

# Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #182

I would like to provide: \*

Written Public Comments

Select the meeting date:\* \*

My public comments are related to: \*

School Renaming

Topic \*

Amharic/ Arabic

Full Name \*

Zion

What is your relationship to ACPS? \*

Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

**Enter your comments here OR upload below:**

Good evening,

T.C Williams was outspoken about his dislike for desegregation and even went as far as to fight it for several years. The school has come a long way since the former racist superintendent and now can proudly declare that the school has a vibrant and diverse community within its walls. Having talks about our student's identities is very important. I understand that this has been going on for select students and I strongly feel that this should be the case for all students including the Ethiopian and Arabic communities. Talking about all of the communities and making the students feel like they are welcome should be a priority, and that does not stop with the talks of changing the name of the school to represent a history we could be proud of. It means taking action and teaching all of our students that they should be proud of their cultures and should embrace it.

Changing the name of the schools is only a part of the actions that need to take place to make all students feel welcomed. What is the point of changing the names if we are not taking part in actions that will support our vibrant community? Amharic and Arabic people not given the same opportunity for identity project. We are a part of this school. It will not be easy but it is necessary.

Is half the population and culture acknowledged and is the other ignored? I hope you will understand how we feel.

Thank you

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