



Policy 1401

**Naming/Renaming of School
Board-Owned Facilities**

Discussion Topics

- Grand Jury Finding
- School Board Workshop (April 26, 2011)
- Policy Comparisons (Matrix)
- Considerations of Revisions to Policy 1401

Grand Jury Finding

Staff's Initial Follow up

On March 2, 2011, staff indicated in its response to the Commissioner of Education, the Policy would be presented at the April 26, 2011 School Board workshop to determine the need for revisions regarding naming District facilities for current School Board Members.

**FINAL REPORT OF THE NINETEENTH STATEWIDE GRAND JURY IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
Case No: SC09-1910 (filed 2/18/11)**

(Pages 43 & 44 of 52)

(B.2).e. Self Serving

Last May, the Board voted 5-3 to honor one of its own by naming a high school athletic field, track facility and press box after a sitting Board member. It was the second track facility named after this Board member, both of which are in that Board member's District. A review of the minutes of the meeting revealed no basis for the honor other than the fact he's a school Board member.

The principal of the affected school implied that the Board member was "involved" with the school. It's their job to be involved. If the implication is that the Board member favored this school (and the other with a track named after him) because it was in his District, then we question the wisdom of rewarding a Board member for acting parochially. Despite the fact that Board members technically represent their own district, we hope they remain aware of their responsibility to look at the big picture and act for the good of the District as a whole.

To the extent the honor is for the Board member's support for either the school or the building of the facility, it would be good for the Board to remember this is taxpayer money they're spending, not their own. We find it hard to believe that with all the people in Broward County they couldn't find one single person to honor who has done something big, something noble, made some sacrifice or done something beyond the call of duty, something other than just being an elected official. If that wasn't possible they could have at least honored the people truly responsible for the building of the facility and called it the Taxpayers of Broward County Athletic Field and Track Facility.

**Re: Plan of Action to Address the Findings and Recommendations of the Grand Jury
March 31, 2011
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Finding B.2.e. Self Serving

Response:

School Board Policy 1401 (Exhibit 19), Naming/Renaming of School Board - Owned Facilities, Section I.e. extends naming privileges for a section of a facility to a person living or dead.

Actions to be Taken:

- This policy will be presented at the April 26, 2011 School Board workshop to initiate the policy revision process in order to address concerns that were outlined within this finding regarding naming District facilities for current Board Members.

School Board Workshop

- On April 26, 2011, staff presented Policy 1401 at the School Board Workshop for discussion:
 - Should Policy be amended only permitting the naming of a facility for a deceased individual?
- Superintendent to review similar policies within other school districts to determine their process
- Policy to be presented at future School Board Workshop for further consideration

Comparisons Matrix

School Board of Broward County, Florida
Comparisons Matrix
 Naming or Renaming Schools and Facilities

School District	Policy No.	Policy Title	Can School/Facility Be Named/Renamed After A School Board Member/Employee?	Can School/Facility be Named/Renamed After A Living Person?	Brief Criteria
Broward County School Board	1401	Naming/Renaming of School Board-Owned Facilities	Silent	Yes	Policy extends naming privileges for a section of a facility to a person living or dead.
Brevard County School Board	7250	Commemoration of School Facilities	No	Yes	Policy indicates if naming, after an elected official and living, the elected official shall have left the public office for a period of time not less than five (5) years.
Duval County School Board	8.59	Naming or Renaming Schools or School Facilities	No	No	Policy indicates the name of the school shall not be a person (whether living or deceased).
Hillsborough County School Board	7250	Commemoration of School Facilities	Silent	Silent	Policy does not address if the person can be actively serving the School Board or if the person can be living or deceased.
Miami-Dade County School Board	7250	Commemoration of School Facilities	Yes	Yes	Policy indicates the individual can be living or deceased. If a living person, the eponym's consent must first be obtained in writing before it is submitted for consideration.
Orange County School Board	FF	Naming or Renaming Schools and Facilities	Silent	Silent	Policy does not address if the person can be actively serving the School Board or if the person can be living or deceased.
Palm Beach County School Board	7.03	Naming of School District Facilities and Dedicating Areas of School District Facilities or Grounds	No	Yes	Policy indicates names of persons actively serving the School Board shall not be considered. Only a building or a component may be named after a living person.
Polk County School Board	6.005	Naming of School Board Buildings or Sites	Silent	Silent	Policy does not address if the person can be actively serving the School Board or if the person can be living or deceased.

Comparisons Matrix

Results

Can School/Facility Be Named/Renamed After a School Board Member/Employee?	Can School/Facility be Named/Renamed After a Living Person?
(4) Silent	(3) Silent
(1) Yes	(4) Yes
(3) No	(1) No

Policy Revisions

Revised Policy should incorporate:

- d. If the entire facility is named for an individual, the name(s) proposed shall be:
 - 1. that of an outstanding deceased civic or educational leader of either local, state, national, or international prominence who has been deceased for a period of not less than five (5) years.
 - 2. displayed in its entirety on the facility and referred to as such in all oral and written communication. A brief biographical excerpt of the individual's accomplishments should be exhibited in a prominent place within the school.

- e. Naming privileges for a section of a facility may also be extended to a person, living or deceased, and/or a public or private corporation that meet the standards set forth in this policy. If living, and also an elected official, shall have left public office for a period of time not less than five (5) years. Further, a section of a facility may not be named for persons actively employed by or serving the District.

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