

**July 23rd, 2020 PPS Public Policy Meeting potential re-naming of John
Witherspoon Middle School
Public Chat Comments during the Meeting**

- 08:01:24 From Nancy Coffin To All Panelists : Just so you know, I am from the public and I can hear this discussion you're have now
- 08:01:43 From Nancy Coffin To All Panelists : hi
- 08:02:41 From Matt Bouldin : Yes, we are aware, thank you!!
- 08:08:46 From Amanda Rose To All Panelists : I support changing the name – there is no reason to lionize a man who specifically took actions to undermine the humanity of people of color and who laid the foundation for discrimination. I support the board to make this change and show leadership in redressing wrongs.
- 08:10:12 From Amy Mayer To All Panelists : hear hear
- 08:10:35 From Dafna Kendal To Amanda Rose and All Panelists : Thanks Amanda
- 08:11:43 From Laura Shaffner To All Panelists : Well said!
- 08:13:55 From Michelle Fuerst To All Panelists : Thank you, Mr. Gonzalez! Here! Here!
- 08:14:00 From Fern To All Panelists : Looking forward of the change of the school, our daughters went to JWMS. they are now 44 and 46 and do believe the name needs to change. We have been with Princeton University for over 30 years and the protest has been on going.
- 08:14:54 From Geoffrey Allen To All Panelists : There are many members of the Princeton community who deserve to be honored. Princeton is home to many figures such as the activist Paul Robeson. There are even several former slaves such as Betsy Stockton and Silvia Dubois who have positively impacted local history. This is the opportune time to highlight these contributions just like the first teacher said.
- 08:17:06 From Sue Evans To All Panelists : From a more pragmatic standpoint, where would the funding come from to rename JWMS? It's more than just changing a name - it's rebranding the school. The change from PRSD to PPS was a "simple" change and came with a price tag.
- 08:18:50 From Sue Evans To All Panelists : And as my children, two of whom are graduates of PHS, and one a current JWMS student, please do NOT rename JWMS to Princeton Middle School. The acronym is probably not one we would want.
- 08:20:58 From Jean Durbin To All Panelists : Hello, this is not a question for the group at large, but are you thinking of setting forth a structure for the name change process?
- 08:22:10 From Michelle Fuerst To All Panelists : Wow! So good to hear that Fern!
- 08:23:11 From Leslie Rowley To All Panelists : is the text of the letter available to the public?
- 08:25:16 From HR To All Panelists : I completely support changing the name. I support renaming the building in a way that further supports underrepresented communities.

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08:28:18 From HR To All Panelists : However, I have concerns that resources that should be used for education, addressing inequity in education, feeding children during Covid, educating our teachers regarding remote learning, etc. will be used for this project which will have many hidden costs. Can we vote to change the name but schedule it for after the pandemic? I would absolutely support this.

08:29:23 From Jhilaam Iqbal To All Panelists : Thank you, Henry!

08:30:04 From Jhilaam Iqbal To All Panelists : Good morning. Thank you for holding this much needed discussion. Will a recording of this hearing be available to the public in Princeton? 8 am is a little early for some.

08:30:26 From Dafna Kendal To Jhilaam Iqbal and All Panelists : It is being recorded

08:32:04 From Jhilaam Iqbal To All Panelists : Thanks, Dafna! Where can it be accessed later by others?

08:32:42 From Matt Bouldin : Meeting will be posted on website and youtube

08:32:56 From Jhilaam Iqbal To All Panelists : Wonderful.Thanks.

08:34:10 From shirley satterfield To All Panelists : I came in late and would like to speak

08:34:36 From shirley satterfield To All Panelists : I am Shirley Satterfield

08:35:35 From Matt Bouldin : Shirley, I will call on you

08:36:20 From shirley satterfield To All Panelists : thank you

08:36:52 From Hans Henkes To All Panelists : Thank you for a healthy discussion. Michelle Obama or Paul Robeson would be names I would support given both individuals are significant to Princeton and to social change for the good.

08:38:07 From Fern To All Panelists : Absolutely!!!

08:43:47 From Laura Shaffner To All Panelists : I love this idea! Betsy Stockton Middle School. Thank you for educating us on the history.

08:43:56 From Stephanie or Henry Oster To All Panelists : This history has been really enlightening - thank you Shirley!

08:44:26 From Michelle Fuerst To All Panelists : Here! Here! Elizabeth Betsy Stockton School!

08:44:32 From Sharmila Sachdev To All Panelists : Yes, agreed. A name change which reflects someone who affected positive change in education is a wonderful idea. Love the history of Elizabeth (Betsy) Stockton!

08:44:33 From JWMS Communication To All Panelists : Thank you so much, Shirley!

08:44:33 From Geoffrey Allen To All Panelists : Bernadette is unavailable

08:44:49 From Brian McDonald To All Panelists : thank you, Shirley. Princeton Plan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7rks20fUX4>

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- 08:45:04 From Robert Ginsberg To shirley satterfield and All Panelists : Powerful advocacy, Shirley!
- 08:45:04 From Michael Byrne To All Panelists : shirley's statements were the best comments of the day.
- 08:51:17 From Belinda Seiger To All Panelists : The John Lewis School homies a true civil rights hero
- 08:51:36 From Belinda Seiger To All Panelists : honors
- 08:59:40 From Jennifer Cohan To All Panelists : Is the chat going to be made public? If not, why? Also, will all commentary be read into this meeting? thanks!
- 09:04:35 From Fern To All Panelists : Amen
- 09:06:01 From Michelle Fuerst To All Panelists : Here! Here! Dr. Barnes!
- 09:06:31 From Geoffrey Allen To All Panelists : hello?
- 09:07:06 From Matt Bouldin : Geoffrey, would you like to make another comment?
- 09:07:14 From Geoffrey Allen To All Panelists : yes
- 09:12:57 From Louisa To All Panelists : Goooooo Shirley!!
- 09:15:51 From Fern To All Panelists : Thank you
- 09:24:39 From Cindy To All Panelists : I agree! even growing up there was a clear division between whites, Hispanics, Asians, blacks...
- 09:26:20 From Fern To All Panelists : Thank you for sharing
- 09:27:00 From Jennifer Cohan To All Panelists : Hi, again, will the chat be available to the public? Are comments that were sent into PPS going to be read into the meeting? If not, can you please let me know why?
- 09:37:25 From Marla Shanti To All Panelists : I am glad Princeton is having this hearing and doing the right thing. I look forward to hearing of the new name of JW as this will be a step that will hopefully lead to much deeper change in Princeton. FYI I wanted to let you know about Rachel Cargle, a Black Indigineous woman of color and she is doing amazing work around teaching and supporting critical discourse around racial issues. Anyway, she has started the Loveland Foundation which supports mental health/therapy services for black women and girls. She can be found on Instagram if you are interested. Thank you.
- 09:39:02 From Cindy To All Panelists : we do have to make a change. the name could be the first step, but a change in the community is what will truly make the difference. as a Hispanic, I have even experienced bullying from fellow Hispanics and from the black students, and I didn't fit in with the white students because they felt over entitled. and as an adult, I still feel some of that from parents. it truly

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will take all of us to make change. my kids have even experienced it from white teachers. the name is truly just a start but we need to dig deeper and work on what we teach within the schools as well

09:40:10 From Bernadette A To All Panelists : This is the kind of thing you needed to polls us with before making a time decision.

09:40:16 From Jennifer Cohan To All Panelists : Jess with the chat be public?

09:40:22 From Anne To All Panelists : Thank you BOE and Admin for this forum!