

Weber Innovation Early
College High School
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TO: Weber School District Board Members: Jon Ritchie, Dean Oborn, Douglas Hurst, Janis Christensen, Jan Burrell, Paul Widdison and Bruce Jardine
Superintendent Jeff Stephens

From: Hal Raymond; Weber Innovation Early College High School Principal

Date: December 10th, 2021

Subject: Mascot Consideration for Weber Innovation Early College High School

Under the direction of Superintendent Stephens, our school has recently gone through a process to select an appropriate mascot for Weber Innovation Early College High School (WIHS). Selecting a mascot has been requested for several years by our student body and parents. As per Board Policy 6600, a committee was formed, comprised of the following members: Jan Burrell (school board member), Gina Butters (district leader), Hal Raymond (school principal), Ella Wilhelmsen (school student), Marianne Illum (school classified employee), Madison Campbell (certified employee) and Dustin Shelton (community council member). As directed by board policy, Gina Butters, Executive Director of Secondary Schools, chaired the committee.

After surveying our community (which encompassed all WIHS parents, students and faculty), the committee narrowed the most popular mascot choices down to: 1) Ravens; 2) Rhinos; 3) Otters; and, 4) Dinosaurs. Of these, the most popular vote was for the Ravens. Although we know the school board will ultimately choose the mascot, the committee unanimously felt like the Ravens would be a great fit for the WIHS mascot as we present this to the school board. The following narrative is one example of the many written as to why the Raven would be fitting for current and future generations for the mascot of Weber Innovation Early College High School:

Ravens are a bird frequently used in movies to depict the mysterious and intelligent. They are, in fact, one of the smartest creatures alive. Experiments testing the problem-solving capabilities of ravens have shown these birds have cognition on par with people (See National Geographic, July 13, 2017). Our students are motivated and intellectual at Weber Innovation High School. Problem-solving is one of the great aspects of Project Lead the Way and many concurrent enrollment courses, as well as early college and OWTC classes. The Raven is an ideal mascot that represents our school's mission and our unique student body. Additionally, the raven matches our school colors of black and purple very well.

We would request board approval for the Ravens to become the official mascot for Weber Innovation Early College High School. Thank you so much for your consideration.