



Corvallis

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Prepared for: Corvallis School Board
Prepared by: Vincent Adams, Board Position #4
Meeting Date: July 30, 2020

Resolution Number 20-1001: REVIEW AND REMOVAL OF RACIST SCHOOL NAMES

FIRST READ

Background

Since May 25, 2020, when George Floyd was killed by a law police officer, the United States has bore witness to renewed outcry for racial justice. School districts across the nation have taken up anti-racism resolutions committing to advance equity in their schools. Other institutions, including prominent universities, have removed the names of racist figures from buildings.

Many buildings in the Corvallis School District are named for U.S. Presidents, some of whom held views that are corrosive to the values of district and are not appropriate for celebration on facilities for the education of children. Of particular note are Woodrow Wilson, who was an avowed racist and segregationist; Herbert Hoover, who was openly racist; and Thomas Jefferson, who was a committed slave owner and sired children with one of his female slaves.

The proposed resolution seeks to quickly address the injury of the naming of Corvallis School District buildings for the aforementioned presidents, and establish a deliberate process for the district to comprehensively review the names of the remaining schools and their replacement as necessary.

Involvement

Director Vincent Adams (Sponsor), Director Sami Al-Abdrabbuh, Director Luhui Whitebear

Cost Impact

Purchase of interpretive signage at each building