

South Park Academy Salt Lake City School District 1480 North 8000 West Salt Lake City, UT 84116 Phone: 801-522-7062

# Proposal to Name or Rename a Facility In Salt Lake City School District (Board Policy G-16)

Name of existing program: South Park Academy

**Program type:** Adult High School Completion (AHSC)

Requested effective date: 2023 – 2024 School Year

# Rationale and community impact for the name change:

South Park Academy has undergone an immense transformation since its inception in the 1950's. In July of 2022, Salt Lake City School District (SLCSD) took over the educational services at the brand-new state correctional facility as the building moved inside SLCSD's boundaries from Canyons School District. With the physical location of South Park Academy and the correctional facility moving into SLCSD boundaries, South Park Academy has been able to partner with the Utah Department of Corrections (UDC) and make significant updates to the quality of educational services being offered at the Utah State Correctional Facility (USCF) because of the infrastructure within the facility.

Bringing educational services that are more representative of a traditional school inside a correctional facility also brings up the discussion of the students and how they are viewed in society. Students within correctional facilities are often marginalized and are rarely afforded opportunities to change how they are viewed. With the current school's name, there are several references within pop culture which can be made that reinforce negative stereotypes of bad behavior and continue to stigmatize our students long after they pay their debt to society and re-enter their communities when they produce proof of graduation through transcripts or diplomas. South Park Academy students and stakeholders deserve a name that instills hope and pride for all those associated with the program. For these reasons, South Park Academy is formally requesting a name change, a change in the colors that represent the school, as well as adding a new mascot that represents the students' and school's spirit.

### **Facilities and Administrative impact:**

South Park Academy is currently located within USCF property. As such, there is no need for advertising or sign changes. Many of the changes that must occur will be superficial in nature, such as headings in paperwork. However, there are several issues that may need to be addressed.

One of the largest impacts would be seen inside the databases used within the state of Utah. In discussing the name change with the IT Systems Administrator at the Utah State Board of Education, it was noted that an official end with South Park Academy and switching over to a new name would be as simple as issuing an end date for the old name and instituting a new institution with a new name inside the state's student database (Utopia). This would ensure there would be very little confusion between transcripts and other needs for previous students. With the minimal use of Power School in SLCSD



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(used only for students with IEPs who are under the age of 22 for approximately the past five months), there will be a minimum number of issues involved in the name change for that database.

Another impact which may need to be addressed with SLCSD's legal team is how the name change might impact any MOUs that have been signed over South Park Academy's first year. The principal has reached out to Kristina Kindl and plans to move forward with addendums to any MOUs that the SLCSD legal team deems necessary if the school board decides to move forward with the name change.

The final major impact regarding a name change from South Park Academy that was discussed came in regard to accreditation. Currently, South Park Academy is accredited by Cognia (The same association that issues the accreditation for SLCSD). Under Cognia's policy, the principal would need to file paperwork to petition for a name change, but it would not affect anything dealing with South Park Academy's accreditation status with Cognia.

# South Park Academy's process (refer to meeting notes for descriptions):

The principal of South Park Academy and their School Improvement Council (SIC) discussed the idea of a name change in their November meeting. It was proposed that a sub-committee be formed that included community stakeholders such as UDC and Davis Technical College (DTC). This sub-committee met once per month. Items discussed within this sub-committee centered around the process (making sure we followed the G-16 policy) of the name change and how we could include as many people associated with education inside the correctional facility. It was determined that both electronic and manual (paper & pen) surveys could be used to tally choices (2 choices per respondent), but eventually moving the manual survey responses over to the same electronic format as the community partners.

Manual surveys were issued to the students and comprised 69 % (118 out of 171) of ALL responses. It is important to note that 67% (118 of the 176 students [February 1 enrollment]) chose to participate in this survey. In essence, two out of every three students actively enrolled at the time of the survey had a voice in the possible name change and had more representation than any other community stakeholder.

Once the sub-committee finished polling all stakeholders in the community and moving the manual results into the electronic format, the principal, who headed the committee, presented the results to South Park Academy's SIC for final approval. Once SIC approved, the principal submitted results to the Business Administrator and Superintendent as per Board Policy G-16.

