

# Naming our New Elementary School



*Presented by the Ad-Hoc New Elementary School Naming Committee  
January 23, 2024*

# Committee Members

Total voting members: 7

Seth Klaskin, *Chair of the Board of Education (ex officio)*

Deborah Thomas, *faculty member*

Craig Cooke, Ph.D., *Superintendent (ex officio)*

Jessica Joseff, *parent/guardian*

Cathy Miller, *Board of Education member (1)*

Jim Kenney, *parent/guardian*

Rebecca Frost, *the building principal (1)*

Amelia Marcous (Committee Chair), *community member*

Alicia Dunbar, *faculty member*

# Committee Scope and Charge

- The committee shall recommend to the Board of Education a minimum of three (3) to a maximum of five (5) possible names for the New PreK-5 Elementary School.
- To develop its recommendations, the committee shall invite the public and members of the school community to suggest school names.
- The committee shall evaluate the suggestions from the public as well as those of the committee members using the criteria set forth in Policy #7551.

*“The Committee shall make its recommendations to the Board of Education no later than February 1, 2024. Prior to making such a recommendation, the committee shall hold two public input sessions – the first to solicit potential school names from the public and the second to solicit feedback on a set of school names up for further consideration. “*

# The Process

The committee met several times through the fall/winter. All meetings were noticed and open to the public.

The committee offered several public input opportunities. All input sessions were noticed at least two weeks in advance on local news outlets, social media, the website, etc. :

- A month long period for individuals to email, mail, or phone in naming suggestions
- The committee narrowed the suggestions to 15 names, and then sought further public input on the list of 15.
- A second period for individuals to email, mail, or phone in their thoughts on the narrowed list of 15 suggested names
- A hybrid public input session in December 2023

*In all, over 300 community members gave input and feedback!*

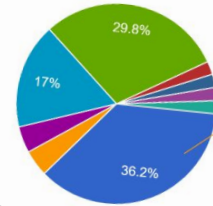
# Kids and teachers helped, too!

## Jeffrey Classroom Winners

Signore, Griz:	Seaside Elementary School
Cinquino:	Madison Strong School, Willowside Elementary School
Doherty:	Riverside Elementary School
Smerek:	Tiger Elementary School
Topping:	Hammonasset Elementary School
Pardo:	Mungertown Elementary School
Cummings:	Sandy Way Elementary School
Dunbar:	James Madison Elementary School

## Jeffrey Staff Winners

Thank you for having your classes vote on potential names for our new school. Below are the winners from each class. But as a teacher, what name do YOU like best for our new school?  
47 responses



- Seaside Elementary School
- Madison Strong School
- Willowside Elementary School
- Riverside Elementary School
- Tiger Elementary School
- Hammonasset Elementary School
- Sandy Way Elementary School
- James Madison Elementary School

▲ 1/2 ▼

## Ryerson Top Picks!

- Shoreline Elementary School ✓✓✓✓
- Meadow Valley Elementary School ✓✓
- Greenway Elementary School ✓✓
- Seashore Elementary School ✓
- George Washington Elementary School ✓
- Boardwalk Elementary School ✓
- Robin Hill Elementary School ✓
- Tiger Pride Elementary School
- Rocky Water Elementary School
- Searock Elementary School
- Shoretown Elementary School
- Madison Mane School
- Robert K. Elementary School
- Timber Elementary School
- Tiger Elementary School
- Waterside Elementary School

# Considerations

When evaluating proposed names, the committee considered the following:

- Does the name fit the criteria laid out in Policy #7551?
- Is the name specific to Madison?
- Is it a name relevant to elementary-aged students?
- Is the name inclusive?
- Is the name unique?



The committee also debated the pros and cons of a person's name vs. a place/thing. We wanted to offer both options to the BOE.

## Final 3 Names Recommended to BOE

Neck River Elementary School

Marguerite P. Bowes Elementary School

Hammonasset Elementary School