

Memorandum

To: Dixie District Board of Trustees
From: Will Anderson, Principal, Dixie Elementary
Date: June, 21st, 2019
Re: Dixie School Name Advisory Committee Decision

The purpose of this memo is to provide recommendations to our current Board of Trustees and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Yamashiro, to replace our current school name, Dixie Elementary School, with a new name for the 2019-2020 school year.

On May 24th, 2019, a Name Advisory Committee was imagined and charged with the task of developing a process for identifying 3-5 names to replace Dixie Elementary School. That process concluded on June 6th, 2019, with the selection of the following three names (Not in order of preference).

- **Creekside Elementary School**
- **Lucas Valley Elementary School**
- **Big Rock Elementary School**

Our team carefully reviewed the name submission criteria, developed a communication plan, provided dates for name submissions, assigned students to supportive leadership positions, and after a thoughtful analysis of the submitted names, narrowed our list to 13 names.

On Thursday, May 30th, and with the support of our Dixie Home and School Club and Student Leadership Team, our children, staff, and families had the opportunity to stop by our multipurpose room to each vote for 3 of those 13 decided names.

On Thursday, June 6th, our Name Change Advisory Committee convened for a second time to review the 13 names presented with votes attached to them and after careful consideration and reflective dialogue of each, agreed to move forward with the three names listed below for the following reasons:

***Creekside:** This was agreed upon as Dixie Elementary has a beautiful creek meandering around our campus, which is connected to our outdoor learning classroom and Debra DiBenedetto's work. This creek continues to be a source of scientific exploration for our classrooms. We also felt this name was inspirational.

***Big Rock:** This was agreed upon as the name relates to the Big Rock geographical feature off of Lucas Valley Road, Big Rock Trail, and Big Rock Ridge (Marin's 2nd highest ridge).

***Lucas Valley:** This was agreed upon as our school resides in the middle of beautiful Lucas Valley where the great majority of our community of learners live. This name resides from a 19th-century rancher, John Lucas, not George Lucas. We also felt this name was inspirational.

We were unanimous with our decision and deeply appreciative of the process and involvement of our community in this process.

Best Regards,

Will Anderson
Name Advisory Chair
Principal Dixie Elementary School

Links

[Committee Process and Timeline](#)