# South Park Academy name change/mascot change/color change results:

Graphic representations, SIC meeting notes, and the Re-naming Sub-committee notes are included in the "attachments" section of this document.

Top three names submitted for the name change (ordered by number of votes received):

- 1. Sky View Academy (102 votes)
- 2. Silver Lake Academy (73 votes)
- 3. Bayside Academy (47 votes)



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Top three mascots submitted (ordered by number of votes received):

- 1. Eagles (107 votes)
- 2. Raptors (77 votes)
- 3. Aviators (57 votes)

Top three combinations of school colors submitted (ordered by numbers of votes received):

- 1. Purple and Silver (99 votes)
- 2. Silver and Black (77 votes)
- 3. Blue and Yellow (60 votes)

### **Summary:**

South Park Academy has made every attempt to give a voice to their students and other community stakeholders in this process and is looking forward to the school board's decision. The SIC feels that all the potential changes are a great representation of the school, the students, as well as SLCSD and the council is comfortable with any of the choices. Students will continue to receive a quality and rigorous education as they strive to overcome their past indiscretions, attain their high school diplomas, and explore opportunities to enroll in post-secondary programs while at this facility regardless of the name. All the community stakeholders are excited as we move forward in our educational endeavors while we strive for excellence and equity for every student, in every classroom, every day.

#### Names:

- A. Sky View Academy: is a nod to the wide-open spaces and the magnificent view at our location.
- B. <u>Silver Lake Academy</u>: is a nod to USCF's theme in naming their buildings after bodies of water. (All housing units are named after rivers and all housing units come together at the education buildings much like rivers flow into lakes).
- C. <u>Bayside Academy</u>: is a nod to the Great Salt Lake which drives the weather and climate around our location.

#### Mascots:

- A. <u>Eagles</u>: symbolize honesty, strength, wisdom, freedom and acknowledges the United States of America.
- B. Raptors: symbolize strength, power, fierceness, nobility and acknowledges Utah's pre-history.
- C. <u>Aviators</u>: symbolize exploration, wisdom, courage and acknowledges the proximity to the airport just to the East of our facility.

### Colors:

- A. <u>Purple and Silver</u>: Purple embodies individualism, creativity and future while silver embodies reflection, wisdom, and responsibility.
- B. <u>Silver and Black</u>: Silver embodies reflection, wisdom, and responsibility while black embodies strength, sophistication, as well as beginnings & endings.
- C. <u>Blue and Yellow</u>: Blue embodies endurance, trust, and leadership while yellow embodies success, optimism, and wealth.

Attachments (Graphs, SIC notes, Re-naming Sub-committee notes):

# School Name/Mascot/Color change beginning 2024 School Year

Your response deadline is 3/23/2023. Send reminder to all of your recipients.

Remind them

171 Responses

00:44

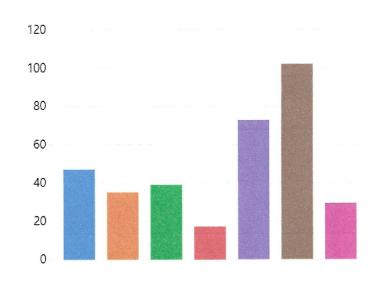
Average time to complete

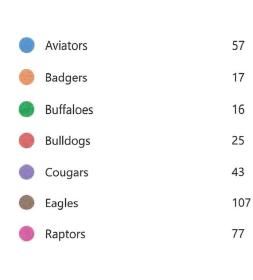
Active

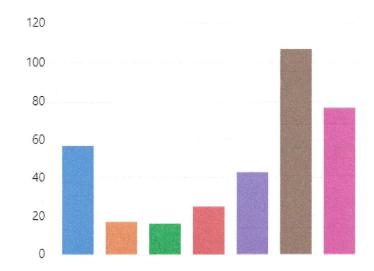
Status

Please select two choices from the list below that you feel represents what our new high (0 school name should be.



