

# Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #60

**My public comments are related to: \*** General Public Comments

**Topic \*** Rename T.C. Williams H.S. NOW

**Name \*** Paula Barlowe

**What is your relationship to ACPS? \*** Community Member

**To include your comments as part of the Public Comments agenda item at weekly Special Called School Board Meetings, enter your comments here:**

I am an alumnus of T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1975. My public education in our integrated school enriched my sheltered, white suburban life in more ways than I can recount. I still maintain friendships with many of my classmates -- including those of color.

I can't possibly express how appalled I was to very recently learn that my alma mater was named for a man who was a racist and segregationist. As a result, I am among the growing number of students, parents, and alumni, active on social media that are advocating for the immediate implementation of change.

There is NO QUESTION THAT THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW.

If you should possibly require any context, I urge you to view the following ACPS video, if you have not already done so:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69Sn162I2U0&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2sC505D3FUVMCFdbCWxVXzTt-hJrr9MDxT3aRWj9iANTipoTO\\_4FoNkg8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69Sn162I2U0&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2sC505D3FUVMCFdbCWxVXzTt-hJrr9MDxT3aRWj9iANTipoTO_4FoNkg8)

It is my understanding that the School Board's action this morning appears to delay any vote to rename until SPRING 2021. I am therefore urging you to amend the motion being considered on July 10 to include the following language to DEFINITELY and AFFIRMATIVELY commit to removing the name T.C. Williams from our high school by no later than Dec 31, 2020.

Please vote to amend the motion in the following manner: INSERT: "I FURTHER MOVE, that as of December 31, 2020, T.C. Williams will no longer be the name of Alexandria's high school. As such, T.C. Williams shall not be considered as a name for the high school during the public engagement process outlined in Section 1, Regulation FF-R , nor shall it be included in the Superintendent's recommendations." Also, strike "in the spring of 2021" and insert "no later than December 31, 2020." Also, strike "to examine a name change for" and add "to change the name of."

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Paula L. Barlowe

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