

**First Drew Naming Committee Meeting
Jan. 22, 2019**

Attendees:

Drew School Principal	Kimberley Graves
Drew Elementary PTA	Aquila Stewart
Drew School	Jamie Guidry
Drew School	Megan Sorrell
Hoffman-Boston PTA	Marlo Wade
Hoffman-Boston School	Deitra Brady
Hoffman-Boston School	Melissa Hinkson
Patrick Henry PTA	Kinsey Fabrizio

Patrick Henry School	Lina Ewell
Patrick Henry School	Sarah Switaj
Columbia Heights Civic Assoc.	Erin Wasiak
Douglas Park Civic Association	Jen Dean
Nauck Civic Assoc.	Frederick Craddock
Community At-Large Member	Mary Glass
School & Community Rels.	Dulce Carrillo

**All Committee members were present.*

Principal Kimberley Graves kicked off meeting by welcoming committee members, stating the committee charge, and introducing Dr. Patrick Murphy, Superintendent of APS.

Dr. Murphy thanked committee members for their time and provided background as well as guiding comments regarding the intent of the committee and the history of Drew. He stated a purpose of convening the committee is to build culture and community rather than to eliminate the recognition of Dr. Drew’s legacy, who was a preeminent scientist and wonderful role model from Arlington, Virginia.

The Superintendent encouraged the committee to follow the design and process of naming the new neighborhood school, with emphasis on the importance of dialogue. He shared what he sees as the Board’s intent, so the committee has guidance up front and need not go back to the drawing board later.

A summary of the agenda and minutes from the meeting are listed below for review:

I. Introduction of committee members and the groups they represent. Some wear multiple hats.

II. Norms

Be on time and be respectful of one another.

III. Naming Policy and Policy Implementation Procedures (PIP)

Copies of the Policy & PIP were distributed, and Dulce Carrillo briefly summarized the process, allowing committee members a chance to go over them. This was followed by a Q&A session.

IV. Brief History and Biography of Dr. Drew

Committee members received a brief history of Drew Elementary and a copy of Dr. Charles Drew’s biography from Wikipedia for background. A committee member added rich details on the history of Drew from personal experience.

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V. Committee Questions, Comments, and Initial Brainstorming

Questions:

- Will the committee receive an official charge in writing? (Not necessarily)
- Why was Naming Committee convened if we are being asked to keep the Drew name?
- What do we want to drop from the current school name?
- What's the definition of a neighborhood school? (Drew Model is not currently a nei sch)
- Is anyone opposed to keeping the Drew name?
- Can we propose one name with Drew in it and an alternate without it?
- How will new students feel welcome if added to existing school with the same name?
- Will the name change the school or will intentional actions taken as a community create real change?
- Are people open to adding a name in addition to Drew?
- What will the new student population look like with Montessori students leaving? What will be the percentage of students receiving free and reduced meals?
- What will excite our main stakeholders, the students?

Comments/hopes:

- Joined the committee to advocate for keeping the Drew name
- Several communities will be represented: Drew, Hoffman-Boston, Henry and Abingdon
- Hope that new students become part of the rich history and make their mark also
- Fear of achievement level drop with Montessori students leaving
- Worry about a name change led to joining committee because Drew history is great
- Not always comfortable hearing about amenities in North Arlington
- Focus on the "neighborhood" aspect of the school
- Include "STEAM" as part of the school name
- Wonder about the longevity of STEAM (as instructional focus)
- Hyphenate school name, "Drew-Name of artist" with connection to Arlington, state, US
- Name of historically significant figure
- Add an artist's name since Drew was a scientist
- Students can consider a new mascot (not part of Committee's charge)
- Bring new students together with current students

Initial Brainstorm of names:

- "Charles Drew Inspiration School" -- might inspire kids to know the history
- "The Charles Drew Academy" connotes excellence
- "The Charles Drew School of Learning"
- Add "of South Arlington" to the name to take pride in our community
- "Harriet Powers" (19th C)
- "Drew Science Focus School" (branding recognition, apply for grants and/or fundraising)
- "Charles Drew Science Academy"
- "The Charles Drew Elementary School"

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Take-aways:

- Adding instructional focus
- Adding a second name to Drew
- Adding a descriptive designation such as Academy
- Geographic component
- Bringing communities together

Committee members agreed to informally survey members they represent and bring back to the next meeting additional names to share with the full committee.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, February 12
 - Tuesday, March 5
 - Tuesday, April 2
1. All meetings are scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. and take place at Drew Model School Library. You can expect each meeting to last approximately 90 minutes.
 2. The option of changing the dates will be discussed when we reconvene in February

Once confirmed by Committee, meeting notes will appear on the [Drew Naming webpage](#).