



Naming of Schools

Board Received: May 25, 2020 **Review Date:** June 2024

Policy Statement:

The Grand Erie District School Board shall involve the community in the naming of new schools and/or the renaming of existing schools. A school name shall be consistent with the mission statement, belief statement and values of the Board.

Accountability:

- 1. Frequency of Reports – As needed
- 2. Criteria for Success – Community involvement
– Name selected reflects positively on the Board

Procedures:

The Board shall determine when naming of a new school or renaming of an existing school is required. Renaming could be a consideration as a result of a school consolidation process.

Naming of New Schools:

- 1. When a name for a school is required, the Board will solicit suggestions from the school's community and all stakeholder groups via the normal methods of internal and external communications; i.e. requests in the media, internally to staff, to federations and union leaders, School Councils, Student Councils and the school community whose school is to be named. The call for community and stakeholder suggestions will typically commence in September or October of the year preceding the opening of the new school.
- 2. In considering the naming of schools, the following may apply:
 - a. name of street on which school is located;
 - b. name of district which school serves;
 - c. historical name applied to area in which school is located;
 - d. historical events;
 - e. geographic connections;
 - f. recognition of an individual for outstanding and enduring contribution to the Grand Erie educational community.
- 3. Public solicitation will take not less than 60 days from the call for suggestions.
- 4. The existing Transition Committee, established through Policy FT9, shall consider suggestions received and make a recommendation to the Board through the Family of Schools Superintendent. The recommendation must include three unranked names that provide an inspiration to students and promote a positive image of the Grand Erie District School Board. The report will include rationale for the three names chosen.
- 5. When an individual's name is being recommended to the Board of Trustees as a possible school name, the name selected will be researched and scrutinized. If the recommendation includes an individual's name, the individual or a representative of the individual whose name is being recommended will be contacted to ensure their agreement to having their name submitted for Board consideration.

6. The Board may select one of the names recommended by the Transition Committee. The Board reserves the right to make the final determination, notwithstanding the recommendation from the Transition Committee.

Renaming of Existing Schools:

1. From time to time, a School Council or trustee may determine that they would prefer an alternate or consolidated name for a school.
2. The request from a school council or trustee must come to the Board in a report through the Family of Schools Superintendent. The report should include a rationale detailing why the name should be changed.
3. The Board shall consider approving the formation of a Renaming Committee to include the following representation: Trustee, Family of Schools Superintendent, Principal(s) of the school(s), School Council(s) member and a minimum of one staff member.
4. In the event that a Renaming Committee is struck, that committee shall solicit input from stakeholders.
5. Once input is received, the Renaming Committee shall make a recommendation to the Board through the appropriate Family of Schools' Superintendent with respect to an alternate or consolidated name. The Board reserves the right to make the final determination, notwithstanding the recommendation from the Renaming Committee.

Related Resources:

Policy FT9 – Transition Committees