

Mr. Brad Honsberger, President
Dixie School District Board of Directors
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael CA 94903

Dear Mr. Honsberger,

There are three reasons we protest a name change for the District or the school at this time:

1. The petitions that were recently proffered, have one common fault: they say little or nothing about why they want to change the name or what is wrong with the existing name. These people knew they were going to do this six months ago, and now they are totally unprepared.
2. The word, "Dixie", is NOT a racist word, any more than the words, "chicory", "Gumbo", "Mint Julip", or "South Africa". It was and is a nickname for a large area of the United States, some of which tolerated slavery and some of which did not. For example, most men in Tennessee, including my great grandfather, fought for the North. It has been said this is a teachable moment; if some people, black or white, believe this word is racist, maybe now can be THEIR teachable moment. It is preposterous that they can submit Mary Dixie as a proposed name if Dixie is a racist word!
3. We loathe and despise the underhanded, deceitful and corrupt way this issue has been pushed.

We moved from Mill Valley to Terra Linda in 1976, and raised one son there. He went through Dixie, Vallecito, Miller Creek and TL, graduating in 2000. He and his wife and our two grandchildren (Vallecito) now live in our old house on Woodbine Drive.

Very sincerely,

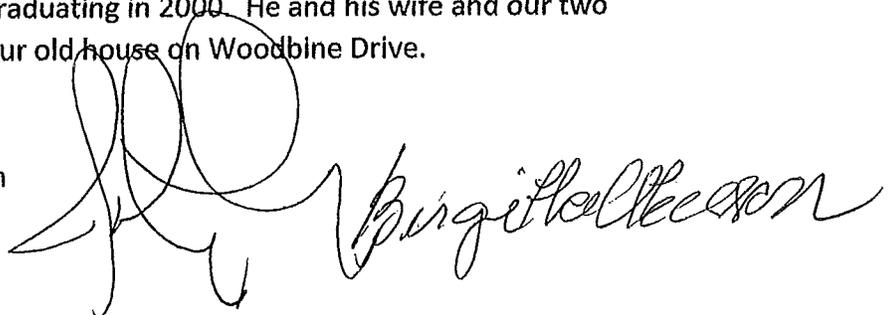
~~Jerry D. Moore and Bridgette W. Anderson~~

~~775-428-1000~~

Novato CA 94949

~~perfidious@comcast.com~~

~~(415) 887-0659~~





Kathryn Neville <kneville@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Fwd: name change - comments

1 message

Brad <brad.honsberger@gmail.com>
To: kneville@dixieschooldistrict.org

Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 7:23 AM

Hi Kathryn,

This gentleman had confusion on submission. Please place in comment email repository.

Thank you,
Brad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bill Robbins <williamrobbs2@gmail.com>
Date: February 1, 2019 at 2:06:47 AM PST
To: brad.honsberger@gmail.com
Subject: name change - comments
Reply-To: williamrobbs2@gmail.com

Mr. Honsberger,

I received conflicting instructions regarding submitting comments re: possible name change. This message is a backup copy, sent in case you have not received this elsewhere. If that's the case, would you please forward this message to the other board members?

Thank you.

Bill Robbins

Dear Trustees,

I do not live in the Dixie School District. I did live in the district for several years when I was a teenager, but by that time I was going to TLHS. I subbed for the district for 2-3 years about 10 years ago. I now live in Kentfield.

I suppose you all became trustees wanting to spend one night a month talking about budgets and facilities and staffing. Well, you can forget that. You're in a culture war now.

WHAT DOESN'T MATTER:

The expense doesn't matter. If it is wrong to keep the old name, then to complain about the expense is only a tacit admission that you're not really sure about what is right. And if the expense doesn't matter, then the offer of money to the district by some rich charity, on condition that you vote a certain way, is just about as crooked as it sounds.

How it looks doesn't matter, because that would mean you're more concerned with looking as if you're doing right, than doing right.

The possibility that some future board may change the name anyway doesn't matter, because they're not you. You're in charge right now.

WHAT DOES MATTER:

First, ask: What is this like? Has this happened before, to someone else?

Yes. The genesis for the current controversy was the 1994 campaign by the NAACP to remove the South Carolina state flag from the capitol building.

In that case, the Confederate battle flag had been used for forty years as the banner of the Ku Klux Klan, various white citizens' councils, segregationist mobs, and others opposed to civil rights. The flag stood for one thing: defiance of the moral decision rendered by the Civil War. According to those who flew it, slavery was a social blessing, white people were superior to black people, and segregation and the subjugation of black people was an appropriate model for society.

The modern civil rights movement arose in America after World War II, and of course this provoked an immediate reaction in the South. Between 1956 and 1962, Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina all modified the designs of their state flags to feature the Confederate battle flag. The timing of these acts could mean only one thing: the endorsement of the malignant, hateful sentiments recited above by the respective state governments.

This is essentially what you're being accused of here. But none of the elements of that controversy exist in this case. The name "Dixie" has never conveyed the same virulent meaning as the battle flag; it was and still is innocuous in the great majority of its uses.

There has never been any evidence offered that any person, in the whole history of the Dixie School District, ever used the name or promoted the name, or admitted in public or in private, any understanding that the name was meant to endorse the idea that slavery was a social blessing, white people were superior to black people, or that segregation and the subjugation of black people was an appropriate model for society. This is truly a crime without a perpetrator.

But, in order to create one, the name change advocates say that James Miller was a racist, offering as proof only that there were many Democrats living in the area at that time; and that he was a slave-owner, offering no proof whatsoever. This demonstrates nothing but their willingness to stoop to any accusation, no matter how unsupported and scurrilous, to have their way.

The district's name is also a crime without a victim. There has never been a showing that any student, or any employee, or any other person either within or without the district, in the whole history of the Dixie School District, ever suffered any identifiable injury as a result of the name. In the pursuit of victims, the name change advocates have cited quasi-experts, professors with degrees in Literature who presume to lecture on the subject of Social Psychology, using terms like "micro-aggression" and "belongingness" to trick you into believing that you're not qualified to understand the supposed harm you're inflicting upon unnamed students.

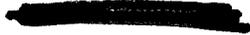
You are told, endlessly, that various people have had their feelings hurt. All of these accusations are entirely subjective, reflecting only the fact that our society has evolved to the point where we no

longer distinguish between being injured, and being merely offended. It also has the effect of dividing society into classes; certain people among us now have the right to demand of everyone else that they be humored. The rest have to tip-toe around these people so as not to inadvertently cause offense. The inevitable result of this is a steadily growing population of Mary Todd Lincolns: they shriek, they point, they stamp their feet, they turn blue in the face, and everyone else scrambles to correct whatever condition upsets them.

So, if you're not guilty of using the name "Dixie", then what are you actually guilty of? Listen carefully to the name change advocates and you will hear: you are white, you are wealthy, and your community is not sufficiently diverse. Now ask yourselves: would you be any less guilty of these things were the school district to have a different name?

But before you answer, remember that you are not being accused of having done something, but rather having been something. And isn't this campaign on behalf of victims of similar accusations? Black people were enslaved not for what they had done, but for what they were. Since it is impossible for you to stop being white and wealthy, the least you should do right now is whatever your tormentors say. It is understandable that you would want to avoid trouble, and the easiest, most obvious way to avoid trouble is to surrender to whomever makes trouble. But don't be afraid. Abraham Lincoln once said that right makes might. Do not underestimate him. If, in your heart of hearts, you truly believe it is wrong to call your organization the Dixie School District, then of course you should vote to change the name. But if, believing it right, you acquiesce in calling it wrong, in a craven attempt to placate the yapping, silly, vicious, self-important hyenas who plague you...

Then shame on you.



January 28, 2019

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Board,

I request that you change the name of the Dixie School District to any of the suggested options.

I have lived in Marin most of my life. I did not know that the Dixie name was related to the Confederacy, but now that I have been made aware it troubles me. Hostility – even subtle – toward African Americans is bad for all of us and should not be tolerated or condoned, especially by a public school.

Since the costs associated with the name change will be paid by the Marin Community Foundation and not by the district I do not see how anyone could reasonably object to this change.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope you do the right thing.

Sincerely,



Greenbrae, CA 94904

To: Brad Honsberger

Dixie Change

I have lived in southern states and witnessed racism. I too have experienced racism as a white woman being fired because I befriended a black person or being kicked off a bus as a child because I sat in the back. I was shocked to see the name Dixie in the state of California which was delegated to be a free state when it joined the union.

My children attended Dixie district. They made friends with children of many races, religion, and other culture available in Marin county.

I would be happy to volunteer to raise money or save money by stamping the books in the libraries. I started the Scrip program for the district raising \$10,000 the first year by myself. The program raised as much as \$80,000 one year. I helped with the Turkey Trot and I personally raised money to make sure all fifth graders went to Walker Creek. I was voted volunteer of the year for raising funds and volunteering in the classrooms every week for both of my sons. I would be happy to see funds made available for the name change.

When we pledge allegiance to the flag, we pledge "and Justice For All". This is the fourth request to change the name. If the name doesn't bother you at least respect the ones who are hurt by this name Dixie. Let's have a name that all people can enjoy.

[REDACTED] 105
San Rafael

[REDACTED]

25 January 2019

To: Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Yosemite Road
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: Change the Name of the Dixie School District

Members of the Board of Trustees,

Thank you for embarking upon this important process and for listening to the concerns of the public.

Although this is a high-energy, emotional subject, it is paramount that the Board of Directors demonstrate the leadership necessary and that they (you) make a well rationalized, thoughtful, but timely decision.

I was honored to speak at the Board meeting on January 15th and I hope to reiterate a few of the items that I believe are important to consider.

The majority of the discussion has been about the NEED to *Change the Name*, and in some cases how to go about funding the costs associated with making the proposed change. I believe the cost issued was adequately addressed at the meeting.

As I mentioned at the Board Meeting, I have worked in the Fire Service here in Marin for over 30 years. I am a retired Fire Captain from the Marinwood Fire Department and the current Vice President of the Marin Professional Firefighters and Chair of the Political Action Committee. I am a graduate of Terra Linda High School, a homeowner/taxpayer/voter and have lived and worked within the boundaries of the Dixie School District since 1974.

My point that I attempted to make at the Board meeting was just this; the logistics involved with making the Change may seem daunting and that there are some who may be concerned about the loss of 'identity' associated with changing the name. It may be anecdotal, but I do have a lot of history and experience with this same issue and I firmly believe that it's a non-issue.

Much like the school districts, public safety is funded by taxpayer money. We have to pass Tax Measures, float Bonds, and elect our Boards in the public arena.

We also have been around a long time. The Sausalito Fire Department for example was founded in 1893 and operated continuously until 2012 at which time it *Changed its Name* to be part of the Southern Marin Fire District.

Those of us in the Fire service are very proud of our history. We have dedicated our lives to the service of the communities and put everything we have into them. Much like the dedicated teachers and staff within the School District.

But, in the name of progress, we have time and time again chosen to *Change the Names* of our agencies to meet the needs of the communities and to adapt to the new fiscal and operational realities. At no time did these name changes get pushed out to the public for consideration; rather the Elected Officials who held office at the time recognized that it is exactly for times like these that they are chosen to make the tough decisions.

Sausalito Fire, Alto-Richardson Fire, Tamalpias Fire, Fairfax Fire, San Anselmo Fire, Sleepy Hollow Fire, Ross Fire, Larkspur Fire, Corte Madera Fire, Twin Cities Police and the Terra Linda Fire Department have all faded into the rear view as time as passed.

They have not been forgotten, nor have they failed to provide the highest levels of service to the public and communities they represent, they simply are continuing their long traditions under a new moniker.

The students, teachers, and staff will go to bed one night under the banner of the Dixie School District and wake up the next morning under a new banner. It's just that simple.

Yes, you will need to change the names on the School Buses, just like we did to our Fire Engines and Police Cars. There will be new ID's and credentials, new stationary and envelopes, and big new fancy signs in front of the campuses just like there were at our Fire Stations. Everyone will take pictures and likely have a renewed sense of pride in whatever name is chosen. These things are all just the trappings of change and signs of progress. They should be embraced rather than used as yet another red herring to argue against the push to *Change the Name*.

I personally do not feel strongly about any of the proposed names that were submitted via petition. As a public entity I would caution against using the Skywalker name without having addressed the potential intellectual properties concerns via your legal counsel. If I had to choose one, I would like to support eh name "Miller Creek School District". Miller Creek itself, as well as its tributaries, runs throughout Lucas Valley, Marinwood and Terra Linda. All of the other elementary schools funnel their students into Miller Creek Middle School. Much like having a Dixie School within the Dixie School District, the same could be done with Miller Creek.

I do strongly believe that time is of the essence. I know you are aware of the three-ring circus that this has become. The best way for everyone to move forward is for the Board to make a decision, stand by your decision, and work on ensuring the plan will be successful. Ideally the changes could be made over the summer, and when the kids return to school in the Fall they will be helping to usher in a new era and they will be writing new chapter in the history of the school district.

I know it may not feel like it at times, but you are fortunate to be in a position where you can make a real difference in the lives of the community and can positively effect the reputation of the school district and neighborhood.

Embrace it.

Respectfully submitted,



[REDACTED] (Det.)
147 Yosemite Road
San Rafael, CA 94903
415-827-5576

[REDACTED]

Jan 25, 2019

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, Ca 94963

Re: Name change

Looking at the list of proposed names "Miwok Hills" is my first choice. It should not offend anyone and honors the people who lived here long ago. So please change the name to "Miwok Hills"

Sincerely,

Norman De York

TO: Superintendent Yamashiro and the Dixie School Board

RE: Dixie Name Change

February 3, 2019

**READ THIS LETTER IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW THE DIXIE
COMMUNITY FEELS ABOUT THE NAME CHANGE ISSUE**

The Board has listened patiently for months to comments regarding a proposed name change for the District. Out of respect for the Board's time, and to avoid superfluous participation in another media circus, WeAreDixie will limit its participation in the public comment segment of the February 12th School Board meeting. However, in order to help guide your decision, the following compilation of comments reflect the sense of a strong majority of the Dixie community.

1. Limit comments on this subject at the February 12th meeting to one minute. It is unlikely you will hear much of anything new.
2. We ask the Board to respect the decision that the previous Board has already made. Put this issue to a vote of the community.
3. The Board should listen to the residents of the Dixie community. Not to people from outside the District and certainly not to late opining politicians who only spoke up when they thought it was safe to do so.
4. The Dixie District has always been an open, welcoming community, not what it is being depicted to be now.
5. Our children are being cruelly indoctrinated to feel ashamed of their schools by CTN advocates who are equating our Dixie with the Confederacy of long ago.

6. Use logic and fact, not emotion to make your decision. That is what we would want our children to do when facing important issues in their lives.

7. The Board has been forced to devote its time to this distraction, rather than its principal mission of educating our children. Do not reward the CTN advocates by caving to their pressure and bullying.

