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# Board Cover Memorandum

**To** Facilities Committee

**From** Denise Saddler, Ed. D., Interim Superintendent  
Preston Thomas, Chief Systems & Services Officer  
Pranita Ranbhise, Executive Director, Facilities Planning & Management

**Meeting Date** October 16, 2025

**Subject** Updates on Facilities Naming and Renaming

**Ask of the Committee** This item provides an update on the status This memo provides a status update on three active naming and renaming efforts underway across the District, in alignment with Board Policy 7310 – Naming of Facilities. No action is requested at this time.

**Background** The names of school sites and district facilities play a vital role in reflecting the values and legacy of the Oakland Unified School District and the communities we serve. In recent years, there has been renewed attention to the historical significance of school names and a desire to ensure that names reflect the District’s commitment to equity, inclusion, and cultural relevance.

Board Policy 7310 outlines the process for naming and renaming District facilities, including establishing advisory committees and engaging communities in meaningful dialogue.

Three active naming and renaming efforts are currently in progress: the naming of the new administrative building, the renaming of Jefferson Child Development Center (CDC), and a new community-initiated request related to Skyline High School’s athletic field.

- Discussion**
- 1. Naming of the New Administrative Building: Dr. Marcus A. Foster Leadership Center**
    - In May 2025, the Board approved Resolution No. 2425-0132, officially naming the new administrative building at 1011 Union Street in honor of Dr. Marcus A. Foster, OUSD’s first African American superintendent and a national pioneer in education equity and community-centered leadership.
    - Since Board adoption, Facilities Planning staff have worked to coordinate signage design and installation. Signage will be finalized

this fall, with a dedication ceremony planned for Spring 2026. Additional interior spaces were also named via companion resolution in honor of Paul Robeson and Ida Louise Jackson.

**2. Renaming of Jefferson Child Development Center (CDC)**

- In January 2025, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2425-0183, directing staff to begin the renaming process for Jefferson CDC and related property at 2025–2035 40th Avenue, consistent with Board Policy 7310.
- Since adoption:
  - i. An Advisory Committee was formed in September 2025.
  - ii. The Advisory Committee finalized a community engagement strategy for early October.
  - iii. A schoolwide activity is scheduled for October 16, 2025.
  - iv. A community-wide review and recommendation meeting will be held on October 21, 2025.
- A new name will be formally proposed to the Facilities Committee and Board in November-December 2025, with a celebratory naming ceremony planned for December 2025.

**3. Community-Initiated Request: Naming the Field at Skyline High School in Honor of Coach John Beam/Anthony Fardella**

- OUSD has received a community request to name the athletic field at Skyline High School in honor of Coach John Beam, a longtime educator, coach, and community figure.
- The Superintendent is currently engaging Board Directors about launching a formal process that can be initiated through a Superintendent's Direction or a Board Resolution to launch the formal naming process.
- Staff anticipates launching this process in conjunction with the stadium light replacement project for Skyline's field.

**Fiscal Impact**            No impact to be reported at this time.

**Attachment**             NA