



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie District Name Change

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 8:28 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

I have lived in the district since 1971 (48 years) and was proud to teach here as well – always feeling good to tell people what a wonderful and special educational program exists here, to benefit all the children who live here. This unpleasant and irresponsible effort to change what does not need to be changed, has been promoted by an insignificant group of people who seem to have nothing better to do than raise divisiveness among citizens and in the community.

In my opinion, it is essential that the entire community should have the right to a vote on this matter in the next election – no one ever thought of, nor did I ever hear even one word of racism about the Dixie name in my years here, either at school or in my neighborhood. Furthermore, it would be a huge waste of funds to do this – funds which need to be directed to the classrooms, to broaden the programs which have been developed over the years. In addition, teachers are weary of years of dipping into their own pockets to enhance their classroom needs, whatever they may be.

We hope that the Board will see this entire matter as an incredibly foolish waste of time, energy and money.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



Marinwood



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Racism is always different to the privileged. Please get WOKE because it is no skin off your privileged a\$\$ to change the name.

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 7:40 PM

To: "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

And really it's mostly about power. Be conscious about wielding your and Power and privilege against the people we have deeply damaged since we brought them here. What's the pain from a minuscule name change that would compare to the years of being ignored, abandoned, and abused that the South represent.represents???The change would mean so much in the realm of human kindness. BeKIND!

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S8+.

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Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Change of district name

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Dixie board members:

My husband and I are very distressed at what we have been hearing--that a minority of outsiders is trying to change the name of the district in the mistaken understanding that it somehow reflects a racist past. I am sure most of you realize that the name was that of a founding father's daughter, and had nothing to do with the American south.

We have lived in the Dixie district since 1971. Our four children went through Santa Margarita, Vallecito and Miller Creek schools and received an excellent education, all four graduating from various campuses of the University of California and now all professionals.

This is not a decision for the board to make. If anyone insists on pursuing this course then it has to go to a district referendum and let all of us who have lived in the district for many years have our say.

[REDACTED]
Quin Harkin

[REDACTED]
Quin Harkin

[REDACTED]
Quin Harkin

San Rafael, CA 94903

2/4/2019

Dixie School District Mail - Change the Racist Name!



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Change the Racist Name!

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 6:37 PM

To: "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Sent from [REDACTED] Phone



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Please change the name

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 6:29 PM

From: [REDACTED] <shreyasnoyes77@gmail.com>
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

It is clearly offensive and we can do so much better. I fully support changing the name as does my family and many of our friends. Our kids attend Dixie Elementary and would be proud to see this change during their time there.

Thank you!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Noyes
[REDACTED] Pinewood Dr, San Rafael, CA 94901



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie Name Change

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 5:57 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dixie School District Board,

My family moved to Lucas Valley in the 1960s. I grew up here, went to Dixie School, Miller Creek, and Terra Linda. Finances, skin color, politics, religion, heritage - we differed, yet we were one community which came together for school events, field trips, swim team celebrations, sporting events, neighborhood potlucks, community parades, and so much more. I recall PRIDE. I recall FRIENDSHIP. I recall INCLUSIVENESS. I recall PEACE.

About 25 years later due to hardship, I moved my two children back to Lucas Valley in order to heal and get back on my feet. We were immediately embraced by this Dixie Community, and my two children progressed through and graduated from this amazing District. Once again I felt peace, safety, inclusiveness, friendship, and most of all - pride.

This changed in 2018. Suddenly, I was labeled a racist. I was attacked and censored on Next Door. My name was defamed on Twitter. The atmosphere here became toxic, frightening, censored and dirty. A group of organized, well-funded activists who do not live in this community, conspiring with Board Member Marnie Glickman Curtis, launched a planned campaign while this community was asleep.

Their goal to change the Dixie name and the subsequent aggressive campaign they launched has nothing to do with democracy, nothing to do with bettering the lives of the Dixie children, nothing to do with community vote. It was and remains a deceptive, vicious attack on this community focused on bullying, name calling, labeling, racial profiling, fear mongering, threatening, manipulating, lying, censoring and silencing.

I am disgusted! This is not the Dixie Community I grew up in. This is not the Dixie Community I moved back to. Never have I witnessed a group of activists, including your own Board Member Marnie Glickman Curtis who should immediately be removed from her duties, attempt to take down a community and divide people who less than a year ago were happily standing shoulder to shoulder celebrating Dixie Pride.

Would you teach your own children to bully, lie, cheat, censor, name call, manipulate, and bribe to get what they want?

Would you encourage your own children to make up process rules as they go while playing a game, and the loudest or richest or meanest wins?


