



DELANO JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MEDIA STATEMENT (FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE) March 24, 2026

Delano Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees Approves Use of Citizens Advisory Committee to Consider Renaming Cesar E. Chavez High School

Delano, CA — At a special board meeting on March 24, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the Delano Joint Union High School District voted to initiate a formal school renaming process for Cesar E. Chavez High School, including the creation of a Citizens Advisory Committee. The committee will include a diverse group of students, parents/guardians, school staff, and community partners. The Board also confirmed that the school's mascot, the Titans, will remain unchanged.

The Board's action follows recent media reports discussing historical allegations involving Cesar E. Chavez. While the District is not making findings regarding those allegations, the Board acknowledged the concerns expressed by students, families, staff, and members of the Delano community and acted in alignment with board policy regarding school names.

Superintendent Kenneth Moore was directed to launch the community-engaged renaming process within ten (10) business days. Consistent with Board direction, the advisory committee will submit one recommended name for consideration at the Board's May 12, 2026 meeting.

Due to terms of the original land purchase agreement for the school site, the District is required to choose a name from a pre-approved list of ten options. The list includes Mountain View High School, El Dorado High School, Millennium High School, Memorial High School, International High School, South Delano High School, Century High School, Unity High School, Harvest High School, or Freedom High School.

Selecting a name outside that list previously required an additional \$100,000 payment to the property seller—an amount the District paid when naming the school Cesar E. Chavez High School. The Board determined tonight that the new name must come from the original approved list to avoid an additional payment of \$100,000.

"The well-being and trust of our students, staff, and families remain our highest priorities," the Board stated. "This decision reflects our responsibility to maintain safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environments for all."

The Board emphasized that the renaming process is intended to ensure stability for students and staff while complying with District policy. Superintendent Moore has been authorized to take all necessary steps to implement the transition.