

**NAMING NEW FACILITIES***Adoption Date:* 5/13/08*Revision Date:* 1/9/03, 4/25/08*Page 1 of 1*

The naming of a school or building is an important matter that deserves thoughtful attention. Personal prejudice or favoritism, political pressure, or temporary popularity should not be an influence in choosing a name. An orderly, announced procedure is expected to lessen the community or factional pressures that so quickly build up when the selection of a name is delayed or seems uncertain.

It is the policy of the Welch Board of Education that new or existing buildings or structures may be named after persons who have made important or noteworthy contributions of service to the country, state, community, or school district

Buildings and structures are defined as school buildings, administration buildings, gymnasiums, stadiums, athletic fields and playgrounds.

The Welch Board of Education shall be responsible for the naming/renaming of all school and school facilities. The board president may appoint a committee composed of board members and administrators to submit names to the board for the naming/renaming of schools or school facilities. The decision of the board will be final.

Patrons may submit to the committee a suggestion for a school name for consideration. Suggestions must be in writing, on a board-approved form, stating the name of the sponsor and the reasons justifying the nomination. Dedication requests may be submitted to the superintendent. Upon receipt of sufficient biographical and/or other data available, a dedication request may be placed on the agenda of a regular school board meeting for discussion and vote.

Criteria for Consideration

1. Schools/facilities may be named after an area or communicate where the school is located or after a person or persons.
2. In naming a school facility after a person, primary consideration should be given to presidents of the United States or individuals who have made a significant contribution to education in the community, the state, or the nation. In addition to societal contributions, the moral character of the individual must be considered.
3. Recognizing that the ethnic and cultural composition of a local school community will change and that school/facility names are permanent, the name selected should have broad acceptance in a multi-cultural society.
4. In naming a school after a person, that person should have been deceased at least two (2) years.
5. If a school/facility is demolished, the name may be used again.

Naming Facilities

From time to time, as an alternative to naming the entire building after an individual, the board of education may choose to recognize outstanding service to the youth of the district by dedicating or naming an appropriate area (i.e., playground, library, gymnasium, auditorium, stadium, etc.) in honor of some exceptional individual(s) who have unselfishly given their time and energy in promoting excellence in education.

The naming of a building facility shall follow the same procedure set forth for the naming/renaming of a building, except that the requirements of Criteria for Consideration number 4, above, shall not apply.

Special Dedications of School Facilities

If the board of education approves a special dedication, formal dedication will follow as soon as possible. The ceremony should encompass a presentation of an official proclamation and the placement of an appropriate plaque to commemorate the individual's significant contribution to the Welch Public Schools. A certain sensitivity and common sense must be reflected in the timing of any public recognition.