



The Limestone District School Board (Board) recognizes the significance of naming school properties as an opportunity to acknowledge the civic contributions of particular individuals, or to commemorate the unique local traditions, culture, history and/or geography of the community.

The Board is committed to involving the school community in the process of naming/renaming schools in accordance with the following procedure.

1. Recommendations for Naming/Renaming

Recommendations for the naming of new schools or renaming of existing schools or sites shall be presented to the Board for consideration.

2. Naming of Property

The Board shall ensure that, when naming Board property, all legal restrictions and obligations are considered.

3. Process

Any suggestion regarding the need to name a new school shall be forwarded to the Director of Education by the appropriate Integration Committee for presentation to the Board for a decision, and recommendation to the Minister of Education. Any suggestion regarding the need to rename a school shall be forwarded to the Director of Education by a school community (students, families, and staff) for consideration. For the renaming of a school, the school's supervisory officer will convene a Renaming Committee. Any renaming would be subject to a decision by the Board, and final decision by the Minister of Education.

4. Integration Committee/Renaming Committee

- 4.1. The Integration Committee established in accordance with Board Policy 15 will have the responsibility for coordinating the process for the naming of a new school. A

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.



Renaming Committee will be convened for coordinating the process for the renaming of a school or site.

- 4.2. The Integration Committee/Renaming Committee will determine appropriate methods for consultation with all school community stakeholder groups, including, but not limited to, students, staff, families and the community at large.

5. Committee Guidelines

The Integration Committee/Renaming Committee shall:

- a) Avoid the duplication of names of school buildings or sites within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- b) Avoid the use of names of present Board members and staff members; or other living persons;
- c) The committee process for naming a school, or changing the name of a school, must ensure that any proposed names for a school fall under one of the following categories:
 - i) Name of a geographical area or local feature, such as the location, community, or street where the school is located. Local features can include plants or trees.
 - ii) Name in commemoration of an event of significance to the area, province or country, if at least ten years have elapsed since the event.
 - iii) Name to commemorate a person, living or deceased, provided the person has made a demonstrable contribution to the legacy of the area, the province or country.
 - iv) Name that honours the significance of communities who have



helped shape Ontario's rich and diverse history (e.g., First Nations communities, Francophone communities).

- d) Names submitted that do not fit with one of the requirements c) above, will not be considered, nor shared for public input.
- e) School names must not:
 - Promote commercial interests (e.g. include the name of a business or brand).
 - Commemorate a person with an unpardoned criminal record.

6. Report to Board

6.1. The Integration Committee/Renaming Committee shall review all submissions and prepare a report for the Board's consideration and approval, which shall include:

- a) A short list of at least three recommendations, and not more than five recommendations, for potential names for the Board property in question for the Board's consideration and approval;
- b) Within the shortlist, if only 3 or 4 recommendations are put forward, only one may be a name of a specific person. If 5 recommendations are put forward in the shortlist, a maximum of two names of specific people may be submitted;
- c) A summary of the rationale received in support of each of the names on the short list;
- d) Provide a detailed historical analysis of any individual or significant event being considered for the naming/renaming of a school/building; and
- e) An indication of the relative level of support for each of the names on the short list.



6.2. The Board of Trustees, using the Ministry of Education- School Naming Application Form, will submit the choice of a school name, or renamed school, for final approval to the Minister of Education. The Minister has 60 days to approve or reject the name. If after 60 days have passed without a response from the Minister, the school name will be deemed to be approved.

6.3. If a name is rejected by the Minister, the board shall not use the rejected name and,

- (i) if the rejected name is the school's current name, shall immediately start using the school's previous name,
- (ii) if the rejected name is not the school's current name, shall continue to use the current name, and
- (iii) if the school does not currently have a name, shall create a temporary name for the school based on its address, as needed; and

The board may reapply using a different name but shall comply with the clauses in 6.3 (above) until a new name, if any, is approved.

7. Ceremony/Recognition

Upon approval by the Minister, an appropriate ceremony may be planned by the representative committee.

References:

Education Act s. 174(8), (2025)
O.Reg 244/26, (2026)