8. Consider the irony of demanding that the District change its name by the African-Americans who have appeared at Board meetings. The vast majority of African-Americans carry a name that was acquired by their ancestors under very disturbing circumstances hundreds of years ago. But it is their name now and should be carried proudly, just as we should all be proud of the Dixie name and what it represents today.

9. The Dixie District never was, and is not now, a reflection of the era of slavery and Jim Crow that existed a long time ago and very far away.

10 There are 8,000 African-American women in America today named Dixie. Should they be asked to change their name? Should every town, company, product, and music genre that has the name Dixie be asked to change their names? Should everything named Dixie be boycotted?

11. If education is the principal responsibility of the School District, can we just stop this wasteful effort and let the Board get back to its principal mission?

12. Wouldn't the time, energy and money being spent on the name change initiative be better spent on improving the prospects of our children? Marin Community Foundation should donate money for scholarships, not for this wasteful project.

13. Does anyone really think that changing the name of Dixie will do anything to improve the lives and future of our children?

14. The change the name effort is being led by a small group of mostly out of District activists and a Board member with political ambitions. A name change will stroke their egos. No one else will benefit.

15. We are proud of our School District and the quality education that Dixie signifies. Thousands of children who have gotten their primary education in the District feel the same way. Don't change the name.

16. Put the issue to an advisory vote of the District residents. Let democracy work.

17. Activists have the time and money to pursue their latest cause. Parents are busy working and raising their children. Do not be swayed by this professionally orchestrated, well-funded campaign.

18. We have children in our District living in poverty, requiring subsidized lunches and living in stressful environments at home. Let's put our energy into helping them, not useless name change initiatives.

19. Got time on your hands? Volunteer to work in the classrooms.

20. A peaceful community has been rocked by this name change campaign. Neighbors quarrelling. Friendships ending. Accusations of racism. Threats of law suits. Disgusting profanity being hurled about. And to accomplish what?

21. It is really quite depressing that the School Board is giving so much time to a small group of out of District activists.

22. It is too late to convene community forums. The well has been poisoned by the tactics used by those who profess to care about our children. Put it to a vote and be done with it. WeAreDixie will respect the wishes of the community. We suspect the CTN advocates will not.

23. In an odd way I find the name change initiative quite encouraging. What it tells me is that there are so few issues of real racism in our

community that the professional social justice warriors have pretty much run out of causes to pursue. In desperation, they have latched on to the Dixie name change to regain purpose in their lives.

24. Not a single member of this Board ran on a platform to change the Dixie name. In fact, Marnie Glickman deceived the voters by denying that a name change was her priority. If you run again, clearly state your position regarding a name change. If a majority of the Board is elected after stating they want to change the name; then go ahead, change it.

25. Why are you allowing people who do not live in the Dixie School District take up your valuable time? If people started showing up from say, Walnut Creek, Utah or South Carolina, would you listen to them?

26. The District and County are already being subjected to ridicule. Why are people in our County spending time on this trivial issue when there are so many legitimate issues that need attention? Housing, traffic, poverty, homelessness, educational challenges, to name a few.

27. Do the two new members of the Board really think they are already in a position and know enough to make such an important decision?

28. I am confused. This is a 150 year old, outstanding school district. How is reaching out to national media before initiating a discussion among community residents in the best interest of our kids? Why are School Board meetings being videotaped? Why are people giving interviews to the press? Who is this name change campaign really going to benefit?

29. One thousand three hundred twenty five (1,325) people have already signed a petition to retain the Dixie District name. These are people with a close affiliation to the District whose children are now attending a Dixie School or who have attended in the past. These

signatures were obtained by working parents, not public relations professionals and out of District activists.

30. Still don't know what to do? Take some advice from Abraham Lincoln. **President Lincoln** was desperate to unite the country once the war ended "with malice toward none, with charity for all". As the celebration in Washington was reaching a crescendo, with bands marching down the streets, he **made a simple request**. "**Play Dixie**. It is our song now".

Thank you for considering our input.

Victor Reizman

[REDACTED] Dr.

Paul Brunell

[REDACTED] d

Martin Slavin

[REDACTED]

Karen Schellenberg

[REDACTED]

Jessica Freilich

[REDACTED]

Isabelle Finney

10 Mt. Hood Ct
[REDACTED]

Frank Ridley

47 T. Park Circle
[REDACTED]

Ron McGinnis

1200 14th St. Dr.
[REDACTED]

Richard Wenzel

[REDACTED]

Maxine McGinnis

12 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Armand Pantaleon

3228 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Renee Adelman

94903

Submitted on behalf of thousands of proud Dixie parents, children and residents.

WeAreDixie

and we want to stay Dixie

February 4, 2019

Dear Dixie School Board Trustees,

First we would like to welcome Megan Hutchinson and Brooks Nguyen. We are looking forward to working with you and the veteran board members in the future. The reason for writing is to come forward as a caring and diverse group of parents and staff, for changing the name of the Dixie School District.

As a group, many of us have been quietly following the name change debate, while others have been more vocal. We feel the need to come forward now as we have come to a critical juncture. We are active members on the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee which exists in the interest of promoting a more equitable and inclusive culture in our schools. Some of us have been personally affected by racism in our community. The We Are Dixie website claims racism does not exist here. We can tell you that is false. Simply ignoring racism won't make it disappear and the ongoing attempt to negate or minimize our experience is hurtful. Because a thing is not considered offensive by the majority, does not make it inoffensive. The word Dixie's origins are rooted in the confederacy. Regardless of how the Dixie School District got its name, the word Dixie cannot be extricated from its historical meaning.

Not actively working to dismantle the racism that exists right here in our community only serves to marginalize and alienate a portion of our community. If all voices are not acknowledged, how does this benefit us? One of the board goals published on the district website is "academic success for all students." We would argue that social and emotional success leads to academic success. Continuing on the path of inaction is saying to some that they are less than their counterparts.

Changing the name of the school district is not going to fix the problems of racism, or of gender, or socio-economic inequalities but it will signal that the district is willing to take on the tough issues that affect our marginalized and least represented students and families. The district has taken some steps toward these issues through staff training and looking critically at the curriculum choices but more could be done. We are asking you to consider the alternate names that were presented to you by petition. Please work in the interest of equity and inclusion for all.

Sincerely,

Tracy Benning
Teri Bleiweiss
Quin Cowmey
Meryl Elinson
Tanya Egan Gibson
Kelley Lehman
Tina Mitaine
Tni Newhoff
Johanna Pino

David Vandenberg
Debra Wadford



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.

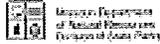
Respectfully,
We Are Dixie

2 attachments

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

 **MarnieGlickman.docx**
832K

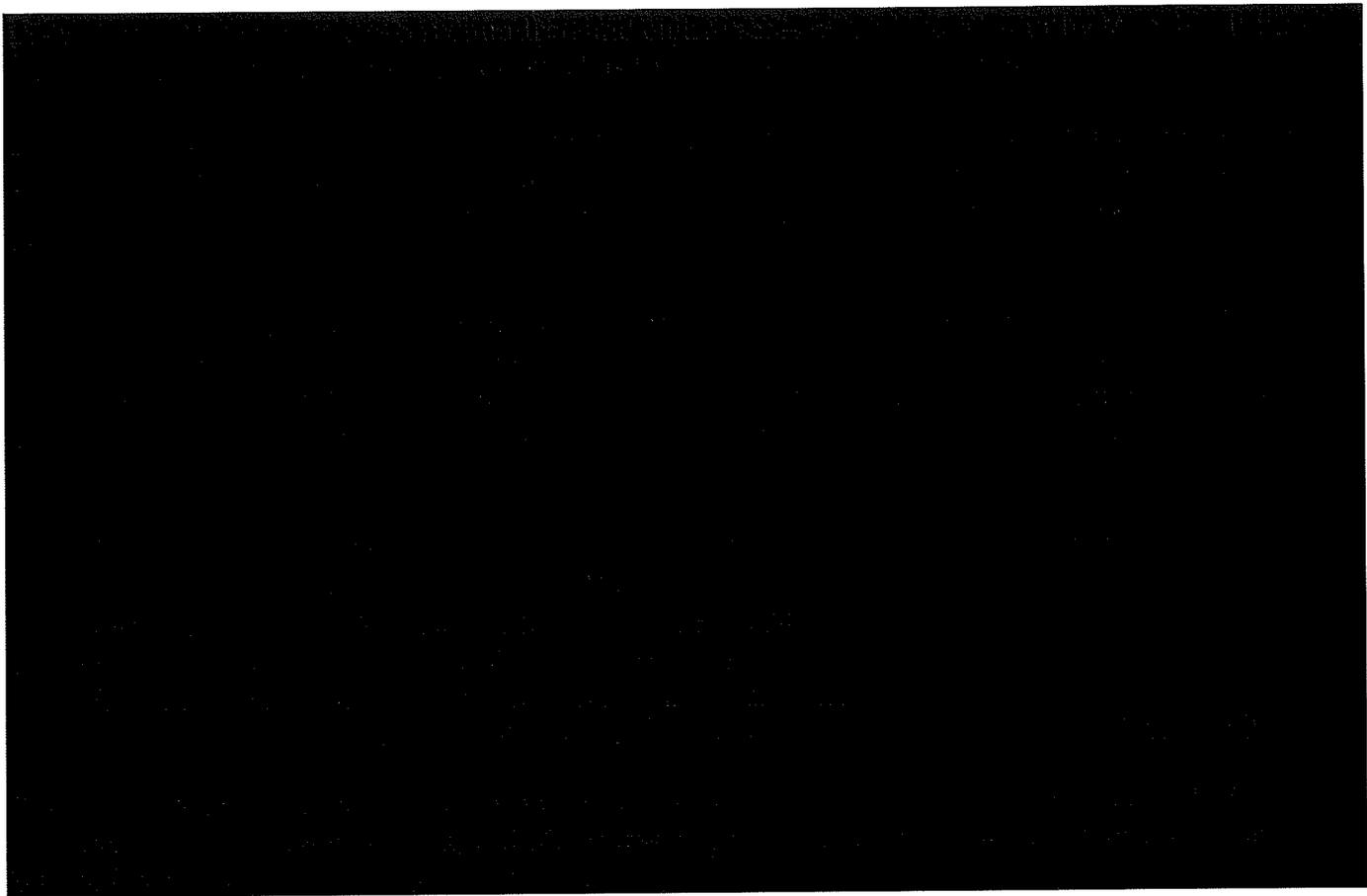
The History Of James Miller/Founder of Dixie School



Slavery's Echoes: Interviews with Former Missouri Slaves Slaves in Missouri by County

Please give credit to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources/ Missouri State Museum. The following information was compiled from the Federal Slave Census records by staff of the Missouri State Museum.

County	1820	1840	1850	1860
ADAIR			91	99
ANDERSON			67	62
ARTHUR			30	38
ATTERSON		155	437	1,109
BARRY		294	190	247
BATES			71	71
BELLEVILLE			141	112
BENTON		395	184	338
BELL				223
BOLIVAR	1,571	1,686	1,285	1,314
BOSWELL		217	687	1,011
BREWER			630	862
BROWN			185	195
BURK			127	309
BUTLER			2,089	2,646
CALLAWAY			3,683	4,890
CALDWELL			5,886	36
CAMDEN				313
CANTON			193	1,361
CARROLL			2,969	3,944
CASS			213	335
CECIL		212	236	324
CHARLES			556	879
CHARLTON			266	284
CLAY			140	305
CLAYTON			429	1,990
CLINTON			4,615	6,374
CLYDE			248	284
COCKERILL			1,065	1,206
COLE			1,206	1,279
COLEMAN			243	759
COLEMAN			1,572	2,837
COLEMAN			2,837	2,849





Board of Supervisors.—THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN COUNTY, May, August and November.

County Official Directory.

Jurist Judge.....J. B. Southa
County Judge.....R. B. Prie
District Attorney.....John H. Hays
Deputy Sheriff.....Val. D. Doub
County Clerk.....James M. Harris
County County Clerk.....Daniel T. Taylor
Deputy.....John Reynolds
Deputy.....James Dixon
Deputy.....A. D. Est
Deputy.....J. J. Grinter
Superintendent of Schools.....J. Miller
Board of Supervisors.....Oliver Irwin, L. K
Board.....A. Mills.

Justices of the Peace:
 San Rafael—U. M. Gordon, E. B. Mahon.
 Novato—J. G. Haven.
 San Antonio—W. F. Ramsey, N. Nuck-
 ists.
 Fumales—G. Spaulding, P. Murphy.
 Nicastro—J. S. Crocker.



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San Rafael—
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July 11, 1863: The raid of Lee into
Pennsylvania has resulted in one of
the most desperate battles of the
war. His army of 125,000 men, ve-
teran troops—the flower of the bogus
Confederacy, has been completely
whipped and overthrown. His im-
mense trains of wagons for the trans-
portation of plunder from the Yan-
kees, with his artillery, and munitions
of war have been captured or
destroyed. The Federal loss in killed
and wounded is estimated at 12,000
—the loss of the rebels at 30,000 to
50,000 in killed, wounded and captur-
ed. With this good news comes the
news of the capture of Vicksburg by
General Grant, when Gen. Pemberton
surrendered the Sebastopol of the
Confederacy. On the same day the
rebel General Price with 18,000 troops
attacked Gen. Prentiss, entrenched
with 5,000 Union troops. Price was
defeated with great loss in killed and
the loss of 700 prisoners. The bogus
Confederacy is about to collapse.
Stonewall Jackson has also been
killed, and also the rebel Gen. Van
Dorn.

Rejoicing at San Rafael—On the
reception of the above war news, our
citizens got up an impromptu cele-
bration. The District Court being
in session, the county was well re-
presented. Governor Chellis, the of-
ficers and guards of San Quentin
joined us and kindly brought over
some big guns, which made the hills
echo. After the firing the people
were entertained with speeches brim-
full of patriotism, from Hon. Alex
Campbell, Judge Southard, and Eli-
sha Cook. All had a rousing good
time. And there was great cheering
for our soldiers and generals.

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History Of The Miller Family

Continued from Page M1

errible. We had to go miles in search of the chips of the dried manure of the buffalo for fuel.

"ONE DAY would be lovely and the following would be coupled with misery and sorrow, and the undertaking was really heroic — sufficient to immortalize those who succeeded in its accomplishment.

"After weeks of drudgery and suffering, not to mention the fear of attack and possible annihilation by Indians, the monotony wore off as the snow-capped Rocky Mountains, in their solemn grandeur, arose in front of us. For a few days the change kindled within the human breast a hope that from the summit of the highest pass



tain we would soon procure a glimpse of the land of sunshine, fruit and flowers, which we were soon to possess."

But still a long journey lay ahead of the travelers with the ordeal in the Sierra described by Stone, Bancroft and others.

"And there were times," related William J. Miller, "when the hide of the buffalo or the rista was used to make soup for our hungry and fatigued wanderers."

WILLIAM J. Miller was also the source of information about happier days, after the Irish Millers had settled in Marin County, learned the Spanish language and quickly adapted themselves to the Spanish fla-

WILLIAM J. MILLER, oldest son of the James Millers, built this home in San Rafael at the corner of Fifth and B in 1887. It was later the home of the Fred Gibsons, and then was acquired by the San Rafael Elks

vored customs of gracious and hospitable living of the area.