Have you read the US Constitution? Do you recall the part about **We The People...**? Or will you tell your own children the US Constitution is "flexible" or "not applicable" when it's convenient for you?

I go back to my statement - I AM DISGUSTED! I am disgusted, disappointed, afraid and worried we have lost all common sense and common decency in this school district. If the Dixie name is to be changed, this decision MUST be put to the people in a fair and democratic vote. But to allow a group of Social Justice Warriors, and do not be fooled as this is exactly what they are, to penetrate this District and this Dixie Community and achieve a name change under the current (non) process is absolutely wrong and deplorable.

Do not be bullied. Stop this nonsense. If the Dixie name is to be pondered it should NOT happen like this. Step back, establish a legal process, then present this documented legal process so We The People can have a community voice. And in the meantime, get back to focusing on our children and the educational topics you were voted in to address.

I stand behind **#NOTLIKETHIS!**

Thank you for this consideration.


San Rafael, CA 94903

[Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>](mailto:commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org)**School District Name**

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 5:43 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Dixie School Board Members,

I am writing to you to express my opinion concerning the name of our school district. I am upset and distressed that people, many of whom are not connected to this district in any way feel they have the right to come in, accuse us of racism and demand that we change the name of our district just because they have chosen to be offended by it. Their reason?, that the name Dixie is inherently offense and racist; that the very name calls up the horrors of slavery in every person who hears it. In our hearts I think we all know this is not true, but we are running scared because we seem to be in an era of politically-correct witch hunts.

There is no doubt that slavery, which existed in this country from early colonial days until it was ended in 1865, is a horror, that it was a terrible thing to visit upon millions of human beings, it was and is a monstrous stain upon this country's history. We cannot make it disappear, it happened, we cannot erase it. Making the name "Dixie" disappear does not change the painful history. Dixie is just a name for the part of the country south of the Mason-Dixon Line. It is not inherently racist; it has positive connotations as well as being a word for a part of the country that supported and fought for slavery over 150 years ago. The name is found in many places: Dixieland Jazz, Dixie Cups, Winn-Dixie grocery stores, a girl's name, the Dixie Chicks and others. It is also a name for a place that is home for many and holds all the nostalgia and love of home, from swinging screen doors on hot, muggy nights to memories of chasing fireflies amidst the fragrance of magnolia blossoms. Who has the right to destroy that?

I believe much of the revulsion being expressed by some people is misplaced. It reminds me a great deal of the McCarthyism of the 1950's and I don't want any part of that. Our children need to see our school district and the families and individuals who live here deal with this issue with integrity and strength of character and not allow themselves to be bullied into submission. We need to vote on this issue as a district, as previously planned. If the majority want the name changed, then we need to change it. But we must not allow ourselves to give in to a vocal minority because we are afraid we will be labeled racist and will be hounded and vilified for having opinions that differ from from what this other group demands. If we don't stand our ground we only embolden the bullies and lose our right to free speech and our right to our own truth, and that is of great concern to me. Please vote to have the residents of the Dixie School District decide what the name of the district should be.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns,

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
94903



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 5:42 PM

To: "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dear Dixie School Board,

I grew up in Virginia in the 60s/70s although I moved to Marin in the 80s I still consider myself a southerner.

Until recently, I never thought about how racially charged the word Dixie is to many people. As the name Dixie is hurtful to African Americans, the kind thing to do is to change the name of the school and district. We have learned a lot since the 60's and it's time to correct past mistakes with names that are painful for some in the melting pot of America. Why insult members of our society with the name Dixie?

Thanks for your attention.

Best Regards,

[Redacted]
Larkspur CA
[Redacted]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

response to petitions

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 3:52 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Board Members-

My name is [REDACTED]. I grew up in Marinwood and went through the Dixie School District. After college, getting married and having two young daughters, I moved my family to Marinwood in 2005, knowing what an amazing place this is to grow up. In my opinion, Dixie does not mean anything negative here. Quite the opposite is true. Besides meaning excellence in education, Dixie means acceptance, fairness and respect for all people. It does not mean or stand for hatred or racism. Please do not change the name of our beloved school district.

In fairness for both sides, (folks wanting to change the name and keep the name) I'd love to see a community wide vote to settle the ugliness and division we've seen in our community over the past few months.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
San Rafael, Ca. 94903



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Relevant facts to be placed on record

1 message

We Are Dixie <werdixie@gmail.com>
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 3:50 PM

To the Dixie School Board,

We feel the following needs to be on record for what has been researched on the history of James Miller surrounding the naming of Dixie School District.

