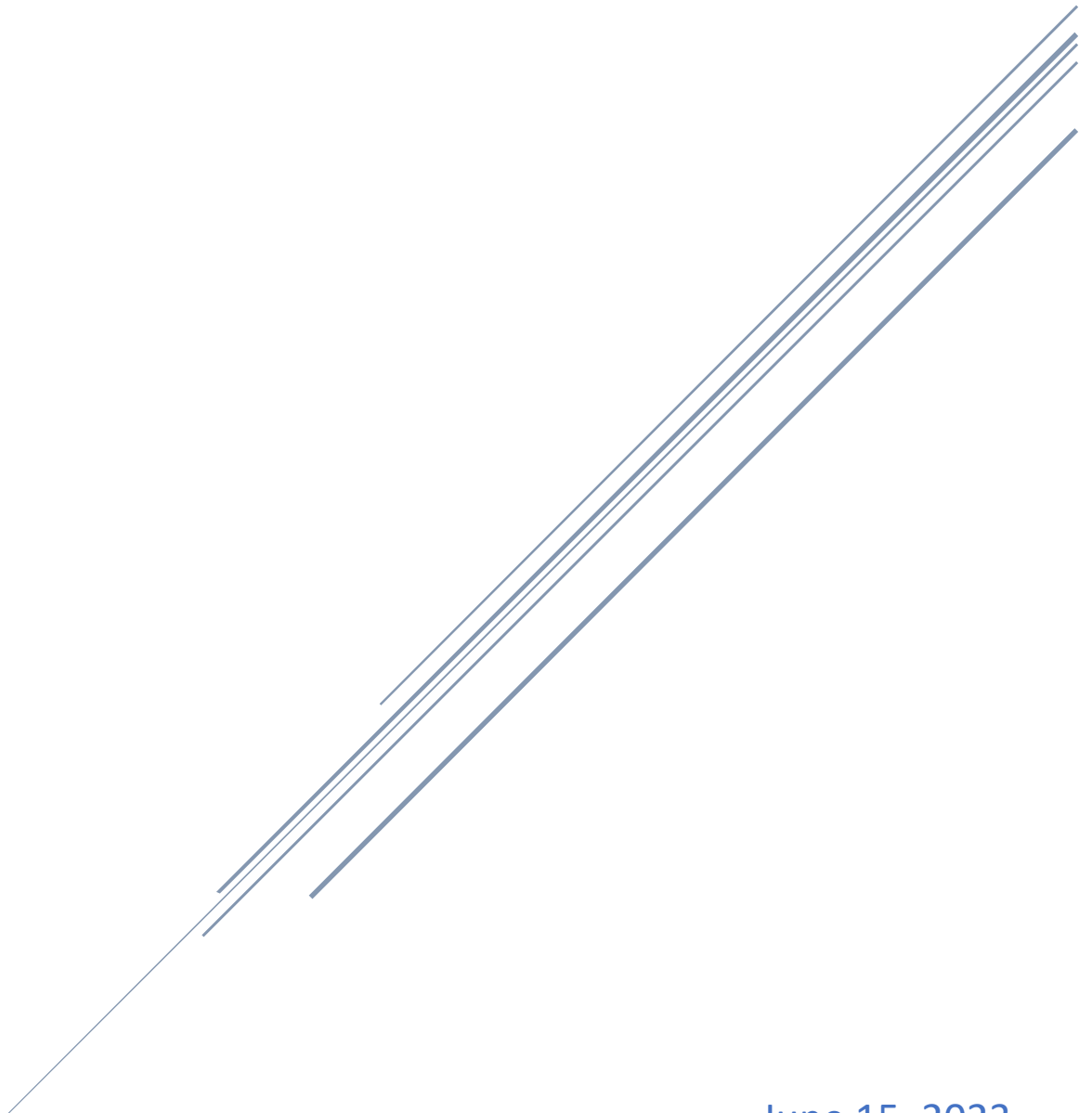


# RECOMMENDATION FOR NAMING NEW EASTERN SHORE SCHOOL CONSOLIDATING GBJH & ESDH

Motts Drive, Chezzetcook



June 15, 2023

## Purpose

The Eastern Shore community is very exciting about the new school that is consolidating Eastern Shore District High and Gaetz Brook Junior High. During the March 22 School Steering Team meeting, it was agreed that a school name naming/renaming process should be completed for the new school in Eastern Shore in preparation for timely signage during construction.

## Ad hoc Naming Committee

Through the ESDH SAC and the GBJH SAC, interested volunteers were asked to support an ad hoc School Naming Committee. The following individuals made up the committee and represented various perspectives.

