

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VII.D.

Meeting Date: May 11, 2026

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Action

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Rename Purcell Elementary to Purcell STEM Academy

Background Information: In a process similar to changing the name of Mann MS to Mann STEAM Academy, this agenda item requests action to change the name of Purcell Elementary School to Purcell STEM Academy.

Board Policy CW (LOCAL) authorizes the Board to have the final say in the naming of a facility. While CW (LOCAL) refers to a name of a facility being changed or created, it does not specifically outline the process for a change in designation or programmatic identity. In this case, the facility will continue to carry the "Purcell" name, maintaining its historical identity, while the updated designation reflects a shift in school model and instructional focus.

This change does not involve renaming the facility after a different person or following the full naming process outlined in CW (LOCAL), as was done previously when considering names such as Alcorta, Stafford, Purcell, and Hartford. Instead, this request reflects a transition from a traditional elementary school to a STEM-focused academy aligned with the district's broader innovation strategy.

The name "Purcell STEM Academy" clearly communicates the campus's instructional model and purpose, positioning it as a dedicated STEM learning environment for elementary students. This designation supports clarity for families, staff, and the community while aligning with similar naming conventions used across the district.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Approve as Presented

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