We also would like this timeline of what has transpired with school board member Marnie Glickman. We feel she has been far from transparent in her process to get the district name changed. In 2015, while campaigning to become a school board trustee, she stated that changing the district name was not a priority for her. Clearly, that is no longer the case.

Respectfully,
We Are Dixie

2 attachments

 **The History Of James Miller.docx**
1101K

 **MarnieGlickman.docx**
832K

San Rafael, CA 94903

Academic research on racial messaging and its impact in educational settings offers two key insights into the dispute over whether to rename the Dixie School District.

- Given those two research-supported, evidence-backed findings, it seems reckless and destructive not to make the modest effort required to change the District's name. To put it in more common-sense terms, **the name Dixie sends a subtle and implicit message of racial exclusion, of a kind that's been shown to do harm to students of color.**

First, leading researchers in the field of educational equity consider environmental factors such as the presence of racist mascots and monuments to Confederate history—the second of which, the name of our school district clearly is—to be a form of racial microaggression. This is a widely used and accepted term that emerged in the 1970s within the field of social psychology. It recognises the presence in many social interactions and settings of (usually) unintentional, subtle messages and assumptions that devalue or discount people of color, their viewpoints, and their historical experiences. The effects of microaggressions are cumulative. Dr. Derald Wing Sue of Teachers College, Columbia University, is one of the most prominent and widely cited researchers studying the psychological impact of such “near-invisible” messages of racial exclusion. Summarizing eight years of his team’s research, for *Psychology Today*, he writes, “these racial microaggressions may on the surface appear like a compliment or seem quite innocent and harmless, but nevertheless, they contain what we call demeaning meta-communications or hidden messages.” Sue continues, “some research and testimony from people of color indicate they are better able to handle overt, conscious and deliberate acts of racism than the unconscious, subtle and less obvious forms.”¹

That such microaggressions have a measurable negative impact on the educational experience and educational outcomes of students is now documented by a growing body of research. Because I am more familiar with the research on higher education, that is what I'll reference here; but similar studies with similar findings have been undertaken in K-12 contexts.

To start with the connection between an environment of racial microaggression and student success, let me paraphrase the key conclusions from the 2015 report, "Racial Microaggressions at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign," by Stacy Anne Harwood, Shinwoo Choi, Moises Orozco, Margaret Browne Hunt, and Ruby Mendenhall: In higher education, there is a *direct correlation* between minority students' perception of negative racial campus climates and lower rates of academic persistence and retention. Conversely, a positive racial environment is associated with higher grades and graduation rates for students of color. Among the impacts of racism experienced by people of color are harmful psychological and physiological effects such as fear, resentment, anxiety, helplessness, isolation, stress, and exhaustion. Chronic exposure to these forms of discrimination causes racial battle fatigue and undermines psychological and physiological well-being. Students have reported physical symptoms such as headaches, high blood pressure, and fatigue. Again, these are the findings of a study focused not on overt discrimination but on microaggressions and their cumulative impact.

Multiple scholarly studies also document the negative impact of racial microaggressions on the *self-esteem* of college students of color.² The authors of one study on the impact of microaggressions on African American college students summarize the resulting "sense of discouragement, frustration, and exhaustion".³

A list of selected further studies follows at the end of this document. In summary, regardless of how harmless members of our community may consider the name Dixie to be, there is ample evidence from educational research that *real and lasting harm* is done to the educational outcomes and self-esteem of students of color who must learn in an environment where even "subtle" or "unintentional" messages are present honoring a history that excluded and devalued those like them. I hope we will choose not to take the chance of perpetuating such negative impacts.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Professor of Literature and Language
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty

[REDACTED]

(Please note that I include my credentials for identification/authentication purposes only; I am writing as a private individual, scholar, and resident of the Dixie School District, and I am in no way speaking here for [REDACTED] University of California.)

Selected further studies:

Booker, K. (2007). Perceptions of classroom belongingness among African American college students. *College Student Journal*, 41(1), 178-186. Brown, T. (2000). Gender differences in African American college students' satisfaction with college. *Journal of College Student Development*, 41(5), 479- 487.