### **Volunteer Members of the Naming Committee:**

Pam Johnston - SAC chair for ESDH and GBJH (parent member for GBJH and community member for ESDH)

Kathryn Toope – Parent, GBJH

Kelly Hale – Parent of ESDH students, from feeder school OPA

Natalie Stevens – Staff Member of ESDH, parent from feeder school OPA

Jennifer Murray – Principal of ESDH and future new school

## The Steps -Meeting briefs and actions

### **First meeting was to review Naming of Schools policy - Wednesday, April 12, 2023 @ 7pm (after ESDH SAC)**

- Brainstormed ideas that would include all future students for an anticipated 2024-25 opening as well as community at large.
  - ***As we are bringing two schools together under one consolidated school it was important to have a process that was positive and community building. The Naming Committee felt it was very important to have our students be leaders in offering suggestions for the new school name and then open up their ideas to the community. In order to engage our future students, options for activities were given to help narrow down some suggestions for consideration. Please see the activity ideas passed along to our feeder schools.***
  - Set next meeting to review activity that would involve all feeder grades for Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 6pm

### **Second meeting Wednesday, April 19, 2023 @ 6pm**

- All members supported the activity write-up and felt it was age appropriate for all current grade levels who would be the first group of students for 2024-25 school year
  - An overview of the timeline for submissions was reviewed in order to ensure we would meet the timeline of submission by end May for a final decision in June by HRCE.
  - Communication for the community at large was discussed in regards to voting:
    - QR code
    - Facebook groups (comments turned off)
    - School Messenger to all feeder families
    - Posters and/or posts for businesses in community
    - Use of Survey Monkey to minimize multiple voting by single person

A Timeline of actions and meetings were discussed:

- Friday, April 21 – send Naming Activity request to feeder schools
- Friday, May 5 – deadline for submission of names from feeder schools to their admin who will forward to Jen Murray, current principal at ESDH.
- Wednesday, May 10 – Naming Committee meeting to review voting list of submissions with duplications removed (Zoom 6pm) and ensuring any names moving forward were:

- easily perceived as inclusive of all feeder school communities;
  - names that were easily associated with all feeder school communities
  - names/variations that worked if shortened or abbreviated
- Friday, May 12 – Voting open to public/community at large for 10 days; students would help in spreading posters in the communities and encouraging voting; Survey Monkey used as it supported single IP voting; feeder schools were also asked to send via school messenger and to add to their website the voting poster with the QR code. Posters and announcements were put up to remind students to also be involved in voting. Political representatives were asked to also put up posts and turn off comments on their social media platforms.
  - Sunday, May 21 – Voting closed (automatically closing at midnight – Survey Monkey)
  - Wednesday, May 24 – Naming Committee will meet to review results for submission of top 3 votes

**Third meeting Wednesday, May 10, 2023 @ 6pm**

- Reviewed the 47 names submitted. There were many similar variations with some ending differences (ex: academy, consolidated, community, secondary, education centre).
- All names were reviewed with the following in mind in order to make the final voting list:
  - easily perceived as inclusive of all feeder school communities;
  - names that were easily associated with all feeder school communities
  - names/variations that worked if shortened or abbreviated
- 13 Names/variations were forwarded to the final list
  - One person’s name was brought forward. Nathan Smith was a student at GBJH and a graduate from ESDH. He died in military action in Afghanistan at the age of 26 in April, 2002. His family and the school communities continue to honour his memory.

**Fourth Meeting Wednesday, May 24, 2023 @ 6pm**

- Reviewed results of voting
- All members were satisfied with the results and forwarding the top 3 names in order of preference as noted by the community vote

Communication Timeline – How we engaged students and the community.

March 28, 2023	Communication with administration and SAC chair at ESDH and GBJH to seek interested volunteers to be part of an ad hoc Naming Committee for the new Eastern Shore school. First meeting was set for after the next ESDH SAC April 12 at 7pm via Zoom.
April 12, 2023	Reviewed the policy Naming School Facilities. Members decided to reach out again for any additional interested volunteers. Discussion was had on ways to support positive approaches to bringing communities together.
April 19, 2023	With an additional member volunteer, another meeting was held to recap discussions and review outlined plan.
April 25, 2023	Email was sent to administrators of all family of schools that had future students for the 2024-25 opening (O’Connell Elementary, Porters Lake, Opa, GBJH) and ESDH grade 10 English teachers with the naming activity ideas for submissions. See Appendix 1
May 1, 2023	A reminder email was sent to all family of school administrators and English 10 teachers for submissions for Friday, May 5. An offer of until May 8 was also given as the review meeting was for May 10
May 9, 2023	A final reminder email was sent to any family of school administrators and English 10 teachers for submissions to be considered must be in by this date.
May 10, 2023	Meeting to review all submissions and as per criteria for consideration
May 11, 2023	Draft list of names for consideration in all variations were confirmed with Naming Committee in an email.

May 12, 2023	QR Code connected to Survey Monkey was shared with feeder schools to be dispersed to their school communities, local politician & media social media platforms (with comments turned off), added to school websites, passed out to students to hang in local businesses and posted hard copy in schools. See Appendix 2
May 12-21, 2023	Voting was open to the community at large. Voting closed at midnight on May 21. On-line activity was monitored to ensure there was on-going participation in voting throughout the voting period.
May 24, 2023	Naming Committee met to review results as outlined below.
	Next step is to announce the final decision.

