



TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE NAMING OF DOWLING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

DATE: August 15, 2023

During the latter part of 2023, a request was received by the Ector County ISD administration to name the playground located at Dowling Elementary School and place this name on a sign near the playground. In response to this request, the administration referenced CW (Local), which is the policy that was adopted for addressing facility naming. A copy of CW (Local) has been included for reference purposes. This policy states that recommended names shall be submitted to a committee. This committee shall be chaired by the Superintendent or designee. The committee shall submit to the Board one or more recommended names. The Committee was composed of the following members:

- Dr. Anthony Sorola: Co-chair
- Crystal Day: Co-chair
- Sonya Haynie: Member
- Joe Muniz: Member
- Whitney Neemar: Member
- Gilbert Vasquez: Member
- Pastor Charles Sims: Member
- Pastor Windsor Archie: Member

Committee members met on Friday, July 21, 2023, and on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, and unanimously decided to accept the recommendation to name the playground located at Dowling Elementary after Max Ford.

Max Ford was born in Amarillo, Texas. He attended Texas Tech University right after graduating from High School. He followed his mother's footsteps and began his career in 1957 at the age of 21 as a Physical Education Instructor at Dowling Elementary where he completed 34 years of dedicated service. His mother taught for 35 years. Mr. Ford retired on May 31, 1999, at the age of 56. He taught approximately 1000 students a day and moved an average of 10 miles a day on the playground with students.

"It has been very satisfying to see little kids grow into good sports."
-Max Ford

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of the Facility Naming Committee as presented.