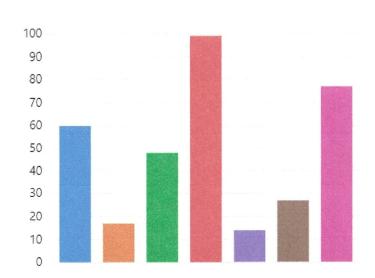






# 3. (0 point)





### Minutes

# SIC - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Meeting called by: Patty Lundin

Attendees: Chris Sullivan, Jennifer Dustin, Barbara Ericksen, Mara Costa-Bennett, Cynthis Garcia-Getty, Dustin Hensel, Leah Sharitt, Leezel Watts.

Opening: minutes from the inaugural meeting were approved.

- 1. We need to get input from all stakeholders for a new school name. Get some suggestions from students with guidance. Also, we can change the school colors if you want but not necessary. Current colors are blue and gold. New beginning! Everyone would like to get new colors. Students should have input, but we have the final say. We will limit it to the top 5 or 7 or 8, then we will put it forth to the board. Dustin suggested a subcommittee of SIC. Chris stated we should include corrections officials as well as other community partners to ensure stakeholders have a say in the naming process as a way to follow the G-16 Board Policy. Leah suggested Dan Powers from Davis Technical College as a candidate. Chris will discuss with Lt. Ehlers and have UDC programming sit on the renaming committee as well. Leah volunteered for the committee. Chris stated he would head the committee as per policy and contact stakeholders to begin the process.
- 2. Who is responsible for reporting outcome for a high school grad? Cynthia does the spreadsheet with all the graduates. Who puts it into O'track and Utopia. Chris will input for Utopia. Leezel does all the ones for the refusal and Cynthia does the diploma. Cynthia will put graduates into O'track. Teachers will input individual credits. Chris will sign off on students who have completed requirements for graduation.
- 3. Leah feels like to get the people that we need to be successful as a school, we need to have a push for outcomes. This goes with number 8 on the agenda. We need to set ourselves up for success and get more people involved in the program, then it should pay for itself. This also correlates to #13. We need to focus on people who are very close to graduating. Get them the packets they need to get finished. Chris is pushing to get packets into Green. He is making headway! Many are on board with getting them educational materials. Anybody who is in Green that is close to graduating, we need to get materials to. Eventually we would like to get direct instruction in Green. We need to use it sparingly because these students cannot be tested. Mara would like the packets to go directly to the therapist. If they don't have tablets, we can communicate through therapists. If students are in Utopia, we can use old casas scores to get them enrolled. There won't be any red flags if we keep it to a small number like 5 or 6. Are teachers going to do testing? Right now that is the only way to make it happen. It isn't as difficult so we can do it, but Chris would prefer that we not have to do the testing. A new teacher and a new secretary are going to put your budget really tight with no leeway. The Secretary position will be M-F. We have to test in R&O on Fridays if we want to catch everybody. The position will be 8-4. That will be posted soon. Eventually, all pretests will