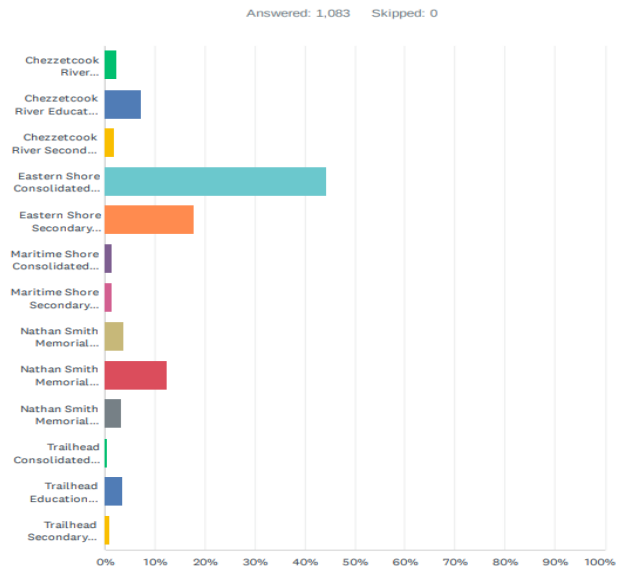
**Student and Community Connections:**

- Future students were the focus for coming up with names for consideration (see Appendix 1). This had a positive vibe and excitement as future students had the lead role with submissions for consideration. There were 47 submissions. There were many similar variations with some ending differences (ex: academy, consolidated, community, secondary, education centre).
- Keeping in mind that there was a consolidation of 2 school community and a third joining in grade 10, it was important that the following considerations be at the forefront:
  - easily perceived as inclusive of all feeder school communities;
  - names that were easily associated with all feeder school communities
  - names/variations that worked if shortened or abbreviated
- A QR Code was created to support ease of voting and monitoring of active participation data. The voting QR code/link was shared widely in a variety of ways within the community. The QR Code connected to Survey Monkey was shared with feeder schools to be dispersed to their school communities, local politician & local media social platforms (with comments turned off), added to school websites, passed out to students to hang in local businesses and posted hard copy in schools. Access to the survey was directly available on websites should some not know how to access a QR code and included on the poster (see Appendix 2).
- The Naming Committee felt the participation and leading results offered a solid list of names for HRCE to consider.

## The results...

**Data breakdown: 1083 participated in the survey.**

- Eastern Shore Consolidated School - 44.14%
- Eastern Shore Secondary School - 17.73%
- Nathan Smith Memorial Education Centre - 12.74%



## In order of highest votes among approved names...

- **Eastern Shore Consolidated School**
- **Eastern Shore Secondary School**
- **Nathan Smith Memorial Education Centre**

- Please note that Nathan Smith was a student at both GBJH and ESDH. He died in military action in Afghanistan at the age of 26 in April, 2002. His family and all the school communities on the Eastern Shore continue to honour his memory.

The Naming Committee looks forward to hearing the final name for the new Eastern Shore school.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Naming Committee for the Eastern Shore New School

***Jennifer Murray***

Principal of ESDH and future new school

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## Appendix 1: Student Engagement Activity Ideas Future Students of New School

### **OUR New School Name - Student Engagement Activity**

We are sooooo excited to get closer to having our new school for the Eastern Shore! As we are amalgamating 2 schools, it is important that we have feedback about a potential name change. In order to engage our future students who will be the first ones to attend this new school, we would like to invite all future students who will be in grades 7-12 in 2024-2025 to take part in coming up with a short list of potential names. That includes any students currently in grades 5-10.

Teachers, we would greatly appreciate your help, guidance and leadership. Your current students will be among the first to attend this new school in 2024-25! If you could please embed a process that aligns with your grade level curriculum to support ideas and excitement for the naming of our new community school. For example, it could be part of social studies with a democratic process of suggestions to eventually be voted on. It could be more English Language Arts aligned where students engage in a persuasive argument or debate. And, it could even take a cultural and historical approach as the name of this new school will need to represent the identity of our whole school community! So, we would like to have a maximum of 2 finalist options per class submitted to your school's principal by Friday, May 5, 2023 by lunchtime in order to ensure we meet the builders' timeline for signage orders.

Finalist names can be a variation of the current name but with some changes to be inclusive of the full secondary array of student grades from 7-12 or it could be a new name that represents our entire school community that includes OPA, O'Connell Elementary, Porters Lake Elementary and Gaetz Brook Junior High joining the current Eastern Shore District High School. Lots to consider and think about when considering a name for our school!

The Naming Committee will then put together a voting link for ALL citizens in our Eastern Shore community of names that met criteria as outlined as well as aligning with the Naming/Renaming Schools Policy. We will send information on the voting link to all feeder schools and will be shared with our community at large.

This is an exciting opportunity to have a new school in our community that will serve many future generations!

Thank you for your help!

# We Want Your Input!

## Vote for the Name of the New School

The first group of students who will be attending the new school submitted names for consideration. Here is the shortlist for all in the community to vote on. The top voted names will be submitted for final consideration.

The voting will close on May 21<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm

Use the QR code below to reach the link or visit [esd.hrce.ca](http://esd.hrce.ca) to be able to click on the link to the survey.

