



Office of the Superintendent

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TO: School Committee

FROM: Sam DePina, Deputy Superintendent of Operations

DATE: December 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Renaming BPS schools and building spaces

The Superintendent's Circular on School Naming Policy and Procedure ([SUP-04](#)) outlines a process for the "naming or renaming of any Boston public school or notable area therein (e.g., library, auditorium, gymnasium, conference room)."

The process was established to ensure that school staff, parents, and the surrounding community have opportunities to suggest and review names before they are submitted to the Superintendent and School Committee for final approval.

On Wednesday, December 7, 2022, the Boston Public Schools and Superintendent Skipper will present proposals from four district schools to name spaces in their school building or to change the name of their school. Per the circular, each school followed a public process, which included a public hearing where stakeholders voted on the proposal/proposals. These proposals now require the approval of the School Committee. The four schools are:

Boston Arts Academy

Proposing to name 27 spaces in the school building in honor of individuals who have made a significant contribution to BAA in terms of their personal and professional commitments to the school and individuals' philanthropic contributions.

Madison Park Technical Vocational High School

Proposing to change the name of two rooms in the school building in honor of former staff members Charles McAfee and Jose Solis.

McKinley South End Academy

Proposing to change the name of the four McKinley programs to the Melvin H. King South End Academy. Lifelong South End resident, Melvin "Mel" H. King is the former State Representative for the 9th Suffolk District and the First African American to advance to the final election for Mayor of Boston. He is also a former BPS educator, supporter of the McKinley "fab lab," and longtime champion of the city's youth.



Mattahunt Elementary School/Mattahunt Community Center

Proposing to name a room in the Mattahunt Community Center in honor of longtime community activist Annie Kinhead. School leadership managed the public process for the Mattahunt Community Center because BPS has jurisdiction over the entire facility.