- be completed in R&O. Nobody is tracking the new students. That is what the secretary will be doing. Starting pay would be approximately \$35,000/year.
- 4. We are abusing the printer here and we are worried about that printer breaking down. Are we going to print pdf texts or are we going to rely on the tablets. They are still sharing tablets and max is not reliable. Only high side has tablets right now. Andrea Parrish is going to go in December to legislature and request a pay raise for tutors and additional money so they can get tablets for every person. This may not happen until next school year. Printing pdf files is very expensive. It was almost \$400 to print 5 of each science PDFs. We may have funding for a new copier, but we are low on space. There is a long process to make a large purchase like a copier. Bear people can help getting curriculum. It was recommended that we create a shell class for "high school curriculum" on the tablets and have all of the curriculum in that class. Jennifer will load all of the textbooks for high school into this shell class.
- 5. Digital studies packet is all we have right now, but it is kind-of hard to do without having access to a computer. Digital studies needs to be a direct class. The teacher will have to help them with the new program. When will laptops be available? Chris will go visit Steve to find out the status of getting the laptops ready to use. Sam said it would be an easy fix. The other issue is they have access to every printer that is on the network. Chris ordered too many scanner/printers so he will bring some to Bear and Dell.
- 6. Do we have a book where we keep transcripts for auditing purposes. Who is entering the transcripts into Utopia and where are we keeping the transcripts? Leezel has a spreadsheet to track transcripts and also has the original transcripts. Chris will be putting in transcripts into Utopia. Chris will bring Maria out to train Leezel, Chris, and Cynthia for a refresher in Utopia. Cynthia said if she gets a transcript, she enters it in right away. If they get a transcript request form, Leezel requests the transcript then Cynthia puts in the graduates in O'Track.
- 7. We got a price breakdown from Reading Horizons. Edelman said it may not happen so before Chris pays for it, we need to know if it can happen. District said they will do a pilot program for Reading Horizons for approximately 30 students who scored low on casas. We are kind-of in a holding pattern. Chris budgeted \$25,000 for whatever software we are going to use. It may not happen because it requires volunteers and inmate tutors. It is a license in name only. Works for ESL students as well. It will help students lacking academic language skills to prepare to enter high school.
- 8. Refer to #3
- 9. Chris said the case managers need to inform students what stuck status is. Mara has a letter that explains what stuck status is but students don't understand what it means and what the consequences are for them. Blake asked Chris specifically, is there anything you would like me to tell them. So Chris was able to tell them to have case managers explain to students what stuck status is. We need a form letter with the refusal letter to send to the case manager. Leezel has a new process. Leezel gets the refusal letter and puts them in stuck status then she sends the form to the case manager. Put Matthew Barrett cc on the letter as well. In stuck status they can't get a job or leave the unit. In the form letter, the case manager needs to explain to the student what stuck status is before they sign the school refusal letter. Cynthia said they should create a letter on letterhead from corrections describing what stuck status is. Chris will write the letter.

- 10. Leezel passed out a list of all students who are enrolled in school and marked blue dots for all who are missing paperwork. Student entry form will be given to us when they are completely enrolled. When we don't hear back from any case managers, Barrett wants to know if the case managers aren't doing anything when inmates are being placed on stuck status. Teachers can do step one intervention by sending a message on the tablet encouraging them to attend or the consequence will be the letter to the case manager. Step two the teachers will send the letter to the case manager. When there is no response, Leezel will take over and notify Barrett that the case manager has not yet responded with the refusal letter or to get the student to attend school. We should update our disclosure to let students know the consequences of not attending school.
- 11. See #3
- 12. Barbara contacted Adam Little last week. We would like to expand access to Utopia and Adam said maybe that isn't a good idea because everyone would have access to everything. Chris needs to revisit. Next week Chris would like to have specific access. We can enter it in but it still needs to be approved by Cynthia, Leezell and Chris. Hours need to be approved. Credits need to be saved and not approved.
- 13. See #3
- 14. Calendar for next year is in an email. Chris will print it up and get it to us. We should preview the next 3 years. Look at what the starting dates will be for us and when the breaks are. Pay attention to the PD days.
- 15. Other: NRS training sent September 7. Do you want to go over it as a group or work on it on your own. On our own.
- 16. Other: Bring input on the calendar. Let us know which of the three calendars you would prefer. On November 21 when we talk about school name, we can talk about calendars also.

Agenda SIC - School Improvement Committee 11:30 P.M.

Attendees: Chris Sullivan, Yesenia Arias, Jennifer Dustin, Barbara Ericksen, Cynthia Garcia-Getty, Dustin Hensel, Jessica Lancaster, Leah Sharitt, Leezel Watts