Of Miller Hall, he said: "It was the mecca of the young aristocrats of the county and many delightful functions were held there. In the large fireplace in the spacious parlor the coffee pot always swung on the crane and delicious refreshments were served by the young folk."

Other early-day Marinites have left their recollections of Miller Hall hospitality and spoke of the beauty of its gardens, and of the fountain that "sprayed and played" in the circular pool at the entrance driveway.

IN A DIFFERENT light, two of the Miller girls had stood up as godmothers to two Indian babies. When their mother died, the father brought the Indian children in baskets to Miller Hall and presented them to their godmothers. The Millers raised the Indian youngsters as part of their household.

Sorrows invaded Miller Hall when the James Millers' daughter Julia died May 30, 1880. Mrs. Miller, weakened by grief followed her on Dec. 26, 1882, and in October of 1888, a son, Martin, was killed in a railroad accident.

Finally, on Nov. 25, 1890, the long trail came to an end for intrepid pioneer James Miller after a prolonged illness.

THE FUNERAL services were held across the road from his beloved Miller Hall at St. Vincent's orphanage, an institution in which James Miller had always taken a keen interest and to which he had contributed lavishly, so that he was sometimes called "the foster father of St. Vincent's."

Unmarried daughters of the James Millers remained at Miller Hall for a time, continuing the hospitable traditions of their parents. Kate Miller married John Keys while another daughter became Mrs. Joseph Kirk.

And the off-spring of James and Mary Murphy left their own stamps upon Marin County. Many reared large families.

Lodge and converted into a clubhouse. It was sold in 1961 Bank of Marin, which razed it to make room for its present bank building on the site.

Marin County Courthouse was built in downtown San Rafael in 1872-73, and a real estate dealer whose transactions included the sale of the Patrick King Ranch, near Larkspur, to the American Land and Trust Co. for \$26,000.

William J. Miller bought the northeast corner of Fifth Avenue and B Street in 1887 and built a two-story house there. In later years he sold that property and moved a short distance east to a two-story Victorian residence. The earlier Miller home was bought by the socially prominent Fred Gibsons. Gibson, in turn, later sold the showplace to San Rafael Elks Lodge No. 1108 which converted the dwelling into a clubhouse and used it for years before selling the property in 1963 to the Bank of Marin which razed the clubhouse and constructed a modern new bank building.

WILLIAM J. Miller died in March of 1916. His obituary in the San Rafael Independent listed as his survivors his widow Isabella, sons George and William A., his brother Bernard T. Miller, and his sisters Therese Miller and Mrs. Joseph Kirk.

in Marin affairs of it. And they reared four d and a son, first living sio where he had bou from his brother Maz then moving to San Raf

A story is told of h and Miller signed as witness for a San Quen on convict serving t murder, and pledged h on the Nicasio ranch.

WHEN BERNARD brought the man his San Quentin, neighbor horrified.

"Aren't you worried ing a murderer, ranch?" he was asked.

"Why should I be?" Miller. "He isn't mad it

Bernard Miller died i of 1927 at the age of 72, ing to his daughter, A olph Lietz (Frances nona of St. Helena).

WITH THE immedial bers of the James Mille gone from the r a n c l Miller Hall still stood, it was leased. Then on ; 1929, the Marin Journal this notice: "The Miller is reported sold for \$1 more." The acreage '61

I-J THRIFT-ADS

3 lines, 4 days \$3.00



453-4000

Old fashioned rates



ONE-ACRE HOMESITES WITH PRIVATE ACCESS



Mary Dixie
Celebrating 100 Years Old

Mary Dixie (MI Vol)

1920

1117



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MARIN MAGAZINE

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Timeless
happens here.

MAUNA KEA
RESORT HOTEL

EXETER

Wade Who?

BY KRISIA PAWLOWSEA



In Marin, many place names are attributed to the Miwoks, from Tamaipas to possibly Bolinas. Other commonly known titles are even familiar as they pop up in the names of area schools — we're looking at you, St. Francis Drake. But other monikers' roots are a bit more elusive. Here are some local schools and information about their namesakes.

- A. E. Kent Middle School is named after Albert Emmett Kent, who moved to Marin County in 1871 and bought the land that would later become the town of Kentfield.
- The Date School District does not have Confederate roots; it's named after Mary Date, a descendant of the Miwok Indian tribe who used to live in Vallecito, California.
- Edna Maguire School in Mill Valley is so called in tribute to the educator and historian who was born in 1858 and inspired students with tales of California's gold country.
- James B. Davidson was the first superintendent of the San Rafael City Schools district, which was established 155 years ago. The middle school there is called Davidson to honor him.
- San Rafael's Mary E. Sáenz Elementary School commemorates the woman who was an advocate for quality education in the Date school district.
- Neil Cummins was a principal at the Parkspur-Corte Madera School District; the elementary school there was named after him.
- Vallecito Elementary School in San Rafael gets its designation because of its location; it's nestled in a valley, or *vallejo* in Spanish.
- Wade Thomas was a principal of Mass School in San Anselmo and the school district's supervisor starting in 1923. He died unexpectedly while the school was being retrofitted and it was rechristened in his memory.

you

baking powder
flavoring extracts
and spices!

you like them, you

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(Under Section 5785 of
To Mrs. S. E. PAUL
It may concern.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
ing described property
County of Calaveras,
viz: Land situated in
site described as Lots
17, 18, 19, 20 and 21
the 25th day of June,
Collector of said Cal.

"Dixie," an Indian who had lived on a little ranch near Angels Camp for many years and made a living by selling wood, died last week after a short illness. Unlike others of his Tribe, he was an industrious, hard-working Indian. One by one, with the advance of civilization, the red men are fast disappearing from the face of the earth.

said
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CARVIN—In Paloma, April 29, to the wife of E. O. Carvin, a son.
TORRIANO—In Altaville, May 4, to the wife of Agostini Torriano, a daughter.

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MEDGER—MERTENS—In San Andreas, May 5, John Medger and Elizabeth Mertens, both of Angels Camp.

DIED.

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CHILDERS—At the County Hospital, April 29, Henry Childers, a native of Tennessee, aged 77 years.

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y said

JOHANSEN—At County Hospital, April 29, Nella Johansen, a native of Aorwaw, aged 63 years.

said
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WINCHESTER—At Spring Valley ranch, near Valley Spring, May 7, Sarah H. Winchester, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. McCarty and sister of Mr. S. W. McCarty, a native of Brooklyn, New York.

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CUNNINGHAM—In Campo Seco, May 3, Mrs. Barbara Cunningham, a native of Alsas, Germany, aged 73 years.

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nothing wrong when he did not leave his room in the morning.

James Rooney was never married and his only near relative is his brother. The funeral was conducted privately, on Tuesday, and, in accordance with a wish of Mrs. Fair, the body was laid in the vault in Holy Cross Cemetery, in which lies the body of his sister.

An old squaw, a familiar sight on the streets of Angels, commonly known as "Dixie's Mother," who is said to be a centennarian, had a bad fall last Wednesday. The poor old creature who is nearly blind, palsied and tottering from the writ of years, was moving along the board walk beside the creek near the Chinese quarter, when she stepped off the side and fell into the water, a drop of four or five feet. Although the fall would have been enough to kill any ordinary person of her age and infirmity, she managed with a great effort to reach the bank, and, dragging herself up near the houses lay on the ground. There she remained, wet, shivering and apparently hovering between life and death for several hours, while people passed to and fro unmindful of her pitiable condition. Finally a compassionate courtesan of the neighborhood covered her with a blanket and dispatched a messenger to the rancheria to inform her people.

A Scrap.

The Jamestown Magnet of Wednesday of last week says that the last event on the pugilistic programme took place Monday evening between J. W. Weinberg and James Donalson (both of whom formerly lived in Angels), two rival restaurant keepers. This was a one-sided affair, as the former positively re-

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4 of 4

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isco and Chas P. Snyder of San An-
dreas represented the defendants and
cross-complainants.

The Douglas Flat Mining Company
was granted a decree quieting title to
the mining premises involved, while
the cross-complainants were denied
any interest in the property.

Aged Indian Passes To Rest. Was 98

Calaveras County lost a historic
figure when Mary Dixon, Indian, 98,
died Friday morning at her home near
Albany Flat.

Born in Columbia, Tuolumne county
she was a member of the Meewok
tribe. While she was still a young
girl her parents moved to Albany Flat
where she spent the remainder of her
life. She vividly remembered when
James H. Carson and the members of
his mining expedition came through
to southern Calaveras in the summer
of 1848.

Married at an early age to Bill
Dixie, a young brave of the Si-yak-
um-na tribe of Calaveras, she became
the mother of 12 children. Two sur-
vive, Tom and Joe Dixie of Albany
Flat.

She was buried in the Indian ceme-
tery at Albany Flat Sunday afternoon
at 2 o'clock.

Funeral Held For R. W. Fredenburg

Mokelumne Hill, Feb. 9.—Ralph W.
Fredenburg, 73, resident of Calaveras
county for 43 years, died in San An-
dreas Monday. During the last two
years he lived at Mokelumne Hill. He
was a native of Michigan.

On his arrival in California in 1889
he settled at Milton, later moving to

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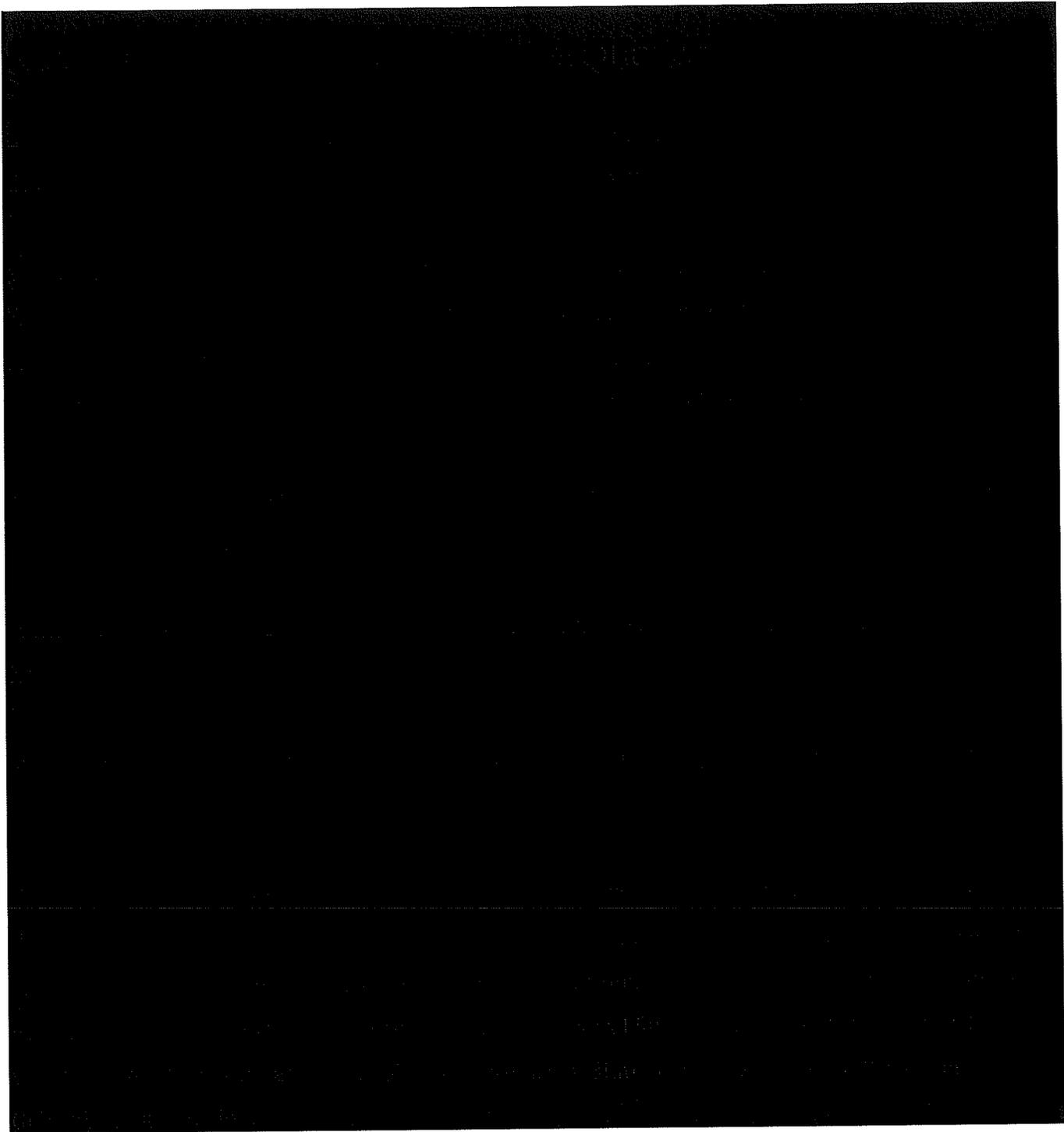
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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

PAPER CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT/2010 AMENDED EIMM/1 FIML/2010

FEC FORM 1

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

FILING: FEC-1074304

1. David Corbin 2020

San Rafael, CA 94903
Email: davidcorbin@corbin2020.com

2. David Corbin 2020

3001 University Ave, Concord, CA 94520
Party: Green Party
Office: District, President
State: In District

Affiliated Committees/Organizations:
None



Mirinda Glickman created a poll
May 12 @ 11:00 AM

Do I have to register with the Ohio School District?

Yes
No

11 Views · 11 Comments · 0 Shares



Mirinda Glickman shared a post
May 12 @ 11:00 AM

Do you have any more 915-638-8131?
by Tuesday, May 12, 1:00 PM EDT



Have Teachers in with Mirinda Glickman
Carlin and 7 others
May 12 @ 11:00 AM

We have good schools and good teachers! The
schools are great, and the teachers are great.

Marnie Glickman Curtis shared a post to Noah Griffin's timeline.
May 14 · 12

Marnie Glickman created a poll
May 14 · 12

It's time to rename the Dixie School District.

Yes	17 votes
No	0 votes

Share

No likes yet

Marnie Glickman Curtis shared a post to the group **Maria Grace Perry**
May 14 · 12

Marnie Glickman created a poll
May 14 · 12

It's time to rename the Dixie School District

Yes	17 votes
No	0 votes

Like More

See 2

Seen by 85 people

Marnie Glickman Curtis shared a post to Kerry Pearson's timeline
May 15 · 12

Marnie Glickman created a poll
May 15 · 12

It's time to rename the Dixie School District

Yes	17 votes
No	0 votes

Share

On May 14, 2014, Marnie Glickman shared a poll with friends and family on Facebook, which had been previously shared on a group page. In the poll, she asked if it was time to rename the Dixie School District from Dixie to Kerry Pearson High, Matt Galt High, and Sidney Schwab High. Marnie Glickman is the Dixie School District's superintendent.



