



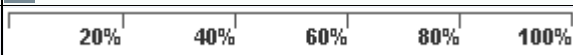
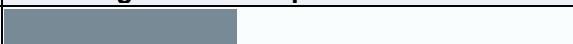




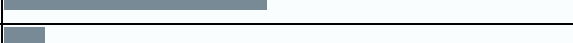
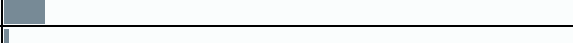



**Virginia L. Murray Elementary Renaming Survey
Winter 2021**

When reviewing a school's current name or proposing a new name, what naming categories are important to consider?			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
Places	142	31.00%	
Themes	79	17.25%	
Values	213	46.51%	
(Did not answer)	24	5.24%	
Total Responses	458		

Were you previously aware of the school's history and that of Virginia Murray?			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
No	189	41.27%	
Yes	264	57.64%	
(Did not answer)	5	1.09%	
Total Responses	458		

Do you think we should keep the current name of Virginia L. Murray Elementary or choose a new name?			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
Keep the name as Virginia L. Murray Elementary	422	92.14%	
Choose a new name	33	7.21%	
(Did not answer)	3	0.66%	
Total Responses	458		

You may further explain your answer for wanting to change the name.

While I do not want to dismiss the history of the person - V L. Murray, and her accomplishments need to be recognized somewhere; it feels very subjective to deem some people worthy of maintaining a moniker and others not. At the time these people were selected the values of the "then" committee deemed them worthy and now a different group of people are using their values to decide whether they are still "worthy." Communities and what matters will always continue to grow and change and the potential will always be there to discover new information or change how we view history. If ACPS is going to look at the practice of naming buildings after people it should be an all or none policy. I believe we should rename all the schools named after people and choose something reflective of the communities they serve. It feels far more genuine and less about a group of people sitting in judgement of an individual. I would suggest Ivy Elementary, Woodville, Country View, or Mechums River

Ivy Elementary. It is best to stick with schools names after places.

If schools names are being changed due to personal names, then all should be renamed, black or white. Equality across the board. Ivy elementary

Dogwood Elementary Ivy Elementary Redbud Elementary Ivy Depot Elementary

If we are discriminating school names based on race then all names should be erased

I am surprised that during a global pandemic, with our children struggling to learn, and with limited hours of education each day, that our school administration is spending their time worrying about the school name and NOT worrying about our children's education. As a parent, this makes me sad that you have diverted resources and funds away from our children for something that could be delayed until after this immediate crisis has passed. I am not sure how this effort to change the school name is justified as we struggle to educate our children from home each day. The time spent on this renaming project should have been spent finding better ways to engage the students of the county.

Perhaps something connecting to the Ivy community/location, as that seems a bit more appropriate for this school's demographics. It seems unfair that Murray Community School is being pressured to change their name by members of the elementary school community. This name has been a part of MCS's history as well.

Ivy Elementary. Given the prior pattern in ACPS, I believe we should remove all names of schools that are named after persons. Ivy Elementary is reflective of location and the community in which the students live.

I want to suggest that the school not be named for any person. Our community needs to heal, and names of people bring about division and even violence because they pit "winners" against "losers" and aggravates old wounds. No person is perfect and none should be placed on a pedestal. Naming schools after an area landmark (once it is determined not to be linked to a person) helps the public, including new area residents, in better understanding the location of the school. In this way we are all winners.

She was a religious teacher and I think that doesn't meet the values of all our students, specifically those who are offended by religious beliefs.

If ACPS is changing school names, ALL schools named for people should be changed to location or geographic feature names

Morgantown Road Elementary School

Awesome school for learning

Blue Ridge Elementary

Virginia school of education and kindness.

i think we should change is name...

IVY ELEMENTARY

I don't really know

I love the name Virginia L Murray, but it would be cool to try a new name. It would fun to see what all the students' who have participated in the VL Murray name change committee have come up with.

Riverside

Two other schools have had to change their names so it should be equitable. Blue Ridge Elementary Ivy Elementary Valley Elementary Country View Elementary Creek View Elementary (bear Little Creek)

Ivy elementary school

Ivy Elementary

Q8. I am:			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
Albemarle County Community Member	87	19.00%	
ACPS Employee	28	6.11%	
ACPS Parent	181	39.52%	
ACPS Parent & Employee	15	3.28%	
ACPS Student	137	29.91%	
(Did not answer)	10	2.18%	
Total Responses	458		

Q9. Gender/Sex			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
Female	297	64.85%	
Male	142	31.00%	
Non-binary	6	1.31%	
(Did not answer)	13	2.84%	
Total Responses	458		

Q10. Ethnicity/Race			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
Asian	19	4.15%	
Black/African American	36	7.86%	
Hispanic/Latino	14	3.06%	
Native American/Alaska Native	1	0.22%	
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1	0.22%	
White	376	82.10%	
(Did not answer)	24	5.24%	
Total Responses	471		

Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

Q11. In my household:			
Responses	Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents
We primarily speak English	420	91.70%	
We primarily speak another language	3	0.66%	
We speak both English and another language	26	5.68%	
(Did not answer)	9	1.97%	
Total Responses	458		

Additional Comments

Really hoping the name stays. It's logical, it's Albemarle-specific, it's meaningful, it celebrates diversity and accomplishments. There is no reason to change it (especially since Murray HS has changed its name).

The first question does not allow for an appropriate response. The 3 categories do not adequately describe all of the choices.

