

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Randall Booker, Superintendent
Michael Brady, Measure H1 Program Coordinator

DATE: November 8, 2017

RE: **DISTRICT POLICY CONCERNING NAMING OF BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

I. SUPPORT INFORMATION

The District has an established policy on accepting donations, which was adopted in 2000 and revised in 2009 during the Seismic Safety Bond Program. District staff recommends adopting a related policy governing the naming of District buildings and facilities, including but not limited to the possible naming of high school buildings and facilities to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions, either to the school community or of local, statewide, or national significance. The proposed policy is attached. More detailed regulations would follow, after staff conduct research and outreach to better understand community sentiment concerning naming of facilities.

Under the proposed policy, the Board would have sole discretion to name or rename buildings, grounds, and facilities consistent with the District's vision and mission. The Board would encourage community participation in the naming process.

The Board would have sole discretion to determine whether to accept legacy gifts that are conditioned on the naming of a building or facility either for the donor or for an individual identified by the donor (an honoree). Before accepting this type of legacy gift, the Board would be required to make written findings regarding the benefits to the District of accepting the gift.

Under the proposed policy, the Board would retain the right to rename the building or facility if the Board determines that the honoree has been convicted of a felony or committed acts of moral turpitude or other conduct which is contrary to the District's educational mission. The Board would retain the right to rename the building or facility

if the donor failed to fulfill the financial obligations relating to the pledged gift. In either case of renaming, the District would have no obligation to return any portion of the gift.

The proposed policy explicitly authorizes District staff to partner with community organizations to solicit donations and gifts, including legacy gifts. Also, the proposed policy authorizes the Board to consider planting commemorative trees, installing benches, creating monuments or signs, or dedicating buildings, parts of buildings, athletic fields, classrooms, gymnasiums, gardens, theaters, or other district facilities or spaces in memory of deceased students, staff members, community members, and benefactors of the District.

II. **RECOMMENDATION: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION**

Approve and Adopt Board Policy 7310 – Naming of Buildings and Facilities