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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2026

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To: Facilities Committee

From: Denise Saddler, Ed. D., Interim Superintendent
Preston Thomas, Chief Systems & Services Officer
Pranita Ranbhise, Executive Director, Facilities Planning & Management
Sele Nadel-Hayes, Executive Director, Facilities Planning & Management

Meeting Date: May 21, 2026

Subject: Introduction of New Legislative Matter Resolution 2526-0107: Naming the Skyline High School Athletic Field the "John Beam/Tony Fardella Sports Field."

ASK OF THE BOARD:

Adoption of **Resolution No. 2526-0107** naming the athletic field at Skyline High School the "John Beam/Tony Fardella Sports Field" in recognition of the longstanding contributions of Coach John Beam and Tony Fardella to Skyline High School athletics, student development, and the broader Oakland community.

BACKGROUND:

The District received a community-led request to formally name the Skyline High School athletic field in honor of Coach John Beam and Tony Fardella. Both individuals have made longstanding and meaningful contributions to Skyline High School athletics and student life through decades of leadership, mentorship, coaching, and support of student-athletes.

Consistent with Board Policy 7310 regarding the naming and renaming of District properties and facilities, the Superintendent directed staff to initiate the formal naming process. Staff convened a community advisory process that included outreach to Skyline High School stakeholders, alumni, students, staff, and community members.

As part of the process, the District distributed a community survey and conducted engagement efforts to gather broader input and feedback regarding the proposed naming recommendation. Survey responses demonstrated strong community support for honoring both John Beam and Tony Fardella through the naming of the athletic field.

The Facilities Committee and Board of Education have previously emphasized the importance of recognizing individuals whose leadership and service have had a lasting impact on Oakland students and school communities. This proposed naming aligns with those values and reflects Skyline High School's strong tradition of athletics, mentorship, school pride, and student achievement

DISCUSSION:

Staff is recommending naming the Skyline High School athletic field the “John Beam Tony Fardella Sports Field.” The recommendation reflects the advisory committee’s input and the strong support expressed through community engagement.

Throughout the process, staff also explored the possibility of separately recognizing the stadium and field in honor of each individual. From a facilities and athletics practice standpoint, fields and stadiums are typically named after a single individual, allowing each honoree to receive a more focused and distinct recognition. However, after receiving committee and community feedback, staff is advancing the combined naming recommendation to honor both individuals together through the current field naming effort.

Additionally, should the District pursue and approve a future stadium project at Skyline High School, staff recommends that the District consider naming the future stadium the “John Beam Stadium” and the field the “Tony Fardella Field.” Staff also recommends that the District explore opportunities for a permanent monument or recognition feature celebrating Skyline High School’s longstanding athletics and sports legacy.

The proposed naming effort is also being coordinated alongside the District’s active Skyline field replacement project, currently underway through the Facilities Planning & Management Department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact associated with the naming effort is anticipated to be minimal and will include signage, installation, and related recognition materials. Costs may be supported through existing Facilities project resources, operational resources, and community donations.

Implementation will be coordinated, to the extent feasible, with the District’s approximately \$1.5 million Skyline Athletic Field lighting replacement project and related athletic facility improvements to align work at the site and reduce duplication of effort.

ATTACHMENT:

Resolution No. 2526-0107 – Naming the Skyline High School Athletic Field the “John Beam/Tony Fardella Sports Field”.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Resolution No. 2526-0107

Naming the Skyline High School Athletic Field the “John Beam/Tony Fardella Sports Field”

WHEREAS, the Oakland Unified School District (“District”) recognizes the importance of honoring individuals whose service, leadership, and contributions have positively impacted students, schools, and the Oakland community; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy 7310 establishes the process and authority for naming and renaming District facilities and properties; and

WHEREAS, the District received a community-led request to name the Skyline High School athletic field in honor of Coach John Beam and Tony Fardella in recognition of their longstanding dedication, leadership, mentorship, and contributions to Skyline High School athletics and student development; and

WHEREAS, Coach John Beam has served as a respected educator, coach, mentor, and community leader whose commitment to Skyline High School athletics has had a lasting impact on generations of students and families; and

WHEREAS, Tony Fardella has made significant contributions to Skyline High School athletics and school spirit through years of service, leadership, advocacy, and support for student-athletes and athletic programming; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent directed staff to initiate the formal naming process consistent with Board Policy 7310; and

WHEREAS, District staff conducted a community engagement process that included outreach to students, alumni, staff, families, and community stakeholders, including a public survey that demonstrated strong support for honoring both individuals through the naming of the Skyline High School athletic field; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities Committee reviewed the recommendation and forwarded the proposed naming action to the Board of Education for final consideration; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District hereby approves naming the Skyline High School athletic field the “John Beam/Tony Fardella Sports Field”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the District pursue, approve, and fund future capital investments to expand or develop the broader sports facilities at Skyline High School, including a stadium expansion project, the Board expresses its intent that the overall stadium be named the “John Beam Memorial Stadium” or “John Beam Stadium”, in recognition of Coach John Beam’s extraordinary legacy of leadership, mentorship, and lasting impact on generations of Oakland scholars, student-athletes, families, and the broader community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent is authorized to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution, including installation of signage and related recognition materials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as part of any future sports facility improvements and subject to available funding, the District shall explore additional opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate other Skyline High School athletes, teams, coaches, and sports programs whose achievements and contributions have shaped the school's athletic legacy, including through plaques, displays, monuments, signage, or other appropriate recognition features.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this TBD, at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District.

Passed by the following vote:

PREFERENTIAL AYE:

PREFERENTIAL NOE:

PREFERENTIAL ABSTENTION:

PREFERENTIAL RECUSE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

RECUSED:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATION

We, hereby, certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, held on TBD.

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jennifer Brouhard
President, Board of Education

Denise Gail Saddler, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent and Interim Secretary,
Board of Education