Opening: Minutes passed out from prior meeting and approved

# 3/23/23 Agenda items:

- 1. Grant update: Looks good. Waiting for results from application. Chris said at minimum he would like to see 50% of what we requested. State budget was approved and South Park's allotment from the state was a small increase, but not as much as hoped. As we grow and increase level gains, diplomas, post-secondary transitions increase, our funding should increase. Adult Ed. Funding for this year was based on numbers from 2021. Next year will be based on 22-23 numbers.
- 2. Grant closes on 27th. We will be able to determine services after results of the grant. Where should we focus our services? Antelope is not working out very well. So most likely we will focus on Dell, Bear and Green and DATC. Antelope should be more like groups of 5 for one hour a week. In Antelope maybe just focus on young students or students who are close to graduating. We will meet in April to focus on services for next year. We will have grant funding info to determine how we grow the IET program and increase ESL services.
- 3. We have the top 3 for names, mascots and colors: Skyview Academy #1, Silverlake Academy #2 Bayside #3. Purple & Silver, Black & Silver, Green & White (going by memory). Eagles, Raptors, Aviators. Chris will submit to Bus. Admin. and Superintendent over spring break.
- 4. Cynthia is sending out potential graduates' letters now. K. E. is not getting his mail so his paperwork will be taken over by Leah. Students' guests need to respond by April 17 so background checks can be run. SLCSD staff will be contacted in April so we can get their clearances done in in a timely manner.
- 5. Yesenia has been sending out reports of CASAS tests. Cynthia is going to ask Adam about a diagnostic report for CASAS. Chris is looking into getting the tests on the computer so we can purchase reports and have exact readouts of student deficits. We can then fill the skill gaps and start working on improving their overall literacy and numeracy skills.
- 6. We want to start an orientation class at the beginning of every term next year. Rolling enrollment is too challenging. We want to have specified enrollment times. So each group will fill out all paperwork, work credits, enrollment paperwork, rules, expectations, goals, CASAS is done in orientation. Supplies folders, pencils, etc. Interests inventory. Transcripts. Ask them when they would like to graduate. Paperwork will also include signing paperwork saying they

understand that non-attendance can put them in stuck status. Will work to identify those interested in starting the IET program as well.

7. Parchment questions: Patty asked if requests were made properly. Chris will look into the 3 orders and find out what is happening.

12/5/2022

Attendees: Chris Sullivan (Chairperson), Leah Sharitt, Dan Powers (Davis Tech. College), Lt. Desiree Ehlers (UDC Programming), Sgt. JR Lee (UDC Programming)

### Agenda Items:

- Initial Discussion: Chris lead the meeting with discussion about wanting to change the name of South Park. Reasons including, new district, new start, negative connotations associated with the cartoon. Would like the public as well as other stakeholders to view it as a positive place to be and staff believes a name change can help with that. Programming agreed and felt a new start with a new name would be beneficial.
- 2. G-16: Chris highlighted the G-16 policy from the district and asked for input on how we should proceed. Lt. Ehlers asked if her staff could participate in the naming of the school. Dan Powers suggested using large sticky notes in education office buildings so staff could offer names based on what they believe the school should be named. Leah suggested we could leave it up for two weeks to give everyone a chance to answer. Leah also suggested a teacher activity to allow students to suggest names as well. Ehlers asked how we would determine the top answers. Chris suggested compile answers and have the South Park staff complete a survey to determine their top 10 results through ranked choice but suggested 10 might be too hard to continue to narrow down. Sgt. Lee suggested the top 7 results and it was agreed upon.
- 3. Future Action: Committee agreed to start posting and asking staff to participate on 12/6/22. Committee agreed to hand over results to Chris on 12/20/22. To move forward as soon as possible, Chris suggested that he could compile South Park staff choices after the first week's return from break (1/13/2023). We will re-convene on 1/17/23. Items to think about: How to survey efficiently, polling the most stakeholders, ways to compile results.

1/17/2022

Attendees: Chris Sullivan (Chairperson), Leah Sharitt, Dan Powers (Davis Tech. College), Lt. Desiree Ehlers (UDC Programming), Sgt. JR Lee (UDC Programming)

## Agenda Discussion:

- 1. Discussed previous meeting. Approved
- 2. Results: Chris broke down results from stakeholder input and the top choices (7) from South Park staff.
  - A. Names chosen Bayside Academy Blue Mountain Academy, Overlake Academy, Perseverance Academy, Silver Lake Academy, Sky View Academy, Starlight Academy
  - B. Mascots Aviators, Badgers, Buffaloes, Bulldogs, Cougars, Eagles, Raptors
  - C. Colors Blue & Yellow, Green and Black, Green and White, Purple and Silver, Purple and Yellow, Red and Black, Silver and Black

Names, colors and mascots were discussed individually to determine issues that could arise with negative connotations. It was determined none of the names or mascots could really be construed as negative or having too many negative connotations with any slang terms. All names and mascots have ties to Utah or are synonymous with traditional high schools. It was also determined that none of the names coincide with any current Salt Lake City School District schools. The committee agreed to move forward with a survey/questionnaire with the approved choices listed above.