Marnie Glickman Curbs is with Kerry Pierson and Noah Giffin at Dixie Schoolhouse

July 1 San Rafael

Thank you to Perry, the docent at the Old Dixie Schoolhouse, for a great conversation and tour today. I am grateful to my allies, Noah and Kerry, as we learn more about the origin and impact of the name of the Dixie School District. Photo by David Curtis. #TheMarchContinues





Kerry Peirson shared a post.

...

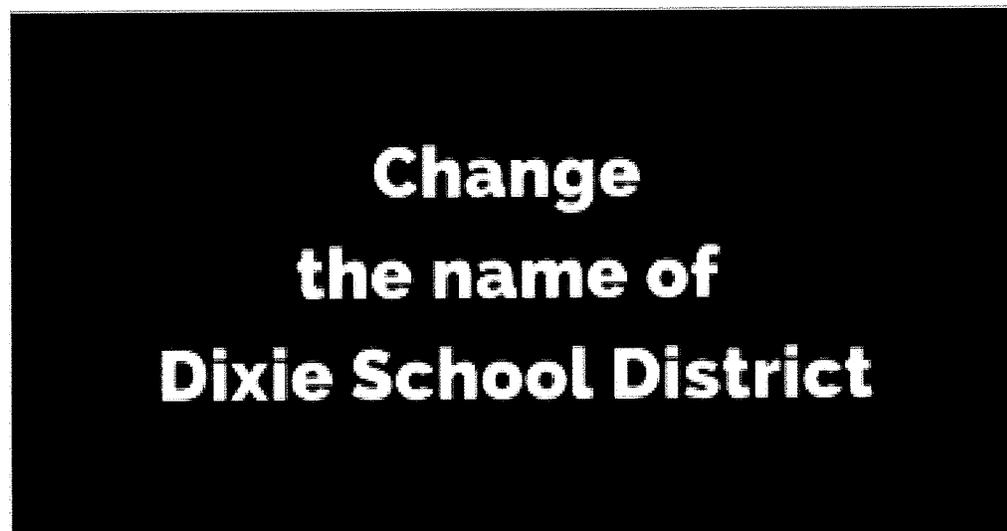
July 29 · 🌐



Sukey Schwartz

July 29

<https://www.changethename.net/>



CHANGETHENAME.NET

Home

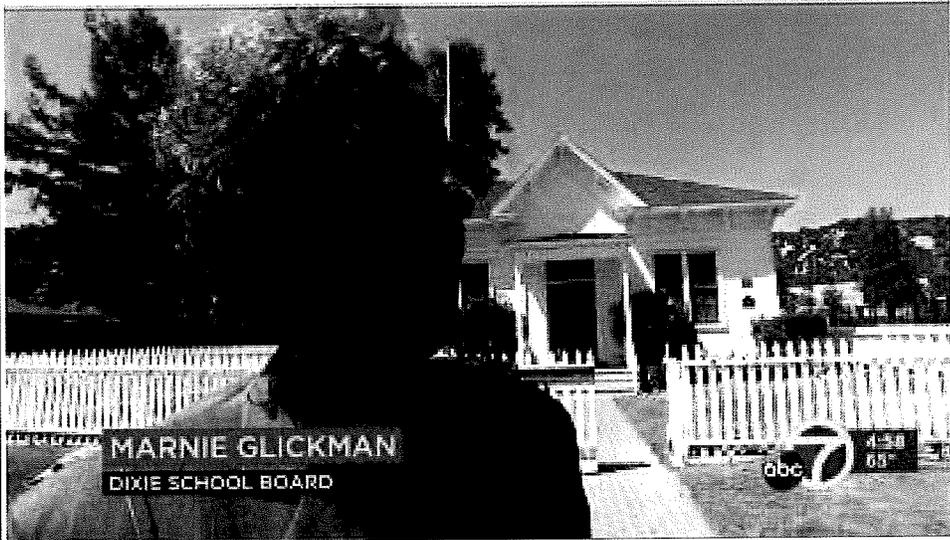
It's time to change Dixie School District's name to reflect the district's...



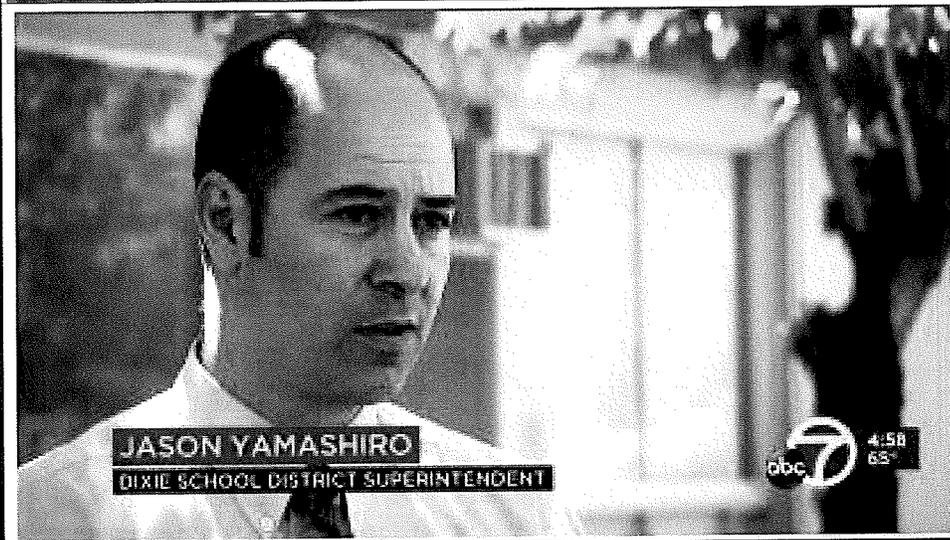
2

1 Comment 6 Shares





MARNIE GLICKMAN
DIXIE SCHOOL BOARD



JASON YAMASHIRO
DIXIE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



David Curtls @dc.us · Sep 11

@Marniemix speaking at the Marin Human Rights Commission – at Marin County Civic Center



10/15/2018
10:15 AM

Pratt
Law
Partners

10/15/2018
10:15 AM

October 15, 2018

NOEL SHUMWAY AND MANUEL MARTINEZ
Noel Shumway, Esq.
Manuel Martinez, Esq.
LLOYD/SHUMWAY
201 North Main Street, Suite 500
Wilmington, NC 28401

RE: Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Shumway and Mr. Martinez:

There is a proposal to change the name of the City of Fayetteville. It is proposed that the name be changed to "Dixie" by the Board of Directors. I am writing to you to inform you of the proposed change and to advise you of the potential consequences of such a change. The proposed change is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, which is the final authority on the matter.

As you know, the Board of Directors is the final authority on the matter. It is proposed that the name be changed to "Dixie" by the Board of Directors. I am writing to you to inform you of the proposed change and to advise you of the potential consequences of such a change. The proposed change is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, which is the final authority on the matter.

The attached page 1 file contains the text of the proposed change to the name of the City of Fayetteville. I am writing to you to inform you of the proposed change and to advise you of the potential consequences of such a change. The proposed change is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, which is the final authority on the matter.

Noel Shumway and Manuel Martinez
October 15, 2018
Page 2

if Board Member A has consulted Board Member B about the Dixie name change, they are forever off limits from discussing the name change outside of the meeting with Board Member C.

I know, as an elected official myself, that people volunteer for these positions with the best of intentions. None of the Board Members, including Ms. Glickman, should incur personal liability for Brown Act violations. In addition, given the strong public sentiment regarding the Dixie name change, this matter could end up in litigation and such violations would undoubtedly be revealed. I litigate regularly with municipalities and sometimes these Brown Act issues come into play. When they do, I typically make a public records request and seek all documents and emails regarding the matter. The attached email is one that would cause great embarrassment to the Members of the Board.

If you wish to discuss the matter, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



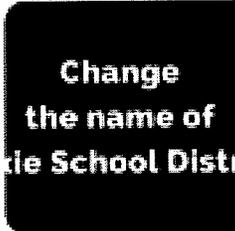
Elizabeth Brekhus

Enclosure



Marnie Glickman Curtis @marniemix · Oct 16

Stand up for racial justice with me. We will not be silent in the face of bullying and threats. Help us change the name of #Dixie School District named after the Confederacy during the Civil War. It's time to #LoseTheLostCause changethename.net @surjbayarea @SURJMarin



Home
changethename.net

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Follow

SURJ Bay Area

@surjbayarea

Showing Up for Racial Justice - Bay Area
-Moving white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability.

...Marnie Glickman Curtis, a white woman, was one of the leaders of the group. She was one of the people who brought the issue to a public gathering in November 2015. Marnie Glickman Curtis was one of the leaders of the group. She was one of the people who brought the issue to a public gathering in November 2015. Marnie Glickman Curtis was one of the leaders of the group. She was one of the people who brought the issue to a public gathering in November 2015.

November 2015. The Change the Name group came out with a letter to their school board naming Marnie Glickman Curtis as one of their group's leaders. Jumping on the bandwagon in

It Ain't Over Till It's Over

By Noah Griffin

As an interim report, we in the Change The Name coalition have much to be heartened by. What began as a lone quest by Kerry Peirson 21 years ago has been supplemented by the courage and leadership skills of District Trustee Marnie Glickman. Add to that the scores of parents, organizers, social media experts, community leaders, historians and social justice warriors. Thank you.

Our issue has gained traction and supporters which are growing day by day. Recently added to our cause is the Marin Interfaith Council, the Marin Community Foundation's President and CEO Tom Peters and Vice President of Engagement Jonathan Logan and County Supervisor Kate Sears.

The Marin IJ Editorial Board has flatly stated the Trustees should lead the name change. The letters to the editor and op-eds from our supporters have been key in persuading those on the fence or needing cover to declare their support.

Our wave of support continues to grow and momentum shifts our way. This story has national implications as a feature piece and is ripe for a documentary. In many ways, we are trying to save Marin County from itself.

With all the positive news, the name change party and the upcoming dates to present names to the Board and side fundraising efforts, we still need to be mindful of the fact we have not crossed the finish line and will not be on the other side unless and until the name is changed. We have to stay vigilant, stay active and keep applying the pressure.



@mantentix
Lucas Valley, California



24 likes

@mantentix Big guns join fray in #Dixie turmoil #Mann #SanRafael #vickipedia!m The news is great! And, I love this picture.



12/24/2017

12/21/2018

Mary Jane Burke

Martin County Superintendent of Schools

superintendent@mcps@martincountyva.gov | 415.493.5801

Superintendent Burke,

I am writing to you as a parent of a Dixie School District student.

Alisa Charlin should resign from the Dixie School District board of trustees.

She has violated her oath of office on multiple occasions.

1. She participated in both closed session and open session violations of the Brown act as documented in the recent letters from two attorneys by two different district members/trustees.

She conspired with former Trustee Schott and Trustee Hunsberger to delay potential efforts to legally change the name through petition, and brought forward a forced vote of a non-agendued item to require a public vote on the issue in two years. This action does nothing to prevent petitions. She is literally wasting everyone's time.

2. She has blocked for no legitimate reason, Trustee Glickman from having multiple agenda items during her service as a VP.

3. She has had committee meetings in violation of the Brown Act to block the effort to change the name of the district. This is documented in two attorney letters to the district that have been posted to the district website.

4. She has publicly stated (in open session) she intends to block attempts to bring forward petitions to change the district name. Petitioning is constitutionally protected.

5. She is impatient. She directed staff to send an email deadline poll to invite trustees to what would have been a meeting to discuss subject matter that also would have been a Brown Act violation.

6. Her performance at meetings: she is often barely awake, frequently yawns, and barely maintains focus.

7. She routinely ignores other trustee's requests in open session. She literally acts as if she did



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

I implore you in the name of LOVE, change the name

1 message

Bruce Anderson <bruce@home2150.com>
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 9:30 AM

Dear Dixie School board:

Please change the name of the school district. Named in 1863 by James Miller on a dare by his neighbors who were building the schoolhouse ^{1,2}, it is time to let go of "Dixie". His intent is lost in history and is argued today. The effect however remains. "Dixie" cannot be dressed up for me. I will share why below.

A new name should be one that the community can say with pride "I go to school in the xxx" district." I hope that you vote to change the name to Live Oak Valley Elementary School District or LOVE School District for short. I imagine the first people those many years ago coming over the hills and spying our valley. Seeing the abundant live oaks with a bounty of acorns for food. Streams full of fish. The feeling they must have felt was akin to Love. The words they used to name the place may be gone by that feeling remains. Love is what we came here for. Love is the opening door. Please vote for LOVE. Live Oak Valley Elementary School District.

Why "Dixie" can't be dressed up and should be changed. While the origination of the name for the Dixie School District is rooted in honoring the antebellum south, that is not the only reason "Dixie" is an offensive name to me and many people of color.

The root of my trepidation in 1989 about delivering my six year old son to a school named Dixie began when I was young.

When I was young we watched TV on one of three channels at night. I have a strong memory of all three channels telling the story of a young black boy, Emmett Till, being beaten and killed when he visited Dixie. His crime- he looked a white woman in the eye. I vividly remember the image of his badly beaten body in my mother's JET magazine. Killed in Dixie.

I was 8.

For the next 10 years all manner of abuse was heaped on people that looked like me by people in Dixie. In Sacramento, California I was an interested observer.

I watched as people all over Dixie resisted Brown V Education by any means possible. It played out on those three channels. Beatings, Riots, School Closings. I watched as people that looked like me were denied lunch rooms, clean toilets, clean water fountains throughout Dixie.

I listened as Senator James Eastland told the world that segregation would never end in Dixie. Followed by a host of Governors standing in school house entrances throughout Dixie proclaiming "We are Dixie" and vowing that people who looked like me would never enter their schools.

I watched as people who looked like me were dragged out of lunch counters just for sitting on a stool in Dixie. Throughout Dixie the inevitable change was resisted and fought by those that wanted to keep Dixie,

Dixie.

There are many more images of Dixie formed those years. Dixie was not a place I ever wanted to be.

That is what drives me to change this name. No person should feel any trepidation about delivering their child to school because of a name.

No teacher should ever feel any trepidation about working for a school district because of a name. Has that happened here? A question to ask is why has there been only one african american teacher in the history of the school district? Has a form of external restrictive covenants (the name of the "district) put trepidation in the mind of the potential applicant? By the way, Branson has three African American teachers.

A name change is the right thing to do. Now is the right time to change it.

Bruce Anderson
Resident of District
Father of Graduate
Guardian of current 7th grader.

¹ Attachment 1 - 1972 Dixie Schoolhouse application for Historical status. Ref page 5 paragraph 3

² Attachment 2 - Assessment of name history.