- Chang, M. J. (1999). Does racial diversity matter?: The educational impact of a racially diverse undergraduate population. *Journal of College Student Development*, 40, 377–395.
- Clark, R., Anderson, N. B., Clark, V. R., & Williams, D. R. (1999). Racism as a stressor for African Americans: A biopsychosocial model. *American Psychologist*, 54(10), 805–816.
- Goodenow, C. (1993). The psychological sense of school membership among adolescents: Scale development and educational correlates. *Psychology in the Schools*, 30(1), 79–90.
- Hinderlie, H., & Kenny, M. (2002). Attachment, social support, and college adjustment among Black students at predominantly White universities. *Journal of College Student Development*, 43(3), 327–340.
- Ong, A.D., Burrow, A. L., Ja, N. M., Fuller-Rowell, T. E., Sue, D. W. (2013) Racial Microaggressions and Daily Well-Being Among Asian Americans. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, 60.
- Reid, L. D., & Radhakrishnan, P. (2003). Race matters: The relations between race and general campus climate. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 9, 263–275.
- Smith, W. A., Hung, M., & Franklin, J. D. (2011). Racial battle fatigue and the miseducation of Black men: Racial microaggressions, societal problems, and environmental stress. *Journal of Negro Education*, 80(1), 63–82.
- Strayhorn, T. L. (2008). Sentido de pertencia: A hierarchal analysis predicting sense of belonging among college students. *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*, 7(4), 301–320.
- Sue, D. W. (2010). *Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
- Worthington, R. L., Navarro, R. L., Loewy, M. & Hart, J. (2008). Color-blind racial attitudes, social dominance orientation, racial-ethnic group membership and College students' perceptions of campus climate. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, 1(1), 8–19

Notes:

¹ <http://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/microaggressions-in-everyday-life/201010/racial-microaggressions-in-everyday-life>

² See, among others, Nadal, K. L. (2011). The Racial and Ethnic Microaggressions Scale (REMS): Construction, reliability, and validity. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, 58, 470–480; and Nadal, K., Wong, Y., Griffin, K., Davidoff, K. & Sriken, J. (2014). The Adverse Impact of Racial Microaggressions on College Students' Self-Esteem. *Journal of College Student Development*. 55. 461–474.

³ Solorzano, D., Ceja, M., & Yosso, T. (2000). Critical Race Theory, Racial Microaggressions, and Campus Racial Climate: The Experiences of African American College Students. *Journal of Negro Education*. 69. 60–73.



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Name Change

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 2:23 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

I think it's much ado about nothing of substance. I never connected the name of our school district with the Confederacy, and all the ugliness that it denotes. The name "Dixie" was not an issue during all the many years in which my children and grandchildren attended its schools, and I served as a teacher's aid and later as a special education teacher. There were so many outstanding educators in the 50's involved in the evolution of the the Dixie District.. As parents and educators we would I have been up in arms if we thought that the name Dixie stood for prejudice and racism. Through the years Dixie School has earned a well deserved reputation which has resulted in a positive connotation to the name, "Dixie".

I think we would all be better served, namely the children, by giving our attention and resources to the continuing betterment of our schools. It pains me to see this issue consume so much adverse attention and divisiveness.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>](mailto:commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org)

Name Change

1 message

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 2:08 PM

I am a parent of two former students who went through to Dixie school and Miller Creek School in the 1990's. I still live in the neighborhood. I urge you to change the name of the district and the school.

It is a shame and a stain on our community to have this name. It represents the terrible past of slavery and the racism that still exists in our country. We as a community don't need to contribute to racism any more. We live in an affluent and mostly white county and already have the burden of making all races and ethnicities feel welcome. Having a name like Dixie makes it all the more difficult to say we stand for inclusion.

The Dixie name is a hold over from the 1860's! Please choose a neutral name that reflects on the beauty of the area and the excellence of the schools.

I went to one of the Board meetings and saw the ugliness of the Keep the Name side. Please make the change that has been urged upon the school board for years. Have courage! Take a stand and do the right thing!

[REDACTED] parent of Dixie alumni

[Comment onpetitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>](mailto:commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org)**Dixie Name**

1 message

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Cc: [REDACTED]

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 12:14 PM

Dear Members of the Dixie School District Board:

Thank you for your service to our community and our children. I am writing to submit my comments regarding changing the name of the district. This issue has created more hate in this community than the Dixie name ever could. This is no more evident than logging into Nextdoor and perusing the comments in the Local Events page. The name calling and derisive comments, in some cases defamatory, are disgusting and inconsistent with the morals and values we seek to teach our children. What message or messages are sending our children (who do read Nextdoor) when we as adults cannot behave in a civil manner?

The Dixie Community that I know is warm, welcoming, inclusive and generous. Our Dixie Schools are staffed with top-notch teachers and staff who are there for the kids, whatever their needs and backgrounds. Parents and others in the community volunteer in classrooms and generously fund art, music, technology and other programs through CanDo.

