# Coolidge Corner Naming Process

**September 13, 2018**

# Coolidge Corner Naming Process

## Intention

1. Identify a new name for the Coolidge Corner School using the Town's identified naming process so it can be approved by Town Meeting in May 2019

2. Develop a process that:
   - Is welcoming and inclusive of the entire Brookline community;
   - Honors the Coolidge Corner School Community's connection to the school and allows students to play a central role in the process of naming their school;
   - Recognizes and affirms the Petitioners' efforts and original intent in advocating for a name change; and
   - Ensures that historically underrepresented and marginalized communities in Brookline are able to participate in the process

# Development of the Process So Far

**Outreach and Input**

1. Group meetings, individual meetings, electronic input, email, phone calls, public comment

2. School Committee members, the Ad Hoc Task Force on School Names, Petitioners, Coolidge Corner PTO, CCS Access and Equity Team, principals and vice principals, parents, alumni, former teachers, and the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations

3. Five revisions of the Naming Process

4. Presentations at three School Committee meetings

# Overview of Naming Process

**BASIC STEPS OF THE NAMING PROCESS**

1. Coolidge Corner School community works together to identify the characteristics of a name that will reflect their school community.

2. Significant public outreach so parents, guardians, **community members,** students, Town Meeting Members, and others understand the naming process and can submit nominations. Nominations  accepted online or via paper submission.

3. Nominations Committee of 12 students supported by staff from Coolidge Corner School and from the Superintendent's Office lead a process with the Coolidge Corner School community to narrow down all nominations to 10 semi-finalists.

# Overview of Naming Process

**BASIC STEPS OF THE NAMING PROCESS (continued)**

4. The School Committee Capital Subcommittee, student members of the Nominations Committee, and the School Committee's Ad Hoc Task Force on School Names hold public meetings and gather input on the semi-finalist names before recommending a small number of finalists to the full School Committee.

5. School Committee holds Public Hearing and considers the finalists before selecting one name to be recommended to the Town's Naming Committee.

6. Town Naming Committee holds public hearing and considers School Committee recommendation for school name. If Town Naming Committee approves recommendation, Warrant Article is submitted for May 2019 Town Meeting.

7. Town Meeting considers and votes on Warrant Article.

# Development Process So Far

**Since August 22 School Committee Meeting**

➢ School Committee requested that Suzanne Federspiel and Superintendent Bott take the committee's and public input and revise plan, develop student selection process, and spell out how people will make nominations of name

➢ Superintendent Bott, Suzanne Federspiel, Lloyd Gellineau of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and Co-Principals met to address concerns raised at the 8/22 School Committee meeting

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 1. Need further definition of how students will be selected for the Nominations Committee. | Students can nominate themselves or be nominated by a teacher and must complete application in writing or video<br>Principal, VP, parent, teacher/guidance counselor will review and select<br>Students must a diverse group that reflects the diversity of the Coolidge Corner community |
|  | See page 9 - "*Process for Selecting Coolidge Corner and BHS Students to the Nominations Committee*" |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 2. Which adults and how many will support the students on the Nominations Committee? | ● Principal Jen Buller and Vice Principal Saeed Ola will facilitate the Nominations Committee and members of the superintendent's team<br>● The Ad Hoc Task Force on School Names will provide additional support to the students<br>● The Equity Collaborative will provide additional support to the facilitators |
| | *See page 6, Question 1, Bullets 2, 3, and 4* |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 3. What type of additional adult participation does there need to be during the decision making process? (e.g. as part of the Nominations Committee, working with the Capital Subcommittee, etc.)? | • Ad Hoc Task Force supports the Nominations Committee<br>• Ad Hoc Task Force added to the Capital Subcommittee and members of the Nominations Committee to select the finalists from the semi-finalists. |
| | *See page 3, second full paragraph. Page 5, December 15 – January 15; page 6, Question 1, Bullet 4; and Page 6, FAQ #3* |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 4. How to ensure that the motivation and impetus behind the name change continues to be a central part of the process? | This will happen through the communication, messaging, and education. <br><br> For example: <br> ● A poster developed by the Petitioners Group that will be posted at Coolidge Corner <br> ● Petitioners being invited to speak with the Nominations Committee and the Coolidge Corner Community <br> ● The Ad Hoc Task Force's role supporting the Nominations Committee and selecting the Finalists |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 5. If necessary, how will research or historical study support be provided to Nominations Committee, Capital Subcommittee and/or School Committee? | Still need help identifying professors and students to do this work in November and December in support of the Nominations Committee<br><br>*See page 6, Question 1, Bullets 5* |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 6. How the public process will work? (e.g. how many public hearings and community forums will there be, how will outreach work especially to typically underrepresented groups and Devotion alumni, how will all the nominations be shared, etc.)? | Partnering with the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations to develop full outreach plan. *See page 7, Question 4* |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 7. How the process will be documented so it can be used to guide other communities and any future naming/renaming in Brookline? | On the website, through minutes of public meetings, video recordings of all public hearings and School Committee meetings |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 8. How the process will be documented so it can be used to guide other communities and any future naming/renaming in Brookline? | On the website, through minutes of public meetings, video recordings of all public hearings and School Committee meetings<br><br>Potential for more substantial documentation to help other communities learn from Brookline's example |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 9. Clarify how Town by-laws specify part of this process including the School Committee's role and the Town Naming Committee's role | *See page 2, Paragraph 2* |

# Addressing Concerns from August 22

| Outstanding Question or Concern from August 22 School Committee Workshop | How has it been addressed in the Final Version? |
|---|---|
| 10.    Need to identify the criteria that will be used to vet and select the semi-finalist nominations | Will be based on the Town and School Committee guidelines that are included in the Nominations Form *(see page 10)* with further clarity coming prior to the nominations form is distributed based on the Coolidge Corner School's "Who We Are" work |

# Next Steps

**Once Process is Approved**

1. **Outreach Plan** – Complete development of plan in partnership with the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement and Petitioners
2. **Community Outreach** – *(getting nominations and considering nominations)*
   - Coolidge Corner teachers and students, families, and alumni and former staff
   - Neighborhood Associations, community groups, religious organizations,
   - Must have a specific plan for reaching and engaging underrepresented and marginalized communities
3. **Development of Nominations Committee**
4. **Coolidge Corner School Community working on the "Who We Are" Process**