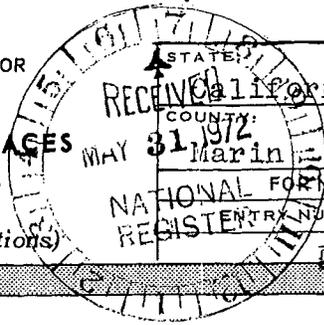
2 attachments

 **1972_National Registry of Historical Places_Dixie School House Application_12/26/1972.pdf**
693K

 **CElliott-DixieSchoolDistNameHistEval-2018.pdf**
145K

PH 005 1028

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**



STATE: California
COUNTY: Marin
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
FORMS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: DEC 26 1972

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Dixie Schoolhouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Dixie School

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2255 Las Gallinas Avenue (on Miller Creek School property)

CITY OR TOWN:
Dixie Schoolhouse Foundation
San Rafael (correspondance address: 35 Trellis Drive, San Rafael)

STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: Marin CODE: 041

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) The school is undergoing restoration as an educational museum.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dixie School District

STREET AND NUMBER:
35 Trellis Drive

CITY OR TOWN: San Rafael STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Marin County Recorder's Office, Marin County Civic Center

STREET AND NUMBER:
North San Pedro Road

CITY OR TOWN: San Rafael STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Sites Project Survey, Junior League of San Francisco, Inc.

DATE OF SURVEY: May, 1964 Federal State County Bay Area

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Marin County Library, Administration Bldg., Civic Center

STREET AND NUMBER:
North San Pedro Road

CITY OR TOWN: San Rafael STATE: California CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Calif.
COUNTY: Marin
ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 26 1972
DATE: _____
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)(substantially)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

It should first be noted that in order to save the Dixie Schoolhouse from demolition, it had to be moved from its original site. Moving the schoolhouse was the only alternative to destruction.

The Dixie Schoolhouse is a rectangular one-story building, approximately 25' by 40' with very high ceiling space. It contains simple classical details. Originally the school building was located on a deck which projected approximately five feet from the building. Examination of the 1895 photo reveals this deck. Future plans call for restoration of this deck. The original foundation has been replaced by a concrete foundation on the school's new site on Miller Creek School property. (This new site is approximately one-quarter mile from the original site, and is part of the original James Miller land holdings).

Deterioration of original materials is minimal, although because of continuous and various use, the interior of the school building has experienced minor alteration. More correctly, it has experienced "addition." The room was partitioned, and a lower ceiling added in the 1950's. However this fixtures were not permanent and have been removed with no substantial impairment of the interior. The process of restoration has revealed the original wooden floor (it had been covered with linoleum), and blackboards. Interior restoration is now in progress.

The schoolhouse has a symmetrical facade with windows (four over four lights, double-hung wooden sashes) flanking the entrance. This entrance is a double-door with a single light transom above. The building has three bays across the principal facade, and two bays on the side facades. This is original to the building.

Details include Italianate bracketed roof and window cornices, and a simple dentil course below the roof. The building has a hipped roof with a central pediment above the entrance on the principal facade. The pediment contains a circular applique ornamentation. These details are original to the building.

Originally the school was painted white with details and trim in a darker color. An earlier and much smaller rectangular school-building (1864) is now attached to the rear of the main schoolbuilding. This building has served as an annex since 1868-69. It has no decorative details. In the 19th century, the school was surrounded by a white picket fence, and the main schoolbuilding had interior louvred shutters which will eventually be replaced.

During the 19th century, the roof, now asphalt, had redwood shingles; the Foundation plans to replace the present roof with wooden shingles.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

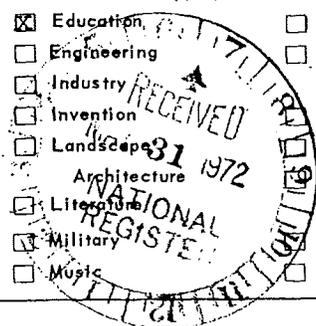
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1st building: 1864 - 2nd building: 1868-69

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>historic to</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<u>Marin and early</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscapes	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	<u>California</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dixie Schoolhouse in Marinwood (San Rafael), California is both historically and architecturally significant in relationship to early California. Not only does it provide a valuable link to the well-known James Miller family, but it is Marin County's last remaining mid-Victorian one-room schoolhouse which is substantially unaltered, and intended for viable, contemporary public use as an educational museum and meeting place. The Office of the Marin County Superintendent of Schools has verified this fact. The other schoolhouses of this era have either been converted to private residences or demolished.

James Miller and his family pioneered the overland trail to California in 1844 and, once here, contributed substantially to the development and growth of California.¹ Munro-Frazer and H.H. Bancroft both describe the role James Miller played in the famous Murphy-Stevens party of 1844 which, with the aid of the Indian guide, Truckee, opened the wagon route into California. Both they, and the more contemporary authors, Irving Stone and George Stewart, attribute the success to the combined courage and coolheadedness of Martin Murphy, James Miller and Elisha Stevens, and this history-making group has variously been called the Murphy party, the Murphy-Miller party, and the Stevens party.

Once safely into California, with the winter past, Miller brought his family to Marin in 1845. There, Timothy (Don Timoteo) Murphy, delighted to learn that he and Miller were both born near Wexford, Ireland, granted Miller 680 acres of the Las Gallinas Ranch where the Millers had camped on their first night in Marin. This land was part of the famous Mexican land grant which Murphy had received in 1854 from the Mexican government.

In 1849, Miller, long-interested in fostering education, built the first schoolhouse in San Rafael. In 1855 he contributed funds and labor to the building of St. Vincent's School (California Historical Landmark #630). The School lay directly across from his own homesite, Miller Hall.

Regarded by many as the "foster-father of St. Vincent's"² his interest in education continued. Although his older children

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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 at State Archives).
 Bancroft, H.H. History of California. (History Company Publishers)
 San Francisco. 1890.
 Board of Supervisors, Marin County, Record of Minutes,
 Book A-2, page 338. 1863.
 Dwyer, John T. One Hundred Years an Orphan. A History of St. Vincent's
 School. (Academy Library Guild. Fresno, California. 1955).
 (continued on supplementary sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		38°	01'	45"
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		122°	32'	43"
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

LITM
 10/53996
 4208956
 C1

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Pamela McGuire, Dixie Schoolhouse Foundation Historian

ORGANIZATION: Dixie Schoolhouse Foundation DATE: April 10, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
35 Trellis Drive

CITY OR TOWN: San Rafael STATE: California 94903 CODE: 06

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date MAY 3 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/26/72

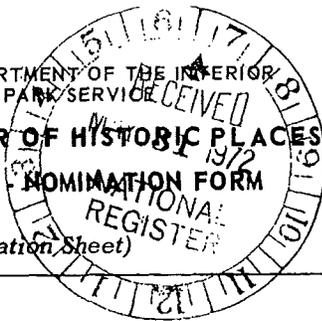
ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 12-20-72

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(Continuation Sheet)



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had been privately tutored, in 1862 when his youngest son, Bernard, was six, Miller donated 3/4 of an acre for the Dixie School which was to be built near the Las Gallinas home ranch, so that Bernard would have a school to attend. On November 3, 1863, the Board of Supervisors formally established the "Dixie Public School District", making Dixie one of the earliest districts to be established in Marin. The original Dixie Schoolhouse, which later became an annex and library to the larger and newer schoolhouse, was built in 1864. This fact is confirmed both by Bernard Hoffman's notes, and the Superintendent of Schools Report in 1899. Mr. Hoffman, raised by the Miller family, attended Dixie in the 1870's, and later served as a trustee of the district for 50 years. His notes, commenting on a 1953 newspaper article on the Dixie Schoolhouse, state that the "present annex to the main building was built in 1864. I have seen '1864' printed on its side. The large building was built later."

Mr. Hoffman's memory served him well. An 1899 Report of the Superintendent of Schools confirms this date. It also records that the "Dixie District is richest in proportion to population in the County. It joins San Rafael on the north and includes in its territory the St. Vincent's Orphanage where there are about 500 children. On account of these children the district secures large State apportionments. After paying all expenses large sums accumulate which are apportioned to the other county districts. The District was organized Nov. 3, 1863, and a house was built and school opened in March, 1864."⁵

Mrs. Frances Miller Leitz, daughter of Bernard Miller for whom the school was built, and granddaughter of James Miller, is still living. She has stated that her grandfather not only donated the land, but helped haul redwood from the Nicasio Mills for construction of both school buildings. A comparison of the later schoolbuilding to photos and drawings of Miller Hall shows a striking similarity in design principles, which suggests that the same architect was responsible for both. Mrs. Leitz also uncovered the origin of the school's name when she stated that her grandfather, not being a man to turn down a challenge named the building on a dare. Marin County, in 1864, was hotly pro-Northern, and the fact that several "gentlemen" from the South helped construct the first schoolhouse prompted someone to dare James Miller to name the school "Dixie." He did. Thus Dixie opened in March of 1864.

The construction date of the later building has generally been attributed to 1869, but, until recently, no documentary proof had been uncovered. However, recent research at the State Archives has provided substantial evidence that 1868-69 was the construction date for the Dixie Schoolhouse which bears such striking resemblance to Miller Hall. Starting in 1865, all County Superintendents of Schools were required to turn in an "Annual Report of the Condition of Common Schools." This

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report, now in the Archives, includes teachers' names, salaries paid, student attendance, money received, and expenditures itemized for the schoolyear. Thus we have a fairly detailed record of what occurred in each school district for the year reported.

Until the schoolyear, 1868-69, Dixie school property, which included schoolhouse and equipment, was consistently valued at \$300. In 1868-69, the total "valuation of property" suddenly jumped to \$1100, and for the first time the evaluation included a "library." It seems the first little schoolhouse now served another purpose--as library annex to the new building. A note in the Marin County Journal, Thursday May 29, 1873 confirms the use of the annex as a library. "The Dixie School, under Miss Giffin, has sixteen pupils enrolled with a good average attendance. They have a good school room with library attached which contains a very choice selection of works. It is considered a model school in all its appointments."

Finally, on January 9, 1874, James Miller deeded the 3/4 acre site to the Dixie School District on the sole condition that the property be used exclusively for public school purposes.

It should be noted that research continues. The Dixie Schoolhouse Foundation, responsible for the restoration and interpretation of the schoolhouse, has just recently come in contact with James Miller's two oldest surviving descendants, and many of the family documents, deeds, papers and photographs have yet to be analyzed. Frances Miller Leitz, James Miller's granddaughter, taught at the Dixie Schoolhouse, and will be of tremendous help in providing the Foundation with an accurate description of the interior of the schoolroom at the turn of the century, as well as daily school life, and life with the Millers.

The whole purpose in back of this restoration project is to return something of historical and architectural significance to current community use. Dixie is the only schoolhouse of mid-Victorian architecture which is still devoted to public use. Once restored and refurnished, it will become a multiple-use museum, serving as a reminder of James Miller's contribution to early Marin history, and as a place where pupils can visit on field trips, and gather for special classes, as well as a place where community groups may meet for various purposes

1. Marin County Independent Journal, July 10, 1971, "The Story of the Millers of Marin, p. M4.
2. Dwyer, John T., One Hundred Years an Orphan. Academy Library Guild, Fresno, California. 1955.
3. Marin County Independent Journal, Centennial Issue, "Fortunes for Ranchers in '49 Gold Rush, p. H8.
4. Board of Supervisors, Marin County, Record of Minutes, Book A-2, p.33
5. Marin County Journal, Vol 39, No. 20, July 27, 1899, p. 12.
6. "Annual Report of Condition of Common Schools," Marin Co., 1868-69.
7. Marin County Journal, Thursday, May 29, 1873, "School Notes."

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9.

Marin County Journal, Thursday, May 29, 1873, "School Notes."
Marin County Journal, Vol. 39, No. 20, July 27, 1899, Special

Edition.

Marin County Independent Journal, Centennial Issue, March 18, 1961,
"Fortunes for Ranchers in '49 Gold Rush," p. H8.

Marin County Independent Journal, July 10, 1971, "The Story of the
Millers of Marin," p. M4.

Munro-Frazer, J.P. History of Marin County. (San Francisco. Alley-Bowen and
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Olmsted, Roger R. and Watkins, T.H. Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural
Heritage, sponsored by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. (San Francisco:
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Stewart, George R. The California Trail. (McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. 1962).

Stone, Irving. Men to Match My Mountains. (Doubleday. 1956).





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September 23, 2018

Assessment of Name History: Dixie School District, San Rafael, California

After reviewing the historical documents compiled by Change The Name (www.changethename.net) advocates, as well as a number of supplementary sources, it is my conclusion that the organization's account and characterization of the historical origins of the Dixie School District's name are accurate. Following are my brief descriptions and assessment of key documents, as well as two interpretative elaborations about political party membership and local perceptions of partisan speech in the 1860s.

On November 28, 1863, during the height of the Civil War, alongside local real estate transactions, the *Marin County Tocsin* formally recorded the school district's establishment, location, and name "Dixie"—decisions made under the aegis of T. J. Ables (Superintendent of Schools), and JAS Dixon, D. Olds, and J. W. Buffington (Board of Supervisors).¹ The claim that the name "Dixie" was understood by local community members to signal support for the Confederacy in the early 1860s is corroborated by several reliable period sources. When the *Marin County Tocsin* (a paper also published under the name *Marin County Journal*) reprinted the anthem "Dixie" on its front page on April 27, 1861, the editors made overt reference to the fact that the song was the Confederacy's equivalent to "Yankee Doodle." This is strong evidence that the song "Dixie" was understood by Marin County residents to endorse the Confederacy and its secession plan. When, two years later, the staff of the *Red Bluff Independent* learned of the Marin School District's choice to name itself Dixie, their editors' disgust was palpable:

It is supposed, by the ominous name, that the young ideals are here to be "trained how to shoot" you. The most surprising thing about this name is, that the inhabitants of such a district should ever desire the establishment of such a radical thing as a school. Probably the effect of association with civilized people in this State.²

The first elaboration I want to offer to Change The Name's historical account concerns party affiliation and school district naming; simply offering local Democratic versus Republican party membership in the 1860s does not adequately capture the ideological diversity of the community. That diversity is relevant in assessing the meaning and reception of the school district's name. Many Democrats in both the American South and the North opposed secession, as the following January 4, 1861 letter from G. Mason Graham to William Tecumseh Sherman illustrates:

I feel as confident as I possibly can of any event not yet transpired, that an ordinance of secession will be rushed through the convention with breathless haste. The tone of the Louisiana *Democrat* ever since the presidential election has satisfied me of that—its last issue confirms it. Less than four weeks ago I proclaimed from the steps of the post-office, to an unusually large crowd awaiting the opening of the mail, that 'I stood by the Union, that secession was treason,' and no man in the crowd opened his mouth affirmatively or

negatively, although I saw men there—lifelong Democrats, too—who, I knew, felt and thought as I did about it.³

Graham's letter suggests that people were carefully reading the tone of newspapers, as well as their explicit content; tone was important because many people were remaining publicly silent about their views on the secession issue. Graham understood explicitly partisan political speech to be a bold (even perilous) choice in many localities; the period content of California newspapers (particularly in and around Marin County) suggest that many editors agreed with this assessment.

