

Date: May 31, 2018
For ACTION
For INFORMATION
Board Agenda: Yes
No

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

THROUGH: Lois F. Berlin, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools

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

TOPIC: School Board Policy FF: School Facilities Naming Process

SUMMARY: In accordance with Policy FF, Alexandria’s new West End elementary school was named Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School. An ad hoc committee appointed by the School Board in October 2017 led the community engagement process to develop naming recommendations for Board approval in February 2018. In part due to lessons learned from the recent naming process, Policy FF’s framework and guidelines were reviewed by the Board at its April 26, 2018 Work Session. Policy FF has been revised to reflect Board Member feedback from that night, and now returns to the Board for further consideration.

BACKGROUND: Policy FF, Public Dedication of Facilities, outlines the School Board’s process and guidelines for naming or renaming a school facility through the creation of an ad hoc Facilities Naming Committee. When naming a new facility, the committee is chaired by the School Board Vice Chair, and consists of nine Alexandria residents appointed by the School Board, and one resident appointed by City Council. The committee is tasked with community outreach to solicit naming recommendations and submitting at least three names to the Board for approval. When considering an existing school facility, the committee is tasked with reviewing a naming request submitted by an Alexandria resident, community group, or School Board Member. Such requests must be accompanied by supporting documentation, including 100 signatures of Alexandria residents. When reviewing requests regarding existing facilities, the committee composition should include significant representation from residents of the attendance zone for the facility being considered.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the school facilities naming process under Policy FF.

IMPACT: By periodically reviewing the facilities naming process, the School Board ensures that ACPS policies align with best practices. This benefits the school division and promotes equity, efficiency and community engagement.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. School Board Policy FF: Public Dedication of Facilities
2. Regulation FF-R: Request for Name Change of a School Facilities Area or Building

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