We moved to the Dixie School district when our son was approaching kindergarten because we were blown away by the community nature of the schools. However, as the years progressed and we moved into the upper schools, it became evident that there are larger issues pertaining to bullying and lack of student support and services. In fact, several years ago there was a child who committed suicide on school premises, while not substantiated it was largely believed that bullying had a part in it. For these reasons, we did not continue to keep our children in Dixie schools through upper middle and high school. It would be our sincere desire that the Board be allowed to concentrate on the necessary infrastructure to support the students and teachers in providing the school community we all desire as opposed to a name change that will not have a material impact on the students.

What is the point of changing the name of the district? Not a single child will receive any tangible benefit. However, our children are already learning that bullying and

intimidation can win the day.

I sincerely hope that you make the right decision for our community and our children. Let the community decide this issue through the 2020 advisory ballot issue. If the popular decision is to change the name, so be it. But this deserves to be determined through a democratic process.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13 year resident



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

This is the right process and the right time

1 message

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 11:22 AM

Dear Dixie Board

This is the process, now is the time to do the right thing and change the name of the Dixie School District.

You may hear some voices say "not like this" but those same voices had the opportunity to participate in the legal process underway. The current process began last August 17, 2018 when I sent the previous board a note asking them to take leadership of the process about to unfold.

The name change could have happened in 1871 when the Marin County Board of Supervisors vacated and nulled the district - "The Board of Supervisors on Monday night last passed an order abolishing Dixie School District in this county, and ordering the Funds now In the County Treasurer to the credit of said District to be divided pro rata among the several Districts of the county" Saturday May 4, 1871 Marin County Journal

The name change could have happened in the 1950's when Dixie became a real school district instead of a one room schoolhouse. However with restricted covenants and real estate agents deliberately not showing property in our district to minorities there were no people to request the change.

The name could have changed in 1989 when I first asked about it.

The name could have changed in 1997 when the subject was first brought before the board

The name could have changed in 2003 when the board voted 4-1 to keep the name but promised to study the origins.

The name could have changed in 2015 when current and then board President Brad Honsberger asked the county board of education to provide a process for the change. If that process had been followed. We would not be having this process now.

So, Yes, like this. The time to change the name is now, Staying with the status quo is akin to voting for the name all over again.

"And a mistake repeated more than once is a decision" - Paulo Coelho


Dixie School District Resident

Dixie School Board,

We have been a part of the Dixie District since 1975. It is hard to believe that this is taking place and our board members are not able to do the job they were elected to do. We actually moved to this community from the South because of the schools 44 years ago and never once did I think the name was offensive.

I am writing this note to you today to tell you why I think that the community should vote for the name change and why you should not be forced to change the name of the school district on February 12 th .

Our peaceful community has been dragged through the mud. Our kind and generous community has suddenly turned toxic. All of this has been driven by a very small group of people, including one school board member, who want to change the name of our district. The pattern of their behaviors is reprehensible and should not be tolerated or rewarded. The Change the Name group has contacted every media outlet they can and have been attempting to make our small-town national news. They are trying to frighten this community into silence by threatening lawsuits against the school district and local community members and calling them names that are not true in order to get their agenda pushed through.

In my opinion the tactics to change the name have been dirty and extremely toxic to our community. Changing the name at this point would benefit no one and would continue to divide our community. We need time to heal and approach this with education as the top priority. Then our community will know this comes from a place of both heart and mind. We will not be labeled as anything that is not focused first on the welfare and high standards for educating children.

If the name changes it should not happen like this. It has all been handled so poorly and the board should not give into the bully tactics of a small group who do not represent the community as a whole.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

San Rafael CA 94903

[Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>](mailto:commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org)

We Love DIXIE

1 message

Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 9:32 AM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

1. **#NotLikeThis** Our peaceful community has been dragged through the mud. Our kind and generous community has turned toxic. All of this has been driven by a very small group of people, including one school board member, who want to change the name of our district. The pattern of their behaviors is reprehensible and should not be tolerated or rewarded. The Change the Name (CTN) group has contacted every media outlet they can and have attempted to make our small-town national news. They are trying to frighten this community into silence by threatening lawsuits against the school district and local community members and calling them names that are not true in order to get their agenda pushed through. The We Are Dixie group has not reached out to one news source and has tried to keep this issue local. The tactics to change the name have been dirty and extremely toxic to our community. Changing the name at this point would benefit no one and would continue to divide our community. We need time to heal and approach this with education as the top priority. Then our community will know this comes from a place of both heart and mind. We will not be labeled as anything that is not focused first on the welfare and high standards for educating children.

[REDACTED]