



## **POLICY 4.5 SCHOOL NAMING**

The Board recognizes that naming a school is an important process critical to creating a sense of community, a sense of belonging and creating an opportunity to honour the land on which it is located.

A school name also fosters a unique identity for families, students, and staff, and the process of finding a name must be a respectful and inclusive process.

The Board is honoured to take responsibility for the naming and renaming of schools, facilities, or parts of schools and facilities (library, gymnasium, band room, etc.).

The Board will follow the procedure outlined herein to name or rename school facilities. To ensure a facility name stands the test of time, it must reflect the spirit and intent of the Board's commitment to high standards and the wellness of the community.

Names may honour persons or places of historical or geographical prominence, represent the intent of the school, or reflect an educational value or interest. However, school facilities will not normally be named after living persons.

Although school facility names are the board's responsibility, it is important that the board follow a naming procedure that considers suggestions by a committee as per the procedures below.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. The Board will approve a school naming committee.
2. A scope of work will be developed for the committee, including the committee acting as a liaison between the school community and the Board in the naming process.
3. The committee will be comprised of appropriate individuals as determined by the Superintendent of Schools and/or Secretary-Treasurer and may include the following
  - 3.1. A Haida representative(s) from the community undergoing the school naming.
  - 3.2. Parent Advisory Council representative(s)
  - 3.3. An administrator, teacher, and CUPE representative of the school community impacted.
  - 3.4. Student representative(s)
  - 3.5. Other as deemed appropriate to ensure an inclusive and respectful process.



4. The committee shall present a maximum of three potential names with rationales to the board, with at least two possible names reflecting Haida culture.
5. When the facility is to be named after a person, the Committee, wherever possible, should seek the consent of family members or the closest surviving relative of the person for whom the facility is to be named.
6. When a Haida name is being considered, the local nation must be consulted, and local naming customs and protocols must be followed.
7. Name selection must occur at a public meeting of the Board of Education. The Board may seek further public feedback depending on the level of community consultation undertaken by the naming committee.
8. In addition to the above process, the following will also apply when considering the renaming of school facilities:
  - 8.1. The Board will consider the renaming of a facility or part of a facility in limited circumstances that may include:
    - 8.1.1. Where a local municipality or regional district renames a geographic reference associated with the school; or
    - 8.1.2. Where the facility's name or part of the facility does not align with Board policies; or
    - 8.1.3. Where the Board receives a request from the community that aligns with the Board's naming policy.
  - 8.2. Where the Board considers renaming a school or facility, they will receive a report regarding any potential cost implications for consideration in their decision-making process.