

Date: October 11, 2018
For ACTION X
For INFORMATION X
Board Agenda: Yes x
No

FROM: Jennifer Abbruzzese, Clerk of the Board & Policy Liaison

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Ramee Gentry, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Non-Sponsored Facility Naming Request: **Jack Taylor College and Career Center Wing**

SUMMARY: Representatives of the T.C. Williams Theogony student newspaper and the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria requested that the School Board name the career center at T.C. Williams “The Jack Taylor College and Career Center.” The Board reviewed this request at its September 27, 2018 School Board Meeting. As seen in the attached addendum, the community members have amended their submission to refine the proposed name. They ask the Board to restore the word “wing” as originally included in their first petition when considering this naming request. It was erroneously omitted from the revised petition that was submitted in April 2018. Because Jack Taylor was instrumental in supporting both the College and Career Center *and* the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria offices used by students and staff, they feel it would be more appropriate to name the hallway that houses all of these offices after him. The clarified naming request is **“The Jack Taylor College and Career Center Wing.”**

BACKGROUND: At the June 22, 2017 Board Meeting, community members and students representing the T.C. Williams Theogony student newspaper and the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria spoke in support of naming the T.C. Williams wing housing the College and Career Center (CCC) after Jack Taylor. The CCC provides information about colleges and universities, NOVA's Pathway to the Baccalaureate program, standardized testing and test preparation, financial aid and scholarships, careers, summer opportunities and more. The request was submitted in accordance with the provisions of Policy FF, at the time named *Public Dedication of Facilities*, which allowed facilities to be named for businesses. The original request was to name the CCC “Jack Taylor’s Alexandria Toyota College and Career Wing.” Subsequently, in April 2018, the request was revised and resubmitted, in recognition of differing viewpoints on including the name of Mr. Taylor’s business in the request. The revised request is to name the CCC “The Jack Taylor College and Career Center.” The rationale for the request is:

“Jack Taylor’s Alexandria Toyota has been dedicated to improving the educational outcomes of Alexandria City Public Schools students for more than 15 years through support of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, all PTAs, school playground improvements, school sports teams, and so much more. Particularly, Jack Taylor’s Alexandria Toyota has supported college scholarships and college advising for Alexandria City Public Schools since at least 1992, donating more than \$650,000 in

actual dollars and generating an additional \$950,000 in contributions to the Scholarship Fund through the annual car raffle and matching gifts initiatives. This \$1.6 million benefit has supported college scholarships for the equivalent of an entire senior class at T.C. Williams High School.

The contribution is extraordinary and Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota has been a role model for meaningful corporate citizenship. As a result, it is appropriate to recognize this long-term commitment to improving the lives of Alexandria City Public Schools students with this recognition."

On September 13, 2018, the School Board amended Policy FF, and renamed it *Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities*. It no longer allows facilities to be named for business entities. Because no payment or consideration would be exchanged for the honorary naming of the T.C. Williams CCC, this request is considered a non-sponsored facility naming request.

Under the newly revised Policy FF, the Board may consider naming requests for existing school division facilities directly, without forming a committee to first develop a recommendation. Such naming requests must still be accompanied by supporting documentation, including 100 signatures of Alexandria residents. Public notification of the request, through a variety of ACPS communications platforms and a public hearing, is still required prior to Board action.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the attached request to name **The Jack Taylor College and Career Center Wing** at T.C. Williams.

IMPACT: By reviewing the attached facility naming request, the School Board adheres to Policy FF and Regulation FF-R. This benefits the school division by promoting equity, efficiency and community engagement.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Addendum to Facility Naming Request (submitted 10/4/18 by the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria)
2. Original Facility Naming Request Cover Pages (6/22/17)
3. Original Facility Naming Request (6/22/17) with Supporting Petition/Signatures of Alexandria Residents (Regulation FF-R, Appendix A)
4. Revised Facility Naming Request Cover Page (April 2018)
5. Revised Facility Naming Request (April 2018) with Supporting Petition/Signatures of Alexandria Residents (Regulation FF-R, Appendix A)
6. School Board Policy FF: *Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities*
7. Regulation FF-R: *Regulations for Non-Sponsored Naming and Renaming of Schools and School Division Facilities*

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