Using the term "Dixie" in the name of a public institution in early 1860s America was not a simple statement of support for the Democratic party; it was reasonably and broadly construed to be an endorsement of secession. In his memoirs, Sherman was more generous than the Red Bluff editors in characterizing the partisan political speech of cadets (sometimes termed "seminarians") at the Louisiana military academy where he taught after leaving California, in November of 1860:

The election of Mr. Lincoln fell upon us all like a clap of thunder. People saw and felt that the South had threatened so long that, if she quietly submitted, the question of slavery in the Territories was at an end forever....At our seminary the order of exercises went along with the regularity of the seasons. Once a week, I had the older cadets to practice reading, reciting, and elocution, and noticed that their selections were from Calhoun, Yancey, and other Southern speakers, all treating the defense of their slaves and their home institutions as the very highest duty of the patriot. Among boys this was to be expected; and among the members of our board, though most of them declaimed against politicians generally, and especially abolitionists, as pests, yet there was a growing feeling that danger was in the wind.⁴

In Sherman's view, such vocal demonstrations of Confederate loyalty were understandable in 1860 only because of the proximate "shock" of the election, and the fact the speakers were immature "boys." He clearly would have considered the same kind of speech from seasoned politicians, or other community leaders, as both uncouth and treasonous—as did the editors of the Red Bluff newspaper, who thought the Marin School District's choice of name was outrageous enough to merit comment and condemnation.⁵

The second elaboration I would like to offer concerns more local public perceptions of politically partisan speech. In the same issue of the *Marin County Tocsin* that covered the aftermath of the 1861 political duel fought in San Rafael between politicians Charles W. Piercy and Daniel Showalter—a fatal conflict resulting what they deemed irreconcilable differences related to the secession question—was a re-printed editorial attributed to another publication (the *Tribune*):

An earnest secessionist, whether of the North or of the South, may be very blind, but he is not necessarily a bad man. And, wrong-headed as we may deem him, we insist on his perfect right to his own opinion, and to pursue a peaceable course of action in open consistency therewith....He must refrain from shooting if he has any decided objection to being shot, and restrict himself to *speaking* daggers if he prefer that the friends of the Union should not use them.⁶

In an era, and locality, in which political differences could (and did) cause at least one fight to the death, I believe that the Marin County community accepted the "speaking dagger" of the Dixie School District name because, in context, rhetorical violence seemed preferable to physical

confrontation. The newspaper made its position condemning physical violence clear, pointing out (ironically) the dubious distinction such incidents conferred on the community: “another ‘affair of honor’ is on the tapis—arising out of the Shoawalter-Piercy duel. Of course Marin will have the honor of being the place where they will settle their difficulties.”⁷ On the front page of that same issue of the paper (which included war news about troop movements, accounts of government seizure of Confederate ships, and news about the real and perceived loyalties of African Americans in New Orleans and Native American tribes), the editors printed a long, patriotic poem about the American flag, attributed to a fourteen year old author, Mary Jane Cunningham.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties continued to hold local meetings (as indicated by 1860s announcements in the *Marin County Tocsin*), and members of both parties continued to participate actively in California civic life. The extant historical sources suggest that, in 1860 and 1861, leaders in Marin County took and maintained the position that a wide range of political speech—even virulent speech—was the best option for the community, because it could help preserve the peace.⁸ The 1863 choice of the highly politicized (and, for the majority of Californians, likely offensive) name “Dixie” for the newly- formed school district suggests that the community maintained that position throughout the Civil War years.⁹

Sincerely,



Chiyuma Elliott
Assistant Professor, African American Studies

¹ *Marin County Tocsin*, November 28, 1863. The names of the local officials with supervisory authority for the newly created school district were regularly listed on the newspaper’s front page masthead.

² *Red Bluff Independent*, December 11, 1863, Vol. 4, No. 36.

³ Walter L. Fleming, ed. *General W. T. Sherman as College President: A Collection of Letters* (Cleveland: Walter H. Clark Company, 1912), 326.

⁴ William T. Sherman, *Memoirs of General W. T. Sherman, Written By Himself*, Vol. 1 (New York: D. Appleton & Company, 1891), 152.

⁵ The *Red Bluff Independent*, July 21, 1864, Vol. 4, No. 100, reported the following incident about public performance of the song “Dixie” under the heading “A FRANK TRAITOR”: “At Grass Valley, on Wednesday last, says the Gazette, during a wrestling match, the band played John Brown[.] As the music ceased, Col. Wm. Watt, formerly a Senator in the State Legislature from this county, asked in a loud voice whether there were any representatives of John Brown present[.] Receiving no reply, he asked the band to play Dixie, with which request they complied. Col. Watt then arose and said, ‘Boys, let’s give three cheers for Dixie!’ and immediately commenced shouting and

swinging his hat. A few others joined him in his cheers for Dixie, but the call was feebly responded to, many Copperheads refusing to follow the Colonel's example."

⁶ *Marin County Tocsin*, June 1, 1861, Vol. 1, No. 11. Page 1.

⁷ *Marin County Tocsin*, June 1, 1861, Vol. 1, No. 11. Page 2.

⁸ During this era, an occasional California citizen voiced written support for the continued use of terminology associated with the Confederacy. An anonymous editorial in the September 10, 1864 *Sonoma Democrat* (Vol. 7, No. 48) signed by "ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL" mocked a church whose leadership no longer wanted to use the word "South" in its name: "Diqui instead of Dixie or South; or some word may be coined for the purpose, anything to avoid using the objectionable word South or Southern.— The Southerners arc not only to be *exterminated*, but every *word* that would remind us that ever such beings existed, is to be dropped out of our language."

⁹ The negative associations with "Dixie" were significant and enduring enough that a June 4, 1891 writer for *The Marin Journal* felt it necessary to offer an account of how such a School District name came to be: "During war-times the district was called Dixie by the Republicans in derision, and the name clung to it ever since."



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

We are dixie

1 message

[REDACTED]

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:26 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Please see attached.

 **Dixie Letter.pdf**
21K

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. Specifically, I respectfully ask the Board to reaffirm its decision to put the name change issue on an advisory ballot, accompanied by a rigorous analysis of the financial impacts of any change.

There are different theories about the origin the Dixie name and unfortunately, we'll never know more than we know today about James Miler's thinking when he named the district. There are also differences about feelings that people have toward the name. Some associate Dixie with the Confederacy and others associate it with educational excellence in an open and welcoming community in Northern California. The advisory ballot is the only way to ensure that all voters in the district can make their voices heard.

Another reason we need the advisory ballot is that sadly, the opportunity for open dialog has past. The division that this issue has caused in our small community has turned neighbor against neighbor and intimidated people from speaking up. The privacy of the voting booth will ensure that people feel comfortable expressing their opinion.

I sincerely hope that you make the right decision for our community and our children.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Dixie resident 26 years



Comment onpetitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Letter to DIXIE BOARD

2 messages

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:08 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Please note that I tried to send this from my work email account but I never received a confirmation of receipt so I'm also sending it from gmail. Hopefully i'll get a confirmation of receipt this time.

 **Dixie Letter 2.4.2019.pdf**
74K

Comment onpetitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:46 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Your email has been received. Thank you.
[Quoted text hidden]

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. Specifically, I respectfully ask the Board to reaffirm its decision to put the name change issue on an advisory ballot, accompanied by a rigorous analysis of the financial impacts of any change.

There are different theories about the origin the Dixie name and unfortunately, we'll never know more than we know today about James Miler's thinking when he named the district. There are also differences about feelings that people have toward the name. Some associate Dixie with the Confederacy and others associate it with educational excellence in an open and welcoming community in Northern California. The advisory ballot is the only way to ensure that all voters in the district can make their voices heard.

Another reason we need the advisory ballot is that sadly, the opportunity for open dialog has past. The division that this issue has caused in our small community has turned neighbor against neighbor and intimidated people from speaking up. The privacy of the voting booth will ensure that people feel comfortable expressing their opinion.

I sincerely hope that you make the right decision for our community and our children.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dixie Resident 21 years



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Name Change

1 message

[Redacted]

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:28 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hi:
I am a native of Marin County but did not attend Dixie School. However, I am very concerned that the School Board is being pressured by outside activists to change the name of the school before the public has had its say. While the name Dixie reminds some of slavery and Jim Crow, it is only a part of the region's history. There is much to love about the South if you have ever visited there, and continuing to bludgeon it with its past sins while it attempts to heal from it is unfair.

The newly elected Board members should not be saddled with this divisive issue when there are more pressing concerns.

Changing the name will not raise test scores or help it address its other challenges.

I urge that the Board postpone any decision until an advisory vote is taken from the district's residents.

Thank You
[Redacted]

--
[Redacted]

“What we learn from history is that we do not learn from history”
Benjamin Disraeli



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Please change the district name

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:31 PM


To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hello,

As a TL father planning on sending his infant son to Dixie schools, I kindly would ask that the district change its name.

My brief feelings are as follows: I can't fully appreciate what the word Dixie may mean to another - particularly a person of color - but I want to make every effort to ensure that children and parents from all walks of life feel valued, respected, and included in our community.

I would respectfully encourage the district to use this moment as an opportunity to choose a name that accurately represents the community's values.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best


CA 94601



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Keep the Dixie name!!!!

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:31 PM

[Redacted]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing to express my strong stance on keeping the "Dixie Elementary" name for our school. We have lived in the Dixie District for 12 years.

I think it's a grave error by wasting so much time and what would cost an extreme amount of money to change the name from Dixie.

We (parents of students and also long time Dixie District residents), need to focus our attention, care and resources to the students and the faculty, staff and administration who are Dixie school. The name has a rich history (which I fully believe has a positive connotation) associated with the name. NOT a Negative connotation.

Please honor the name by keeping it and not wasting anymore time and money on this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

[Redacted signature block]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING & CHANGE THE NAME

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:32 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear school board members,

I live in Oakland and work in San Francisco. From what I've heard in so many comments on the various platforms I've been following this debate, I should mind my own business and not care what happens across the bridge. This is a sad, insulated, uneducated argument/perspective. A school board represents the institution of education, the very place we go to expand our consciousness and learn of things outside our own limited personal experiences. If we all stay insulated and protected, unwilling to grow and change with the growing and changing society we live in, we will become brittle, small, obsolete and quickly extinct. Staying trapped in an old view because it is "tradition" does not facilitate growth & liberation. Many atrocious things were tradition at one point, including slavery. Tradition is hardly a good argument. It's like telling your child, "Because I said so." As educators, I'd hope you can do better than that. If we want to stay relevant, we must see farther than our own backyard. There are people right in your own community telling you something that could expand your consciousness if you let it. Some of the most powerful people are powerful because they allow themselves to be influenced by vastly different perspectives. (Maybe listening to the attached clip about Steven Spielberg & a race controversy in an Oakland high school many years ago will exemplify that.)

First the argument was that the school was named after Mary Dixie of the Miwok tribe, but if that's really what it's about, they would be happy to accept any of the 3 proposed names honoring this woman or her heritage they're professing to revere. Miwok, Miwok Hills and Mary Dixie Elementary all preserve this honor and render that argument null. Next the argument switched to them not wanting to spend money, which is a horrible argument, as we should all be willing to put our precious money towards positive change that dismantles racism, supports inclusion, progress and growing awareness. Nonetheless, now a local organization is willing to pay, so that argument is null. At this point, the vehemence with which those still holding to the old, despite facts and vulnerably expressed personal feelings, points only to how they are holding tight to their pride & egos, which is keeping them from feeling compassion or hearing valid arguments.

And all of this is my logical argument, saying nothing of the hope that our hearts and human caring factor into this, that compassion for our fellow human would be enough to make us actually *want* to make a change when something perpetuates pain and elicits trauma. That's the kind of world I want all our children to live in. Not a world where when you inadvertently step on someone's toe, and they shriek in pain, you turn and yell at them that you didn't mean to and therefore have no empathy and certainly no help while they limp away, and the whole neighborhood walks by them, still limping, telling them that so-and-so didn't mean to do it, and that they should toughen up or forget about it. I want the kind of world that says sorry, empathizes with the pain and/or helps them walk/with the healing. Please be that kind of neighbor.

You as the school board are the people implicated here in everything I have said. You are the ones with power to make things different and consciously choosing to bury your heads in the sand, if you choose, not too vote for change.

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/644/random-acts-of-history>

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[Redacted signature block]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie District Name Change

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:33 PM

[Redacted]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

My wife and I have lived in the Dixie School District for 50 years. My daughter went to school at Oakview elementary(now closed) and later to Miller Creek Middle School. I would like to see the District Officials not vote for a name change. I don't think of a southern connotation when I hear the word "Dixie". For all I know it could be a persons name or an Indian connection but I don't see that it means "Confederacy".

[Redacted]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Don't change the name

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:34 PM

[Redacted]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

This comes up every few years. Now its by a rogue board member with other political aspirations.

This isn't racist, it's a well-known school district. Keep the name.

Our daughter graduated from Dixie, Miller Creek, TLHS and now attends UCI. We've owned our house since 1992.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

--
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie?

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:34 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Marinwood and as a minority, I fail to see the sense in clinging to a name as loaded and triggering as "Dixie" is. Further, several residents have brought to light how baffling and hurtful it is to encounter such a name in Marin County, California, of all places. If even one person struggles with the historical connotations of seeing this name, isn't it behoove of us to change it?



Virus-free. www.avast.com



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Change The Name

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:36 PM


To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Dixie District School Board,

I believe in education, evolution, enlightenment, and progress. I believe the current board is fully qualified to see the opportunity before it and be champions of change. I know you respect advocacy, equality, and experiences. You are a caring person. Listen to your conscious and the people affected. Please, change the name.

Resistance to this 100+ year status quo is understandable. Human nature can occasionally be self-serving and many good-hearted people are skeptical of risks. There will never be a time without opposition to new ideas. All changes have friction. Do not allow a "passion for pause" to slow this process. Momentum increases power. The momentum is supportive of new branding and action. After 100+ years, I know the district is ready to mature to the next level. <https://hbr.org/2012/09/ten-reasons-people-resist-chang>

You are supported and respected. You are being offered financial support. You are being offered community outreach assistance. You have many poignant, emotional testimonials to refer to. You have more public support for change than you may realize. Now is the right time. <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ChangeTheName.net/videos/>

Delaying the decision allows tensions to continue escalating. Many stay silent in the face of ad hominem attacks as "We are Dixie" has done to me on their website and more. I recommend Common Sense Media as a resource for those affected by what has recently occurred in Dixie. Let's keep moving forward. <https://www.common sense media.org/cyberbullying>

Please do not consider deflective arguments on this important social issue. http://www.abuseandrelationships.org/Content/Behaviors/other_focus.html

I have personally advocated to address climate change, poverty, homelessness, human migration, diversity, women's rights, and sensible gun laws. I know personal passionate debates can be transformed to symbiotic partnerships and powerful progress. Action initiates healing. https://blacklivesmatter.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/BLM_HealinginAction-1-1.pdf

The incredible legacy of memories, volunteer hours, wonderful students, outstanding staff, and history will not be lost. Multiple people who have gone through a name change have explained this is a fear, not reality. Help your community move past fear and distraction by beginning the name change process. We need your bravery, detail orientation, and kind heart. Your district is ready to celebrate the future and stop reliving the past. Embrace the opportunity and be the Change.

