
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE:	Consider Resolution Regarding Renaming Albert Pike Elementary School
DATE:	August 10, 2020
RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR:	Doug Brubaker, Ph.D. Superintendent
VISION 2023 STRATEGY:	2. Equity

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

In June 2020, Albert Pike Elementary School in Fort Smith appeared in an [Education Week article](#) as one of six Arkansas schools named for a confederate figure. Documented activities and statements of General Pike as described in the attached resolution do not reflect the commitment of the school and the district as a whole to “treat all people with dignity and respect” as articulated in the [Vision 2023 Strategic Plan](#).

The district’s Equity and Minority Recruitment Committees met jointly on July 23. The question about the name of Albert Pike Elementary School was discussed. The consensus of the group was to recommend to the Board that the campus be renamed. The attached resolution, if adopted, would indicate the intent of the Board to rename the school. If adopted, the resolution would also direct the Administration to form a committee charged with developing a renaming process and timetable to submit to the Board for its consideration. The goal would be to have a new name in place for the 2021-2022 school year.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends that the Board adopt the attached resolution.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read ***move to adopt the attached resolution.***

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - **1. Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student’s unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.