.

The board authorizes the superintendent to issue administrative regulations to implement this policy.

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