Respectfully,



--





Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie name change

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:44 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hello Dixie Board Members,

My family and I have been residents of the Dixie school district since the early 1970's.

I can't believe what is happening in our community, the attacks by the change the name people are not only slanderous but of a bully nature. The actions of board member Marnie Glickman and her husband David Curtis are not only slanderous but downright threatening to community members who are ok with keeping the name Dixie. This is a democracy and the name change should be brought to a vote by the community not by bullying the board and keep the name people.

Marnie and he hub and are proclaimed political disruptors. This was planned way in advance by Glickman and her cohorts for political gain.

The previous board voted for the decision to be made by a vote on the ballot in 2020 which I hope you can uphold.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie Name Change

1 message

[Redacted]

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:45 PM

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

I am opposed to the name change, because at what point will this end? How many other names, words, phrases of speech, etc. could be considered offensive to some ethnic group, especially when taken out of context? Shall we spend all of our energy and productivity searching for every offensive word in the English language in an effort to eradicate each and every word that could be considered offensive by some individual's interpretation? And at what sacrifice? Consider what could be accomplished if that energy was directed towards improving the quality of our children's education and addressing the more significant cultural issues we face.

The origin of the Dixie school name had nothing to do with any of the connotations that would be considered racist, yet the name has been repeatedly contested for more than 30 years. Changing the name will only create a slippery slope that will lead to reviewing countless other potentially offensive words or symbols that have become commonplace in our culture.

When my wife and I decided to send our children to Dixie, the decision was based upon the quality of the school and the education it offered. It never occurred to us that the name itself could be considered offensive. Given the schools location, we took for granted that the name had some other origin than the context of the Southern states. That would be like assuming (by the uninformed) that Lucas Valley was named after George Lucas when in fact it was not.

The Change the Name movement is clearly an attempt by certain politically-oriented persons to gain media attention and further their agendas with no regards to the negative impact it has had on the community.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Forgot address on previous letter

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:49 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hello again,
I forgot my address on my previous letter.

[REDACTED]
San Rafael, CA 94903



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Please do NOT change our school name!

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:51 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hello,

I'm writing this email hoping my voice can be heard.

As a mother of 3 children I can ensure you that the most important things for children are our(adults) time, energy and money. Please, let's focus on our children and what tangible help we can provide them instead of useless discussions about name change. Children will not learn better in the same school with a new name, it only satisfies somebody's ears. Please do not waste precious time of highly qualified teachers, staff, board members and many other people who can really tangibly help our kids. Please do not waste our money, instead please help kids in need, we do have poverty in our neighborhood.

At last, I am certainly sure that WE ARE who make the school great, our school, Dixie school. I am a very proud Marinwood resident and very proud Dixie school volunteer. I love my community and I love to be a part of Dixie school. I met so many wonderful people here, amazing teachers, cheerful kids - these are my thoughts about Dixie name. Please, people who want to change the school name, come to the school and get the real help to our kids. Maybe start with a little, help with home work, it is much better then you sit in a room chatting what name sounds better for your ears.

Thank you for reading my opinion.

P.S. I apologize, my letter may have a lack of grammar but it has really strong positive emotions.

We are Dixie! We are great!

Marinwood resident since 2012



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

We Are Dixie

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:52 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dixie School District Board Members:

Changing the name of Dixie School District makes about as much sense as the following which came out today:

“The classic family film Mary Poppins has been branded racist by a US academic who accuses Dame Julie Andrews of 'blacking up' with soot while dancing with chimney sweeps.

In a piece for the New York Times, Professor Daniel Pollack-Pelzner criticizes one of the film's iconic moments, when Mary Poppins joins Dick Van Dyke's Bert to dance on a rooftop for the classic song Step in Time.”

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/us-academic-sparks-mary-poppins-blackface-row-a4056126.html>

Let's use some common sense in this matter of the name of the District. It should be decided by the people of this community who live here, pay taxes here, have children who attend the schools here.

The Dixie School District has survived for 150 years as such. Let it continue on for another 150 years.

If the time and energy spent on arguing about a name had been put to something positive for the children of the district, think how much could have been accomplished. This whole issue is unfair not only to the students, but to the District Board Members who have been charged with doing what is best for our kids! Let them get back to the job to which they were elected.

Thank you for your time.



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Letter to Superintendent and Board

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:59 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Superintendent and Board Members,
I have been a resident of Lucas Valley since 1970 (49 years). My husband [REDACTED] and I moved here primarily for the high standards and character development by all children attending the four schools in the Dixie School District. Our daughter attended Stanford University graduating with honors (largely due we feel to her exceptional Dixie educational background.)

I am a staunch supporter of the We Are Dixie voice and I feel the Dixie name change is now causing decisiveness in our local community. I am writing because I am against an early board decision based on the petition process and I feel it is irresponsible to ask new board members to make such a big decision.

Our community deserves to be heard. The CTN group (outsiders) are invading us with bullying tactics and threats - the only fair consideration should be a " community vote ".

Respectfully submitted,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

District name change

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:12 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Trustees,

In the name of kindness, please change the name of our school district. It does not matter where "Dixie" came from, only that it is offensive and even hurtful to many. Keeping "Dixie" in any form would also undercut national efforts to remove public symbols of the Confederacy, and of the slavery and Jim Crow for which it has always stood.

The origin of the name is irrelevant to the need for name change

We cannot erase history, nor should we try to. But whatever our curiosity about how our school district came by its name, the proper forum for the explanation is the site of the Dixie Schoolhouse, immutably listed on the National Register of Historic Places and now sitting on the front lawn of Miller Creek Middle School.

The need for a name change comes from the fact that, for most people, "Dixie" evokes racism. It may be something of a challenge to help those for whom "Dixie" is merely the benign name of their or their children's school district, people who are not racist themselves and have trouble understanding how to square their benign perception of the name with what most people hear. However, we can hope that they will learn to empathize with those, especially people of color, who find the name offensive and hurtful. It would be unkind to keep the name "Dixie." We should not be teaching our children unkindness.

We should join national efforts to remove public symbols of the Confederacy

We should also join in national efforts to remove all public symbols of the Confederacy, notably by removing Confederate monuments, names and flags from public spaces. See, for example, the following:

[<https://www.splcenter.org/20190201/whose-heritage-public-symbols-confederacy>]

The name "Dixie" evokes the Confederacy and all it represents. We should be joining in the national effort that affirms, "That is not who we are as 21st century Americans." The name should be changed. (My personal preference would be for "Live Oak" or "Live Oak Valley.")

Please, set an example of kindness for our children by changing the name.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Name Change

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:21 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

The name change is long past due.

We were never part of the Old South and there is no reason to retain this offensive symbol. We can do better in choosing a name that reflects ours own history.

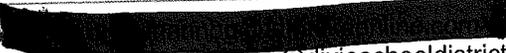


Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie Name Change Comment

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:26 PM

To:  commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

To the Dixie Board,

I'm a Dixie parent and have been staying completely out of the Dixie Name Change debate until now because I've been so saddened to see the personal and divisive commentary from (some) on both sides of this debate on Next Door and other forms of social media. I wanted nothing to do with all the back and forth. I've never really thought much about the origin of the Dixie name, to be honest. And I feel like the way this issue was originally brought forward by the CTN organization was not very thoughtful at all - referring to the community as a "Confederate Outpost" for example, doesn't seem especially fair or accurate or likely to win over many hearts and minds. And the response from the other side has been equally unfortunate - constant arguments on Next Door and, it seems to me, little empathy or interest in hearing what people of color - who are already very outnumbered in this school district - actually think. But once I saw a couple of moms in this position weigh in, and I heard what they were saying, and saw how they were being treated by some of the commenters on Next Door for speaking up, I decided to speak up too. While I can't associate myself with the CTN group because of their at times divisive approach to this debate, I DO support changing the school district name to something that everyone can be proud of. I support the people who spoke up and said that the name bothers them. It doesn't seem that hard to make the change and then move on — and making a fresh start seems like the best way to do so. I'd like to see the school board get back to it's main purpose - ensuring a great education for our kids. I vote for Lucas Valley School District, or any of the other more inclusive names that have been suggested.

Thank you,





Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Keep the Dixie name

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:28 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

To whom it may concern:

I am writing you to urge you not to change the name of the Dixie School District. I was raised in Upper Lucas Valley and attended Dixie School from 1971-1977. My parents have lived in Lucas Valley since 1970. I moved back to the Dixie School District in 1999. I have essentially been part of the Dixie School District for 53 years.

I have never associated the "Dixie" name with anything negative in my 53 years. Besides attending Dixie Elementary School and Miller Creek Middle School I was also fortunate to play baseball in the Dixie Little League and coach in the Dixie Little League for 10 years. My four children also participated in Dixie Little League and Dixie Youth soccer. NEVER once during this time did anyone ever bring up the Dixie name and relate the name to anything negative.

The Dixie name was not an issue until a small group of people made it an issue. Please do not try to appease a small group of people just because they don't like the name. The Dixie name in the Lucas Valley area has been a great and very positive part of our history here in the Valley. Most of us who grew up in the area have many great memories of Dixie School and only relate the name to our special area here in San Rafael. I urge you to not change the name and to not change the history and all of the good that has come out of the Dixie School District.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Re: Dixie School District

2 messages

Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 1:30 PM

[Redacted]
To: "achacko@dixieschooldistrict.org" <achacko@dixieschooldistrict.org>, "brad.honsberger@gmail.com" <brad.honsberger@gmail.com>, "mhutchinson@dixieschooldistrict.org" <mhutchinson@dixieschooldistrict.org>, "bnguyen@dixieschooldistrict.org" <bnguyen@dixieschooldistrict.org>, "jyamashiro@dixieschooldistrict.org" <jyamashiro@dixieschooldistrict.org>, "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

This is to confirm my position in connection with the process related to the name of the Dixie School District.

Dear School Board Members and Superintendent,

Thank you for your service to the children of the school district. Regarding the name of the Dixie School District, I ask that it be left to our community in the form of an Advisory Ballot in 2020 as was previously decided 4-1 by the school board in November. Along with those in We Are Dixie, I respect the right of everyone to hold their own opinions, but feel it is paramount to the resolution to this matter that is be fully weighed in by the people living in this community and not through political or media pressure.

Best Regards,

[Redacted signature]

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:25 PM

[Redacted]
To: "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dear School Board Members and Superintendent,

Thank you for your service to the children of the school district. Regarding the name of the Dixie School District, I ask that it be left to our community in the form of an Advisory Ballot in 2020 as was previously decided 4-1 by the school board in November. Along with those in We Are Dixie, I respect the right of everyone to hold their own opinions, but feel it is paramount to the resolution to this matter that is be fully weighed in by the people living in this community and not through political or media pressure.

Best Regards,

[Redacted signature]

2/4/2019

San Rafael, CA 94903
(23-year resident)



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Change the Name Comments

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 12:55 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Board Trustees:

We are attaching postcards from our son and daughter. Our family lives in the district and both children attend district schools.

With all of the current national media attention on unfortunate events happening in the South ("Dixie"), we urge you to find a name that will not detract from the excellence of our schools.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

2 attachments



Dixie Board from [REDACTED]
389K



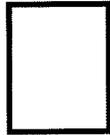
Dixie Board from [REDACTED]
392K

WORK FOR EQUITY, STAND FOR
KINDNESS



The community is speaking, hear our voice.

- I am a district parent *student*
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



*Please change the
NAME TO: Big Rock
E.M. SCOUTS
We can do this!*

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

[Redacted]

name: [Redacted]
address: [Redacted]

WORK FOR EQUITY. STAND FOR
KINDNESS



The community is speaking, hear our voice.

I am a district parent *Student*

I am a district resident

I am Dixie district alumni

Dear Board Members

Please consider the name

change at the school

Just like School City

1/20/2024

[Redacted]



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

Name: [Redacted]

Address: [Redacted]



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

Possible Name Change

1 message


To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 12:58 PM

My suggestion is: Cajun School District.



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie name change petitions.

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 2:00 PM

[REDACTED]
to: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dixie School Board,

I have been a resident in the Dixie School district for thirty years. My son attended the district schools, participated in Dixie Little League, Dixie Little League All Stars and Dixie Fall Ball. He was a member of the Miller Creek Jazz Band and performed in the community with the Miller Creek Jazz combo led by Mike Schulist.

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 12th.

In my opinion it is irresponsible for the Change The Name group to make board members that have no experience under their belt make such a big decision for our community. In November 2018, a very seasoned board voted 4-1 to take this issue to a democratic advisory vote within the Dixie School District community, as it was too big for them to decide on their own. This was not a decision they took lightly and I support this decision. But one month later, two brand new board members, along with the sitting members, were presented with 13 petitions to change the name of the district. We feel sorry for the board to be faced with such a divisive topic and that our two newest members were bombarded with this only two weeks into their term. It is clear the petitions were strategically served to take advantage of the novice members, and that is unacceptable. Typically, the first six months of a new trustee's tenure is spent learning about process, budgets and teamwork. Instead they are being forced to make such a monumental decision that will have a long-term effect on our district and our community without having the experience. Asking the new board members to make a decision on changing the name of a 150 year old district without truly hearing from their 14,200 constituents is irresponsible. We feel the two new board members should take more time in their positions and time to hear from the entire community before they can be prepared to make such a decision .

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
San Rafael, CA 94903
[REDACTED]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Allow the community to vote!

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:12 PM

[REDACTED]
To: "commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org" <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Hello,

I'm asking that you please allow the community to vote on the petition to change the Dixie name. Our family has lived in Terra Linda and have been in the Dixie district for 6 years, but my wife attended school from K-8 in Dixie, as well.

Personally, I'm in favor of keeping the Dixie name. I understand the arguments in opposition of that position, but candidly I think they are fear driven and they are bullying their neighbors who don't agree with them. Attaching a negative connotation to the word Dixie, and saying that it somehow represents hate and divisiveness ignores decades of the OPPOSITE here in Marin.

Either way, the tactics used during this 'campaign' have been less than desirable, and it only seems fair to allow the community to provide an advisory vote on the topic.

Thanks,
Matt Foley
1856 Las Gallinas Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94903



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Dixie school name change?

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 12:55 PM

To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

As a mother of two children who attend school in the Dixie School District I am offended that we are having this debate about whether or not to change the Dixie name. I do not believe as a white woman I am in a position to understand what offends people of color nor could I ever imagine invalidating someone's personal experience of racism. To say to others, you "shouldn't" be offended to me makes no sense. If people are offended then the name should be changed. If there is any doubt that it could be misconstrued to make others feel as though they are not welcome or included or that this community isn't willing to acknowledge and go through any amount of time, money or effort to make sure everyone feels included than I am sadly disappointed that we moved to this community 10 years ago. When my husband was being relocated to the Bay Area almost a decade ago you could imagine one of our first questions was where can we afford to live. It was important to me that we live in a community with a good public school because I believe such communities value education, which is important to us. When I asked someone living in Marin about how they feel living in a predominantly white area they said, "it's the good white people." I took this to mean Marin is politically liberal, forward thinking and open-minded. We moved from Oak Park, IL where my daughter's kindergarten class had 50% of it's children coming from African-American or biracial households, so this was important to us. To me this decision is incredibly important, it will affirm for me that we chose wisely, that this is not a racist community but one that understands the complexity of this issue and the horrific history of a nation that once enslaved black people. It will affirm for me that any reference to the those years can and still does divide us and that we should be very careful to avoid any language (even if it is the name of a school) that promotes such a division.

