

School Naming Committee Recommendations

School Board Study Session
February 3, 2026



**Edmonds
School District**

Agenda

- Overview of 6970 & 6970P: Procedure Naming Schools, Facilities, and Teams, and use of Mascots, Images or Logos
- Overview of Committee and Process
- Review of Five Names Recommended for Consideration



6970 and 6970P: School Naming

- A committee will be established with the purpose of submitting 3-5 names to the school board for consideration with summaries for each name
- New district buildings and facilities will be named after the geographic characteristics of the area in which the facility is located
- Each name will be known to, and significant to, the people of the district
- The names submitted will not conflict with the names of other schools in the district or surrounding districts

Committee

- Committee applications were advertised to students, staff, families and community members
- Thirty-two applications were received and 15 individuals were invited to join the committee
- Committee was comprised of four students, six parents/guardians, three staff members and two community members
- Committee met five times between October 2025 and January 2026

Process

- School Name Submission Form was available in our top five languages and was open for three weeks in November 2025
- Form was advertised in staff and family newsletters, website, social media and local media
- From received 230 name submissions
- Committee then reviewed, discussed and eliminated names to eventually get to consensus on the five names to recommend to the School Board for consideration

Five Name Recommendations

(in alphabetical order)



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Golde Creek Middle School [gold]

Golde Creek Middle School is named after Golde Creek, a natural water feature that runs through the geographic area surrounding the new school site. The name establishes a direct connection between the school and its physical environment, reinforcing a sense of place and local identity.

The name reflects the natural surroundings of the area, where streets and landscapes are frequently named after trees and other environmental features. It balances a modern, refined feel appropriate for a brand-new school facility while maintaining a strong connection to nature and the local ecosystem.

Naming the school after Golde Creek also provides an opportunity to increase awareness of the creek itself and the larger Swamp Creek watershed. It highlights the importance of environmental stewardship, restoration, and sustainability. These are values that can be incorporated into curriculum, outdoor learning, and school culture. Golde Creek Middle School connects to the land around the school site and reinforces responsibility for protecting and caring for local natural resources.

Heritage Park Middle School

Heritage Park Middle School draws its name from nearby Heritage Park and honors the rich history of the Alderwood Manor community. Heritage Park preserves key elements of the area's past, including historic buildings and artifacts such as an original Interurban trolley car, Wickers Store, the superintendent's cottage, and the water tower from the demonstration farm that once taught agricultural skills to residents.

The school site itself carries significant history, having been home to multiple schools over time. While the new middle school represents a modern facility designed for today's learners, it is built on land that holds decades of memories and community connections. The name "Heritage" reflects this continuity, recognizing the legacy of education on the property while celebrating growth and renewal.

The word "heritage" could be seen as honoring the past, embracing the present, and preparing for the future, however it was noted in the committee that some could see the word as reflecting a colonial lens, framing Indigenous culture as something to be claimed or preserved by outsiders rather than lived and defined by the community.

Salish Middle School [say-lish]

The name Salish Middle School reflects the deep geographic, cultural, and historical roots of the region served by the Edmonds School District. It honors the Coast Salish peoples, whose ancestral lands, waterways, and travel routes have shaped the natural and cultural landscape of south Snohomish County for generations. The district sits on Coast Salish land, and this name acknowledges both the original inhabitants of the area and their continued presence today.

“Salish” also references the Salish Sea, a defining geographic feature that connects the communities of the Pacific Northwest and plays a central role in the region’s ecology, economy, and way of life. As a school name, Salish conveys a sense of place, belonging, and interconnectedness—values that align closely with the district’s mission and educational goals.

The name is peaceful, respectful, and inclusive, offering a meaningful identity for students, staff, and families. It reflects learning, respect for history, and connection to community and environment.

Sdohobsh Middle School [suh-doe-bish]

Sdohobsh Middle School honors the Indigenous people whose ancestral land the school occupies. The name reflects the Sdohobsh people, the original inhabitants of the area, who were fishermen, hunters, and gatherers. This name is included in the district's land acknowledgement, which is recited at meetings and serves as an important reminder of the history and ongoing presence of Indigenous communities.

This name demonstrates a commitment to truth, recognition, and respect. It provides an opportunity for education and learning about Indigenous history, culture, and language, and supports district efforts to elevate Indigenous voices and perspectives.

Sdohobsh Middle School is a meaningful and powerful name that acknowledges the land's original stewards and reinforces values of inclusion, respect, and cultural understanding. It invites ongoing dialogue and learning, helping students develop a deeper awareness of the history of the place they live and learn.

Yusawiac Middle School [you-saw-wee-oots]

Yusawiac Middle School takes its name from the Lushootseed word meaning “alder tree,” a plant traditionally used by Indigenous peoples for medicine, food, and tools. The alder tree plays a unique and important role in the natural environment. It thrives in challenging conditions and helps restore the land by enriching the soil, allowing other plants and trees to grow where they otherwise could not.

As a symbol, the alder represents resilience, renewal, and community. By creating shelter and opportunity for other plants to flourish, it reflects principles of support, collaboration, and collective growth. These qualities closely align with the purpose of a middle school, where students are supported academically, socially, and emotionally during a critical period of development.

The name Yusawiac connects students to Indigenous language, cultural knowledge, and the natural environment. It offers a meaningful, educational opportunity to integrate local ecology, history, and values into the school’s identity, making it a name rooted in both place and purpose.

Any Questions?



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