

October 8, 2018
Motion Regarding High School Name

Kenneth Venable made the following motion:

Given the extensive formal and informal public input and discussion over the last year and more—including but not limited to community and stakeholder listening sessions conducted by The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities as reflected in its report—and after careful consideration and yet further discussion, pursuant to the School Board’s governance authority and responsibility under Article VIII, Section 7 of the Virginia Constitution and other Virginia law, I respectfully move that the School Board hereby determines as follows:

1. The name of the high school will be changed from its current name to a new name that will not be any variation or derivation of the current name;
2. Further public input is invited and encouraged now regarding what the Board will decide as the high school’s new name at a later time, perhaps as soon as Board action possibly on November 12, 2018;
3. The Division Superintendent and designees will promptly take such further action to invite and encourage additional public input specifically about the eventual new name of the high school, including but not necessarily limited to input through an online survey, although the School Board cannot be bound by the results of a survey and, instead, must determine the new name in the exercise of its authority and responsibility under Article VIII, Section 7 of the Virginia Constitution and other Virginia law;
4. The School Board will continue to take under consideration and advisement the determination of a new school name and when such new name—once determined by the School Board—will be effective in light of circumstances that are germane to implementation, such as high school funding, construction, curricular and other programs, activities, operations and other factors that are implicated by such new name,
5. The School Board requests and directs that the Division Superintendent proceed with contingency planning and measures and, after the School Board decides the high school’s new name, the Division Superintendent bring to the School Board information that may inform the School Board about a decision for the effective date for the new name and also implementation measures at the governance level;
6. Given the planning underway for major new construction and renovation for the high school, the School Board requests and directs the Division Superintendent, subject to funding, to engage with the architects about an appropriate professional display in the high school related to the history in the City of Staunton of high school facilities, including Staunton High School, Robert E. Lee High School, and Booker T. Washington High School; and
7. The School Board requests and directs that the Clerk of the Board have the full text of this motion, in its entirety, reflected in the Board’s meeting minutes and posted on the school division’s website and disseminated in other ways as may be helpful to apprise stakeholders and the broader community of this action and future actions by the School Board.

The motion was seconded by Amy Wratchford.

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| Votes: Kenneth Venable – aye | Christine Poulson – aye | William Lobb – no |
| Robert Boyle – no | Natasha McCurdy – aye | Amy Wratchford – aye |

The motion carried on a 4 – 2 vote.