



BOARD POLICY

712 Naming of District Facilities

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712	8/13/2026	v2	UNDER-REVIEW
WORKFLOW	PRINTED		
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■ Proposed addition ■ Proposed deletion

HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy No.

Property

Naming of District Facilities

Purpose

The Board of School Directors recognizes that the naming or renaming of District facilities is a significant honor that reflects the history, values, mission, and traditions of the Harrisburg School District. The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent criteria and procedures for naming or renaming District facilities in a fair, transparent, and equitable manner.

The naming of a District facility is intended to be a rare and distinguished honor reserved for individuals, places, or events whose contributions have had a profound and enduring impact on the Harrisburg School District and its community. The Board expects that such recognitions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances

Authority

Pursuant to the Public School Code of 1949, the Board is authorized to adopt reasonable rules and regulations regarding District property. The Board retains sole authority to approve the naming or renaming of any District facility.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, District facilities include, but are not limited to:

- School buildings
- Administrative buildings
- Athletic fields
- Stadiums
- Gymnasiums
- Auditoriums
- Libraries
- Cafeterias
- Media centers
- Playgrounds
- Parks
- Courtyards
- Wings or additions
- Rooms of significant public use
- Other real property owned or operated by the District

Guidelines

The Board may consider naming or renaming a District facility based upon one or more of the following:

Geographic Significance

Names reflecting neighborhoods, communities, landmarks, streets, rivers, or historically significant locations.

Educational Significance

Names reflecting educational values, academic excellence, innovation, or learning.

Historical Significance

Names recognizing significant events or individuals closely connected to the history of the District or City of Harrisburg.

Recognition of Individuals

Facilities may be named in honor of an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary contributions through:

- Education
- Public service
- Military service
- Civic leadership
- Philanthropy
- Community service
- Contributions benefiting the students of the District

Eligibility

An individual considered for recognition should have:

- Demonstrated exemplary integrity and character;
- Made substantial and lasting contributions to the District or community;
- Established a legacy consistent with the District's mission and values.

Except in extraordinary circumstances approved by the Board, the District shall not name facilities after:

- Current Board members;
- Current employees;
- Current elected officials with direct authority over the District.

Generally, individuals should be retired or deceased before consideration.

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Naming Rights

Nothing in this policy authorizes commercial naming rights unless specifically approved by the Board through a separate agreement and consistent with Board policy.

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Renaming

The Board may consider renaming an existing facility when:

- The existing name no longer reflects District values;
- Historical information warrants reconsideration;
- A facility undergoes significant reconstruction or repurposing;
- Other compelling reasons determined by the Board.

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Community Input

The Board values community participation. Prior to Board action, opportunities for public input may include:

- Public meetings
- Advisory committee review
- Written comments
- Community surveys
- Stakeholder engagement

Community input is advisory and shall not limit the Board's authority.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations establishing procedures for:

- Submission of nominations
- Review process
- Evaluation criteria
- Community engagement
- Recommendation to the Board

Final Authority

The Board retains sole discretion to approve, deny, postpone, or remove any proposed name.

Adopted: _____

Revised: _____

Legal Reference:

24 P.S. §5-510