

## Vote Impact Statement

Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building  
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Roxbury, Massachusetts 02119  
617-635-9000

<p>Title and Date</p>	<p>School Naming: Mattapan Early Elementary School March 28, 2018</p>
<p>Action Proposed</p>	<p>The superintendent recommends that the School Committee vote to approve the Mattapan Early Elementary School officially be named the "Mattahunt Elementary School."</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>On July 1, 2018 the school district opened the Mattapan Early Elementary School as a K-1 school in the Mattapan neighborhood. The school also launched the first Haitian Creole dual language program in Boston and among the first in the nation. The current name served a temporary placeholder until the School Site Council formed and could oversee the process of identifying a recommendation for the official name of the school.</p>
<p>Educational and Racial Equity Impact</p>	<p>Mattapan Early Elementary school currently serves 313 students in grades K-1. The student demographics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black- 212</li> <li>• Hispanic- 74</li> <li>• White- 13</li> <li>• Asian- 3</li> <li>• Native American- 2</li> <li>• Other/Mixed Race- 4</li> </ul> <p>The school also houses Boston's first Haitian Creole dual language program. The program now serves kindergarten students, and will expand to grade 1 in SY18-19.</p> <p>District and school staff engaged a wide range of stakeholders in an inclusive community process to ensure equity of voice in providing recommendations of names for the school. Participants included current and previously enrolled families, staff, neighbors, Mattapan community partners and faith-based institutions, Haitian community partners and faith-based institutions, and elected officials. At four public hearings, the overwhelming majority</p>



	<p>of those in attendance advocated for continuing to honor Native American history by reinstating the name “Mattahunt.” The Mattahunt tribe inhabited the Mattapan area in the 1600’s.</p> <p>Additionally, the community shared their desire to honor Haitian history and the founding of Boston’s first Haitian Creole dual language program by naming it the Toussaint Louverture Haitian Creole Dual Language Program (this does not require a School Committee vote). Toussaint Louverture was the best-known leader of the Haitian revolution, a triumphant anti-slavery and anti-colonial insurrection against French rule by self-liberated slaves that began in 1791.</p> <p>Together, these two names validate meaningful history for the people of Mattapan, and are consistent with the district’s practices in affirming our students’ cultural identities.</p>
Expected Outcome	School Committee votes to approve naming the Mattapan Early Elementary School the “Mattahunt Elementary School.”
Policy Implications	The Superintendent’s Circular: School Naming Policy and Procedure (SUP-4) was established to ensure that school staff, families and the surrounding community had opportunities to suggest, review and make recommendations for the naming of a school. Upon completion of the public process, the circular requires the superintendent to present a recommendation to the School Committee for discussion and action.
Budget Impact	None at this time.
Yes Vote Consequences	Approval of the name “Mattahunt Elementary School” will ensure that the school has an official name going into SY18-19. Additionally, a vote would allow the school to begin reaching out to the broader community with an official name.
No Vote Consequences	The Mattahunt Early Elementary School would continue for another year without a permanent name as it continues to grow from K-1 to K-2.
Attachments	Presentation Deck.