



Date: December 11, 2017
From: Marvin Burton, Deputy Superintendent/Associate Superintendent for High Schools
Subject: Naming the New High School in Southwest Little Rock

Background:

In order to generate widespread support to determine the name of the new high school building located in southwest Little Rock, slated to open in 2020, the Little Rock School District collaborated with and sought input from students, parents, teachers, school administrators and community patrons (all entities throughout this cover will be referred to as the community). The new school will be approximately 400,000 square feet, and will serve a combined population of students from J. A. Fair and McClellan, 9 – 12th grade. The school mascot (Gryphon – combination of a lion’s body and an eagle’s head) and colors (green, purple, and white) have already been determined.

In accordance with the LRSD Policy 7.21 – Naming School Facilities, students from J. A. Fair and McClellan High Schools, as well as, Cloverdale and Mabelvale Middle Schools were given the opportunity to recommend a name for their new school. They named their choice on a standard form and the community made their recommendations for the school name on a link provided by the LRSD webpage. After each entry was tallied, the top five (5) recommendations which included names (some known and unknown) to honor the past were listed for selection:

1. William Harry Fowler
2. Southwest
3. Earnest G. Green
4. Milton P. Crenshaw
5. Edwin L. Hawkins

A group comprised of the community met to discuss the pros and cons of the top 5 recommendations. Supporting bios were provided to offer some background on each recommended individual. The group was asked to select their top two names from the list that would be provided to the superintendent. The final recommendation will be made to the commissioner.

Rationale:

In order to generate widespread support and input from students, parents, teachers, school administrators and community patrons to determine the name of the new high school building located in southwest Little Rock.

Funding:

None.

Recommendation:

The community seeks approval of either “Little Rock Southwest High School” or “Little Rock Southwest Academy” to be chosen as the final name recommended for the new school in southwest Little Rock.

In addition, approval is needed to name various departments or areas in the building from the aforementioned top 5 list.

Prepared By:

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