- 3. Surveys: Discussed how best to send surveys. Lt. Ehlers suggested survey monkey. Dan stated survey monkey might charge. Chris suggested Microsoft Forms and could send to committee members to distribute the link amongst their staff. Chris asked if that could be distributed to students over the tablets. Lt. Ehlers stated security would not allow that. Students will have to be polled with pen and paper. Chris stated we could just print the Microsoft Forms and send the same survey to all stakeholders. Problems with manually counting student answers could lead to inaccuracies. Could be time consuming for one person to enter all student info. Putting it into spreadsheet and transferring staff responses to spreadsheet could lead to inaccuracies. Dan suggested using February meeting as data entry and using Microsoft Forms link from Chris to enter data. Splitting upwards of 200 student responses between 5 committee members is less time consuming, assures more oversight especially if done in proximity with one another. Committee agreed to use February meeting as data entry into Microsoft Forms. Chris will create the survey. 3 different questions. 1 for name. I for mascot. 1 for colors. Dan Powers asked if we should do ranked choice or multiple selections per survey. Lee suggested multiple answers. Ehlers agreed multiple answers. Committee agreed to 3 questions for each category while allowing 2 choices per category. Chris will send Microsoft Forms link out with the top 7 of each for staff to distribute among stakeholders. Leah will print the same survey and have South Park teachers distribute among students over the next two weeks and reiterate to the students that there will be two choices per category.
- 4. Next meeting: data entry 2/14/23

2/14/2022

Attendees: Chris Sullivan (Chairperson), Leah Sharitt, Dan Powers (Davis Tech. College), Lt. Desiree Ehlers (UDC Programming), Sgt. JR Lee (UDC Programming)

### Agenda Items:

- 1. Discussed last meeting minutes. Approved.
- 2. Data Entry: committee met in Bear conference room. 118 inmate responses (176 students enrolled at the time) were divided up between all 5 committee members and entered into the link Chris provided by all committee members.
- 3. Lt. Ehlers proposed we allow one more week to pass to let any additional stakeholders vote who had not had the opportunity as some of UDC's staff was on vacation. Teachers could also poll anyone who missed school previously. Committee agreed and decided to re-convene on 3/2 due to scheduling conflicts and discuss results.

3/2/2022

Attendees: Chris Sullivan (Chairperson), Leah Sharitt, Dan Powers (Davis Tech. College), Lt. Desiree Ehlers (UDC Programming), Sgt. JR Lee (UDC Programming)

### Agenda Items:

- 1. Discussed last meeting to ensure that data entry was solid and secure. Committee approved.
- 2. Results. 171 responses have been tallied between students and community stakeholders. Chris suggested that we move forward due to timing. Chris reviewed Board policy and explained that he must present our committee's findings to SIC. They must approve the results and then those results must be forwarded to the Business Administrator and SLCSD Superintendent for approval. Once they approve, the results are given to the SLCSD Board of Education. The board members will take the findings of the committee and the approval of the SIC into account, but ultimately, the school board will make the final decision on the final name (whether or not it is even changed). Top three results for each category included:
  - A. Names: Sky View Academy (102 votes), Silver Lake Academy (73 votes), Bayside Academy (47 votes).
  - B. Mascots: Eagles (107 votes), Raptors (77 votes), Aviators (57 votes)
  - C. Colors: Purple & Silver (99 votes), Silver and Black (77 votes), Blue and Yellow (60 votes)
- 3. The committee agreed that these top 3 choices are acceptable. Lt. Ehlers agreed that UDC would be comfortable with any of these names, mascots, and colors but did note that Blue from Blue and yellow could have some gang connotations. Chris noted that the current colors for South Park Academy are Blue and Yellow, but does not know if there have been any previous issues surrounding that color. Lt. Ehlers suggested we move forward with these choices since she was unaware that those were the current colors and the committee agreed. Chris will present the findings of the committee to SIC on 3 /22/23. If committee needs to re-convene, he will notify through email.