Thank you for your hours of thoughtful deliberation on this topic. Please take into consideration the message we are sending our children and the larger community when you vote on this issue.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]



Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Keep Dixie, Dixie.

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:15 PM

To:  commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Hello.

My children attend the Dixie school. We have lived in the district for six years and we love our school and the community around it.

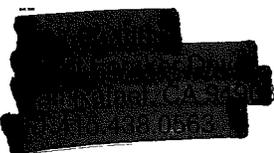
I believe that Marnie Glickman and others on the Board of Trustees are acting disgracefully as they seek to "problematize" the name of our school. Their campaign of grievance engineering is an abuse of our trust and of their responsibilities. It teaches our children the wrong lessons, and most importantly is is hugely distracting from the task of creating safer, stronger schools. The Board fiddles as Rome burns.

It is a shocking dereliction of duty, for example, that my first and third-graders, and their teachers, practice lock-down drills in their non-hardened classrooms while the Trustees debate the name on the sign outside. Figurative "safe spaces" are pushing actual, physical safety down the agenda.

There's a moral hazard at play here, too. Our family regularly makes donations of schools supplies to our cash-strapped school. And we consistantly write checks to Can Do! for programs that really ought to be funded by general budget. We do these things for the same reason that we and our neighbors volunteer in classrooms, on drop-off duty, on the playground, as carpool drivers and as chaperones for field trip: bnecause we love our children and want to support our vibrant Dixie community.

If the trustees take advantage of that support by siphoning scarce funds away from our children's safety and towards vanity projects like the current campaign to rename Dixie, then further contribtions could only be seen enabling behavior, and it would be immoral to continue them.

On her Twitter bio, Trustee Glickman places the title of "Activist" ahead of "Dixie School Board Trustee". And in her cynical attempts to invent promblems rather than solve them, she reaffirms where her true priorities lie. This entire, toxic fiasco seems designed to raise her profile as an "Activist". So perhaps she might look to the example of our amazing Dixie teachers for ideas on how to raise extra funds for her campaign. Perhaps she should hold a bake sale.





Comment on petitions <commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org>

Comment on Petitions

1 message

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:19 PM

[REDACTED]
To: commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

Dear Board of Trustees

I am writing to request that you vote to change the name of our district.

As a Black parent in the district, changing the name would be an acknowledgment that this district is taking the vital steps of ACTION towards inclusion.

My daughter has suffered racial discrimination at Miller Creek which I believe is in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. I have asked the administration for assistance in creating a parent evening or diversity discussion in our community but was told that past events do not bring attendance.

We have a very wonderful community with hard working teachers but very little is done here in regards to dealing with the issues that are affecting our students of color. I am asking the board to take a first step in advancing this action. The acknowledgement that words, names, and symbols effect certain numbers of people who are underrepresented sends the message that we are of value and our voice matters.

Sincerely
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

NANNETTE F. QUIGLEY
19 PINE HILL CT.
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

Dixie School Board
commentonpetitions@dixieschooldistrict.org

February 3, 2019

Dear Dixie School Board,

I have been a resident of the Dixie School District for 21 years. I am extremely disappointed with the considerable amount of time, money and energy has been wasted on the cause to change the name of the Dixie School District. I believe the name should remain and never once did I think it had negative connotations. I am glad my kids were able to attend school in this excellent district. The name change will not help students and is a waste of time. I wish those opposed to the Dixie name would put their energy into things that help our students. I vote to keep the Dixie name.

Regards,

Nannette Quigley
19 Pine Hill Ct.
San Rafael, CA 94903
415/299-1812

February 4, 2019

Dixie Trustees,

First – thank you for your service. I’m sure the last thing you imagined when you signed on to represent our kids and the school district was spending your free time reviewing piles of correspondences and emotional letters and pleas from Dixie School District residents on the Dixie naming issue. Add to that the actions and letters coming from individuals or groups that have never had any real ties or understanding of either our community or schools (e.g., never lived in the district, never had their kids attend our fine schools, never volunteered in our classrooms, never donated to our education foundation) and you definitely have your work cut out for you.

That said, let me get right to the point ---

In nearly 15 years of living in the district (and 10+ of those years working in the service industry within our community), I’ve never had anyone either inside or outside of the district question the name of our 150+ year old school district or somehow tie it to the confederacy. In fact, people contemplating a move to our area would often go out of their way to make sure they would be “*living within the Dixie School District*” – not because they were looking for a place to erect their confederate flag but because they wanted to move to an area whose school district (and its name) was synonymous with academic excellence, tolerance and inclusivity. Simply put, that is what “Dixie” is and has always been.

SO – my experience aside, it begs the question. Can we do better? Is NOW the time to change the name of our established and respected school? I think not and here’s why:

1. **The driving force behind the “Dixie Debacle” is NOT who you were elected to represent.** As you know, the core group of professional activists and publicity seekers leading the effort to change the name have no ties whatsoever to our community.
2. **The tactics utilized by many of those behind the “Change the Name” movement are simply reprehensible. If you vote “FOR” a change at this time, you will send a clear message to the community (and our kids) that taking any means necessary to WIN is OK, as long as you win.** While I recognize there are well-intentioned people on both sides of the equation, the reality is that this entire effort was architected from the beginning and at the top to both bypass and steamroll our community (and a newly appointed board) into submission. **This effort should NOT be rewarded in any way.** That said, I personally have no unwavering attachment to the name “Dixie” and would be open to a name change IF the effort was organically driven and the COMMUNITY came together to change the name. Under no circumstances though would I ever put my support behind a name change effort fueled by a very small group of people trying to use brute force to intimidate the community or weaponize the media against our own school district and its residents.

3. The “media first” strategy utilized by those seeking to change the name speaks volumes of their primary interest: **THEMSELVES**. Ask yourself:

- Who is aggressively pursuing the National Press for media coverage about the name change of our outstanding and inclusive 150+ year old school district?
- Why would they professionally videotape every school board meeting and speaker?
- How does ANY of this benefit our community, bring us together or help kids and our schools?

Leaders of the change the name group have publicly stated an interest in carefully documenting their effort and showcasing themselves since this entire thing is “ripe for a documentary”. Is this really how people selflessly pursuing a cause that is truly important to them behave OR are these the actions one might expect from self-serving activists and aspiring politicians?

4. **15 people (signatures on the various petitions) clearly don’t represent either the voice or creativity of the 14,000+ voters within our district.** If at some point a decision is made by the community to change the name, we can surely do better than the handful of names submitted thus far. Either way, the community must first be heard --- at the voting booth – before this issue is pursued further.

In closing, I would ask that you please make your decisions and cast your vote as a **selfless trustee**, not as a self-serving, aspiring politician.

Thank you for your time.



Dixie School District Resident, Parent & CanDO! Supporter

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

one that
no hate group
has attached to it.



Dear Board,
Please change the
name of our
district! Choose
a name that is
inclusive and kind.

African American families
are suffering in our area

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

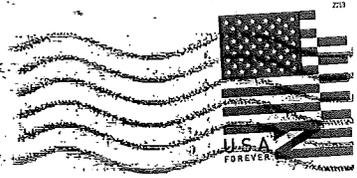
name
address

[Redacted name and address]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 949

26 JAN 2019 PM 2



Please change
the name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

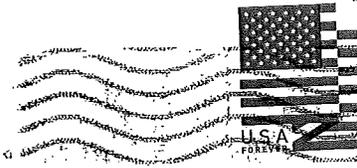
name
address

[Redacted name and address]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 949

26 JAN 2019 PM 5 L



Please
change the
name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903



- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

The Dixie name
is very embarrassing
to me and please
change it.
It's ugly!

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED] Dr.
San Rafael CA



- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

Dear Trustees:

The name Dixie is part
of our history, but it isn't
necessarily part of our future.
Please change the name.
We can do better!

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED] Dr.
San Rafael 94903



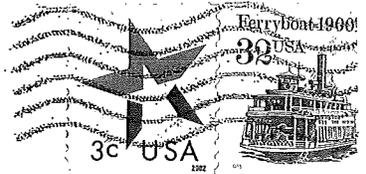
- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 940

25 JAN 2019 PM 3 1



Dear Trustees:

We should never attempt to revise the history of our community. However, we must not honor and celebrate a name that symbolizes hate and division. Change the Name!

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO

CA 940

25 JAN 19

PM 3 1

Please change the name!
I cannot believe my tax dollars are supporting a school district that is essentially named the "Confederate School District."

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

This has been an issue for decades. If not resolved this will continue to dominate the Board's time for years to come.

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



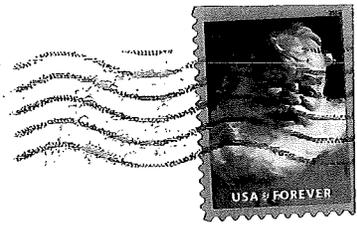
Change the name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent *grandparent*
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 949

25 JAN 2019 PM 8 L



Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]
 address: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



WRITING TO GO ON
~~DEAD~~ RECORD
 THAT I AM IN CHARGE
 FAVOR OF THE NAME
 CHANGE.

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]
 address: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent *SOMER*
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



I implore you to
 change the name
 of our district +
 elementary school.
 It is time!

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 9410

25 JAN 2019 PM 11



Please consider
 other schools and
 our children; change
 the name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]
 address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni
- I am a Student

SAN FRANCISCO CA 9410

20 JAN 2019 PM 11



Please change
 the name it offends
 people in the community
 and this is not the
 first time we wanted
 change.

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]
 address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



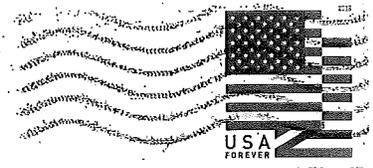
I believe strongly that the
 Dixie name needs to change.
 Not changing the name at
 this juncture will be
 a stain on an otherwise
 amazing community.

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94101

28 JAN 2019 11:41 A



Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94101

28 JAN 2019 11:41 A



* Family in the district

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]

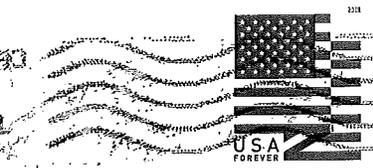
address: [REDACTED]

SF, CA 94116

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94101

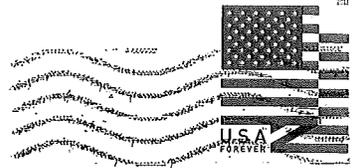
28 JAN 2019 11:41 A



I am in favor of changing the name of the district - if we want to represent an inclusive community we should have a name that reflects

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident SAN FRANCISCO CA 940
- I am Dixie district alumni



I support the name change because I support the diverse community we have in San Rafael. Its time for progressive change!

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED]
address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

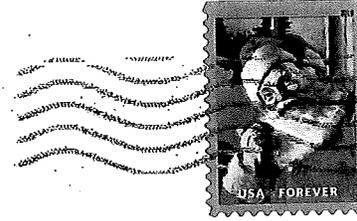


I have family in the district - change the name to show you support equality & kindness.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

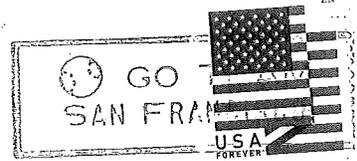
name: [REDACTED]
address: [REDACTED]
S.F. CA 94116

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident SAN FRANCISCO CA 940
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



please change the name and show that our district listens to its citizens and welcomes all.

Thank You! Lucas Valley District

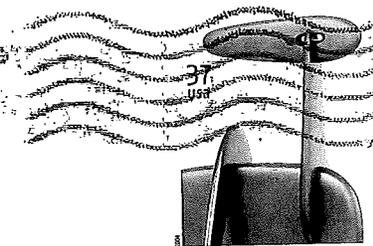
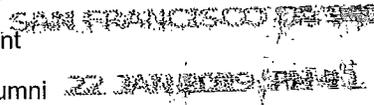
Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name:

address:

[Redacted]
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Trustees-

I would like to see the district name changed because the term "Dixie" stands for the enslavement of human beings based on their skin color. As such it is hurtful to many members of our community. Thank you

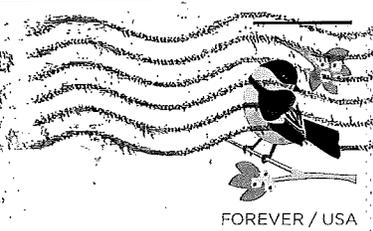
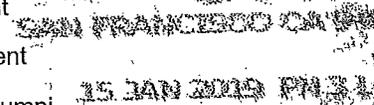
Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name:

address:

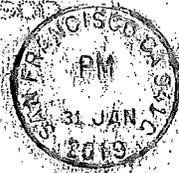
[Redacted]
Kentfield

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Welcoming
Communities !!

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

CHANGE THE NAME!!

name: [REDACTED]
address: [REDACTED]
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

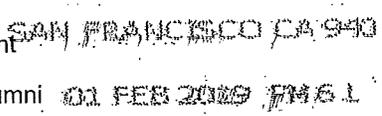


Please change the
name. It is offensive
to people of color and
to many others. You have
heard us speak. Please
act.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [REDACTED] Bonnet
address: [REDACTED] Sausalito

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Change the name! You have some amazing choices! The people have spoken. Listen, act.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [redacted]
address: [redacted]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: [redacted] San Rafael
address: [redacted] 94901

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

[redacted]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: 
address: 

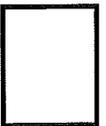
- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

name: 
address: 

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



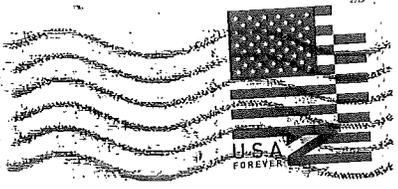
Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903



- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94111

26 JAN 2019 PM 2



Please change
the name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni

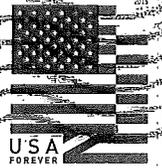


Please end this now.
we do not support
confederate or racist
symbols at our
schools - or anywhere.

Dixie Board of Trustees
380 Nova Albion Way
San Rafael, CA 94903

Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
San Rafael, CA 94903

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



I support inclusivity, diversity and open, honest conversations about race and equity. Its time to change the name!

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

Name: [Redacted]
 Address: [Redacted]
 4903-3555

- I am a district parent
- I am a district resident
- I am Dixie district alumni



Please choose to represent the future. We don't want our kids to be associated with a district name that has negative historical implications tied to its name.

Dixie Board of Trustees
 380 Nova Albion Way
 San Rafael, CA 94903

Name: [Redacted]
 Address: [Redacted]
 56