

To: Policy Subcommittee
From: Ty Alper
Date: April 8, 2016
Re: BP and AR re Naming

Attached for information is the version of BP 7310 that is ready for publication. Pursuant to the vote and direction of the Board at the March 23, 2016 Board meeting, I added a provision that allows for the naming of a school after any “entity” which could be an inanimate object, a social movement, or anything else the Board deems appropriate.

I further noted in the AR where the Superintendent needs to decide whether to change the language of the AR with respect to the percentage of a school community that must sign a petition in order to trigger District review of a name. My understanding is that Dr. Evans plans to discuss this with his cabinet and then make a decision so that we can publish and disseminate both the BP and the AR in the near future.

Berkeley USD

Board Policy

Facilities

BP 7310

Facilities

The Governing Board shall name schools or District facilities in recognition of:

1. Individuals, living or deceased, who have made outstanding contributions to the community;
2. Individuals, living or deceased, who have made contributions of state, national or worldwide significance; ~~or~~
3. The geographic area in which the school or building is located; or
4. Any other entity the Board deems worthy of recognition.-

The Board encourages community participation in the process of selecting names. The Superintendent shall appoint an advisory committee to review name suggestions and submit recommendations for the Board's consideration. However, it is the Board's sole prerogative to name or rename a school or District facility and the Board may choose a name that was not recommended by the advisory committee or the Superintendent.

The renaming of existing schools or major facilities shall occur only under extraordinary circumstances and after thorough study.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

Policy BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: January 11, 2012 Berkeley, California

AR 7310
Facilities

Definitions

“School” shall refer to a school site.

“District facility” shall reference part of a school or District building such as a building, room, or other defined space within the school or District building.

Review of Existing Names

The Superintendent or designee shall conduct a review of whether the name of a school or District facility is no longer appropriate if:

1. A petition requesting that a review be conducted is signed by parents or guardians of at least one-third of students officially enrolled in the school;
2. A petition requesting that a review be conducted is signed by at least 75 percent of the school’s employees, with part-time employees being counted the same of full-time employees;
3. The Board directs that a review be conducted; or
4. The Superintendent decides that a review is needed for any reason.

Comment [TA1]: Some Board members suggested changing this to a higher percentage. Others prefer to leave as is. Superintendent needs to decide and finalize.

If a school or District facility is named after an individual, the review shall examine whether the individual, on the whole, has made outstanding contributions to the community or made contributions of state, national or worldwide significance in light of the Berkeley community’s values and contemporary view on history.

If a school or District facility is named after a geographic area, the review shall examine whether the name has become outdated given changes in the geographic area.

As part of any review of the name of a school or a District facility within a school, the review shall include at least one meeting with school employees and at least one meeting with the families of students enrolled in the school.

Based on the review conducted by the Superintendent or designee as well as any additional information or input that the Superintendent or designee deems appropriate and necessary, the Superintendent shall bring a recommendation to the Board regarding whether the name shall be kept or the Board should vote to discontinue to the use of the name.

In the event that the Board discontinues the use of the name of a school, the name shall continue in use until the Board determines a new name pursuant to the process established below.

Unnamed Schools

Prior to opening a new school in the District or in the instance where the Board has voted

to discontinue the use of an existing school name, the Superintendent shall appoint an advisory committee to recommend one or more school names to the Board for its consideration. The Superintendent may also recommend one or more school names to the Board. Any name recommended by the advisory committee or the Superintendent must be consistent with criteria established in the Board Policy.

Unnamed District Facilities

With respect to an unnamed District facility, the Superintendent shall appoint an advisory committee to recommend one or more names to the Board for its consideration if:

1. For a District facility within a school, a petition requesting that a name be given to the facility is signed by parents or guardians of at least one-fourth of students officially enrolled in the school;
2. For a District facility within a school, a petition requesting that a name be given to the facility is signed by at least half of the school's employees, with part-time employees being counted the same of full-time employees;
3. The Board directs that a name be given to the District facility; or
4. The Superintendent decides that a name be given to the District facility.

Comment [TA2]: Some Board members suggested changing this to a higher percentage. Others prefer to leave as is. Superintendent needs to decide and finalize.

The Superintendent may also recommend one or more District facility names to the Board. Any name recommended by the advisory committee or the Superintendent must be consistent with criteria established in the Board Policy.

Advisory Committee

Once an advisory committee is created pursuant to this regulation, it shall hold at least three community meetings: one to alert the community that a naming process has begun, another to solicit potential names, and another to receive feedback on what potential names that the committee is considering.

For the advisory committee to be able to recommend a name to the Board, at least three-fourths of all advisory committee members must vote to recommend the name.

The advisory committee shall bring forward any name recommendations within six months of its creation. If no such recommendations are brought forward, the Superintendent shall bring forward recommendations and no committee recommendations shall be considered.

Standards and Implementation of New Signage

When name recommendations for a school or District facility are brought to the Board, the Superintendent or designee shall, based on the District's approved standards for exterior signage, provide information regarding the location, cost, and construction timeline for designing and erecting of the new signage.

E 7310
Facilities

SCHOOL/DISTRICT FACILITY NAMING PETITION

Purpose of Petition

___ This is a petition to remove the name of a school or school facility; or
___ This is a petition to name an unnamed District facility.

Site Information

School: _____
District Facility (if appropriate): _____

Enrollment/Employee Information

Current School Enrollment: _____
Current Number of Full/Part-Time School Employees: _____
(The above information is available by contacting the Facilities Director)

By signing below, I support the above purpose of this petition with respect to the above school or school facility:

	Employee/Parent/ Guardian Name	Employee /Parent/ Guardian Signature	Child's Name (if signed by parent/guardian)	Date
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				