Thanks for the work you are doing on this project. I feel that VA Murray's legacy is worth remembering through our school name

Are resources and time actually being spent to review the name of a school named after an amazing black woman? With everything else going on? Come on now.

I have one current student at VL Murray and two VL Murray graduates. The name both recognizes the heritage and history of the local area as well as brings to the foreground a person who valued education and worked to better the lives of those around her. Would Virginia Lee Murray, the person, be forgotten but for the school being in her name?

Renaming VL Murray Elementary would be a HUGE step backwards. This would throw away all of Virginia Lee Murray's accomplishments (in hard times that did NOT stop her from achieving), her legacy and impact, AND all that the name of the school represents. We are a community embracing every race, religion, gender, student, faculty and staff, and the local community outside of Murray has always been right there with us. VL Murray shouldn't even be in the conversation of renaming local schools. This is ridiculous.

Do not change the names of anything.

Stop wasting taxpayer money with petty agendas like this. Review the salaries of the bureaucracy that is rampant within the school administration.

I'm a proud alum of Murray. Part of my pride is in having come from a school with such a cool legacy and namesake. There is not a better person to have a school named after her than Virginia L. Murray!

Why don't you name the school after a place then you won't offend any human beings since we all seem to not be able to get along with one another. Jealousy, greed, envy, etc.

The name Virginia L. Murray is an important one in our community to help us remember how far we've come in providing equal education to our citizens regardless of race. It is an important lesson to be reminded of, as well. Keep this name on our school, please.

Why would we need to change this name? It's not white enough for the well to do Murray population?

As a previous student at Murray along with my brothers, I do not think Murray should be changed. I live on that street and it brings a lot of memories back just hearing the word Murray. Murray Elementary supports the Albemarle County values but it does not mean you need to change a name. There is absolutely no need because it portrays the history at the school and it shouldn't be forgotten about. It would be awful to see that school be named anything but Murray Elementary school .

I attended Murray soon after it was integrated, and many years later, so did my children. The name and history of the school were and continue to be welcome, encouraging, and important. I feel it is extremely important that we retain the name and honor Ms. Murray and her historic contributions to our school system.

2 of my 3 children attended from 1985-88. I was PTO President @ Murray; having had the pleasure of working w/Mrs. Bailey, the Principal. I subsequently became the 1st PTO President @ the new MLS. Virginia L. Murray's legacy to education was celebrated through the dedication and spirit of the teachers and staff! In this current divisive national environment it is most important to acknowledge an outstanding educator who worked tirelessly to meet the needs of those children who had limited opportunities! Albemarle County Schools need to continue to recognize her, contributions and commitment to her students! Leave the name as Virginia L. Murray Elementary School!

Virginia Murray is the perfect name for a wonderful school. Students across Virginia should learn about Ms Murray!

Keeping the name Murray helps to keep alive the memory of segregation and helps guide our understanding of our racist heritage. Black children were educated during segregation only because Black leaders fought for that education. I am grateful to Ms. Murray and other leaders who fought against the odds for education for Black children.

Wonderful, especially in this moment in time, to learn about Virginia L. Murray and to have my grandson's school named for her. Keep it please.

Those family members should be included in MCS's review as well.

Given the prior pattern in ACPS, I believe we should remove all names of schools that are named after persons. All individuals have flaws and the process of trying to sort out which persons are more/less flawed than others and if they therefore deserve to have a school named after them seems outlandish. Let's remove person names from the schools and move on.

Thank you for making Black history important.

Religious beliefs have no place in our schools. My child feels oppressed by attending a school that is named after such a religious promoter.

Keep the name and continue to honor Virginia Murray's extraordinary legacy. Don't erase history for political purposes.

i think we should keep the name

She seems like a wonderful person and educator. We should definitely keep the name of the school as it is.

Keep the name, she seems like a good person a represents appropriate values in education.

I think we should keep it it was named after a famous person.

No problem.

Not sure it is necessary to contact the family unless there is a lean towards changing the School's Name. I feel that the neighborhood the school is located in and the "trust" considered when initially naming the school V. L. Murray should hold true today.

The name is amazing we shouldn't change it.

Thank you

I Absolutely think Murray's name is perfect.

No. there is nothing that me or my parents know about where Virginia L. Murray's family is located.

If we were to change the name it should be something about the amazing things America has done and we should definitely make sure more students learn about the history of VLM

i love merrey almenchrey

I want to keep our name as Murray elementary because it goes with the Mustangs, Murray Mustangs

Please keep the name. It fits the history of our school and many people that went to the school are attached to the name.

After reading the history of both the school, and Ms. Murray, I hope you will vote to uphold the school's name in her honor.

This is ridiculous, leave the names alone on all the schools !

Please keep the name ASIS. There is nothing wrong with it!

Why would you possibly consider changing the name? Virginia L Murray deserves recognition.

In a time that is defined by a long overdue movement to bring equity and justice to our community, and to highlight the contributions of people of color, it would be a step in the wrong direction to remove Virginia's name from the school name. While it is important to review school names for references to immoral or racist people (almost always white racist men), this case is not and should not be part of that review movement. The fact that it is under review is being viewed as a marginally racist effort by many members of the community. At a time when we are renaming streets, places, and schools to be more inclusive and equitable, the last thing you should be doing at a mostly white school is considering the removal of a name of a black, female, education reformer.

I feel that the name "Murray" is simply a really good sounding name that greatly reflects what I feel the school is like.