

Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #34

My public comments are related to: * General Public Comments

Topic * Request to Rename TC Williams High Schools

Name * Marta Schantz

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:

Alexandria School Board: While I applaud taking steps to begin considering a rename of TC Williams High School, I believe that it is well past time to merely consider. The name must be changed. I am 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.

Even Governor Northam is urging education leaders to remove such names from schools. "When our public schools are named after individuals who advanced slavery and systemic racism, and we allow those names to remain on school property, we tacitly endorse their values as our own," Northam wrote. "This is no longer acceptable."

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."