

**First Montessori Naming Committee Meeting
Tue. October 2, 2018**

Attendees:

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| 1. Montessori Program Principal | Catharina Genove |
| 2. Parent, Arlington Montessori Action Committee | Sarah Botha |
| 3. Montessori Program Parent, Drew | Kia Haynes |
| 4. Montessori Program Parent, Hoffman-Boston | Julia McBride |
| 5. Arlington Heights Civic Association Representative | Kristi Sawert |
| 6. Penrose Civic Association Representative | Andy Greenwood |
| 7. Montessori Teacher, Drew | Shevina Wilmore |
| 8. Montessori Guidance Counselor | Diane Reeser |
| 9. At Large Community Member (non-Montessori) | Kathleen Trainor |
| 10. Staff Liaison (Non-Voting) | Dulce Carrillo* |

Absent:

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| 1. Montessori Program Parent, Carlin Springs | Susanna Nawrocki |
| 2. Montessori Teacher, Gunston Middle School | Nikole Joshi |

Catharina Genove, Principal of the Montessori Program, kicked off meeting with introductions of Naming Committee members and provided an overview of the school naming process.

Print copies of the Policy and Policy Implementation Procedures (F-6.1) Naming of Facilities were distributed, as well as the new APS Strategic Plan 2018-24 which includes the mission, vision and core values of Arlington Public Schools as reference.

Biographies of Dr. Barnard Joy and The Hon. Kathryn Stone were also shared, along with letters to the School Board supporting the naming a school after these individuals.

Initial brainstorm:

Dr. Barnard Joy was a 16-year member of the Arlington School Board (1948-64)

- During the turbulent process surrounding the 1954 Supreme Court order that public schools be desegregated
- Voted in 1956 to desegregate schools amidst “Massive Resistance”
- Founding member of WETA-TV

The Hon. Kathryn H. Stone served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1954-66

- Woman of vision and a Feminist
- Lobbied to keep schools together/worked to unite programs at Drew
- Promoted Peace Walk
- Advocated for mental health issues

History of Maria Montessori would be tribute to her, otherwise prefer another woman.

No preference for a male or female, but want someone with a relationship to Montessori

Names that came up during brainstorm:

Arlington Montessori Elementary School (AMES)

“Penrose” Montessori School (formerly Butler Holmes)

The idea of “Peace” or Humanity

Montessori Harmony

Sustainability -- something to tie it to the Earth.

The Pink Tower Montessori

Checkerboard Montessori

Montessori Life (maybe hashtag?)

Monarch Montessori School of Arlington County

Arlington Montessori School of Global Vision

Arlington Montessori Journey

Accord, tranquility, order, stability, independence, fellowship (too religious?) Community, Oneness (already a school called Oneness)

Horizon Montessori

Rainbow Montessori

Arlington County Montessori (ACM)

Arlington Montessori Community School

Independence Montessori (of Arlington)

Kathryn Stone Montessori

Monarch Montessori School

Questions/comments/suggestions that arose:

Have the two names been vetted by APS already or does committee vet the person? (Yes, already vetted)

How much green space will the kids have? (No exact figure for green space. The school consists of 4.78 acres. It has an internal courtyard and is on a shared campus with the Career Center)

APS' Montessori Program is 47 years old now. Do we know about its founding?

Are the names suggested too close to other Montessori programs in Arlington?

Andy shared that Alice West Fleet naming process names were not previously vetted, just shared by committee members.

"Montessori" should be part of the name, regardless.

Don't want the word "Elementary" in case it becomes a PreK-8th at some point in the future.

Prefer a name that conveys a lot of information about the school

Emilio Reggio (Lutheran) uses caterpillars and releases butterflies at the end of the school year.

Many like "Arlington County Montessori" (ACM) (with Monarchs as the mascot, but that's a separate process)

It would be good to keep the Monarch butterfly as part of the Montessori logo.

Committee consensus:

Dr. Barnard Joy sounds like a great guy but has insufficient connection to Montessori.

Stone aligns better with Montessori than Dr. Joy. Her legacy aligns with APS strategic goals, including emphasis on the whole child.

Preference for a woman's name.

Avoid possible confusion with other school names.

Committee shouldn't feel limited by location.

Names to move forward:

Arlington County Montessori (ACM)

Arlington Montessori Community School

Independence Montessori (of Arlington)

Kathryn Stone Montessori

Monarch Montessori

Next steps:

Circulate and post notes online

Clarify timeline. What happens in November? (Decision should be made by Thanksgiving)

Share draft survey with committee members with five names above before next meeting

Committee members circulate survey to PTAs, Civic Associations, Montessori students, etc.

Ask Drew Montessori students for thoughts on names? New or vote on five names? (TBD by Committee at next meeting)

Ask alumni or kids on Montessori waitlist?

Request more information about Kathryn Stone.

*Notes compiled by Dulce Carrillo, Coordinator of Community Engagement, School and Community Relations, Arlington Public Schools