

School Naming and Renaming

Board Policy

Policy Adopted: May 2019
Revision Date: February 4, 2025
Responsibility: Board of Trustees

1. Objective

- 1.1. The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) has a duty under the Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, at subsection 169.1(a.1) to promote a positive school climate that is inclusive and accepting of all pupils. Pursuant to this authority, the Board has assumed responsibility for approving the names of new and consolidated schools, and renaming existing schools as required, in accordance with the School Naming and Renaming Governance Procedure. The Board is committed to ensuring fairness and transparency in school naming through consultation with students, staff, and the community.

2. Guiding Principles

- 2.1. Proposed school names must:
- Reflect a positive image for the Halton District School Board (“HDSB”), students, staff, and community;
 - Be distinct from other HDSB schools;
 - Not replicate school names from municipalities with which the HDSB has a shared boundary;
 - Reflect the HDSB’s Multi-Year Strategic Plan and policies;
 - Be secular in nature; and
 - Be either in English or an Indigenous language, or be a person’s name.
- 2.2. Submissions for proposed school names may:
- Reflect the history, geography, and local environment;
 - Honour Indigenous communities, language and culture;
 - Honour a renowned person of (historical) significance to Halton;

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- d. Honour a person whose contribution to society or humanity is recognized and valued across Canada.

2.3. Consideration will not be given to proposed school names which include:

- a. Names of current HDSB employees;
- b. Names of corporations or products;
- c. Names of any person currently holding any publicly elected office; and
- d. References to catastrophic events.

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Related Board Policies and Governance Procedures

School Naming and Renaming Governance Procedure

School Naming and Renaming Administrative Procedure

Equity & Inclusive Education Policy

Related Legislation and Industry Documents

Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2

Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.19

Policy Due for Review: May 2026

Revision History

- February 4, 2025 - Type of Review: Targeted (to create greater alignment between the School Naming and Renaming Policy and the School Naming and Renaming Governance Procedure, as it pertains to the school renaming process)
- September 2022
- January 2021