



# Mary Carr Greer Elementary School: Name Review Recommendation

Thursday, June 9, 2022



# School Board Directive to the Superintendent

On October 25, 2018, the School Board directed the Superintendent to:

1. Add school division values to the criteria for naming school buildings and facilities.
2. Review the names of all schools in the division, named after individuals, taking into account how faithful those designations are to the values of our school division.
3. Report recommendations to the Board for changing the names of schools that are inconsistent with our values.

# School Name Review Process: Intentions

## ➤ Reflection

When we are faced with the review of a school's name, we have an opportunity to unify our community, reaffirm our commitment to our values and inspire all students to greatness.

## ➤ Accessibility

Ensure the process includes multiple methods of engagement (e.g., survey, community meetings, interpretation services, recordings, press releases, etc.).

## ➤ Inclusion of All Voices

We are committed to conducting an inclusive process in which the school community feels welcome to participate and contribute ideas for their school's new name.

# Past School Name Reviews: School Board Action

Paul H. Cale Elementary ➤ Mountain View Elementary School

January 23, 2020      Approved new name (effective date: July 1, 2020)

Sutherland Middle School ➤ Lakeside Middle School

August 13, 2020      Approved new name (effective date: July 1, 2021)

Virginia L. Murray Elementary ➤ Virginia L. Murray

April 1st, 2021      Approved to retain the name (effective date: July 1, 2021)

Community Public Charter School ➤ Community Lab School

April 1st, 2021      Approved new name (effective date: July 1, 2021)

Jack Jouett Middle School ➤ Journey Middle School

August 12, 2021      Approved new name (effective date: July 1, 2022)

Broadus Wood Elementary School ➤ Broadus Wood Elementary School

March 10, 2022      Approved to retain the name (effective date: July 1, 2022)

# Mary Carr Greer's Name Advisory Committee: Review Process

# Mary Carr Greer Elementary School

Greer Elementary is named for a local teacher and principal, Mary Carr Greer. In 1931 after teaching domestic science at ATS for for 15 years, became its third principal and oversaw a period of both physical and academic growth and expansion.



# Advisory Committee Composition

## ACPS STAFF (6)

Staff including the Committee Chair, Principal, Custodian, Central and Support Staff

*Note: One of the staff members is a parent and one is a grandparent*

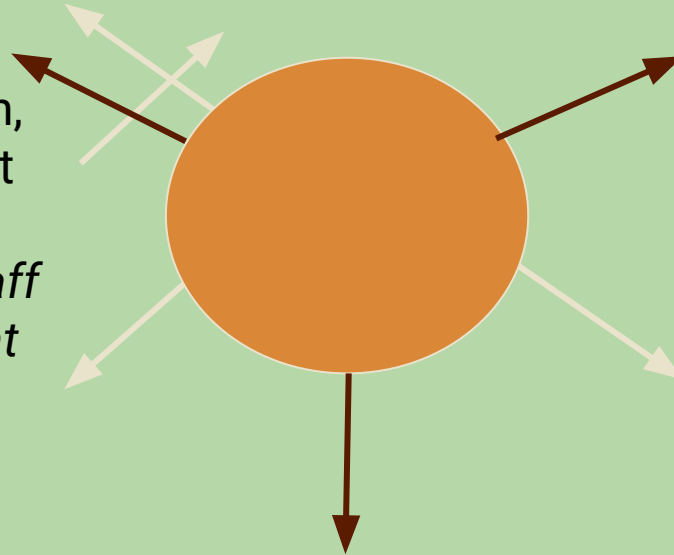
## FAMILIES (3)

Parents with children currently attending Greer

*Note: There wasn't a student representative on the committee, but they were engaged throughout the process*

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS (3)

Representation includes a board member of the Ivy Creek Foundation



# Advisory Committee Review Process



## ● > Outreach

- Community Flyers
- Student made signs around the school
- Press releases
- Greer Elementary Website and PTO Social Media
- Remind (text and email) message home to parents
- School Name Review Webpage
- Student announcements on school morning news
- Distribution of flyers to parents in car pickup line

## > Surveys (2)

Survey #1: 449 total Responses  
**-220 online survey respondents,  
-229 Student responses**

Survey #2: 759 total respondents  
**-360 online survey respondents,  
-394 student respondents**



# Advisory Committee Review Process

## ➤ Public Participation

- Community Meetings (2)
- Emails
- Letters from members of the community
- Phone calls and photos from family members Theodosia Lemon, Marsha Howard, Manfred Jones
- Speakers included:
  - ❖ Teresa Leslie, Great Niece of Mary Carr Greer and Member of the Ivy Creek Foundation Board of Directors
  - ❖ Dr. Virgil Wood a former student of Mary Carr Greer
  - ❖ Sue Erhardt, Executive Director Ivy Creek Foundation

# Advisory Committee Review Process: Research: Family History, Community Involvement, Educational Services



**Mrs. Greer**



**Mary Carr Greer and Family**



**Albemarle Training School**

One student wrote that Mrs. Greer had "inspired so many young people to fit themselves for better things of life and to render unselfish service to humanity." The 1948 ATS yearbook was dedicated to the school's "beloved principal" who had kept before them the ATS motto "Character, Courage and Perseverance." Diana Foster-Member of the teaching community for 30 years and Ivy Creek Foundation Volunteer

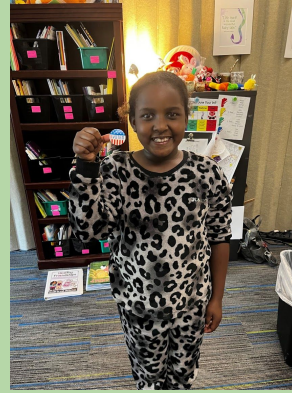
"As the first woman principal of the Albemarle Training School and vigorous member of numerous civic groups supporting equality of education for all children, Mrs. Greer was an undaunted force within the greater Charlottesville communities. Her courage and brilliance are exactly what should inspire our children, and all our citizens, today."

Lorna Wertz  
Past president, Ivy Creek Foundation

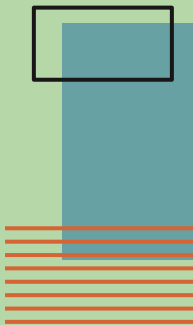
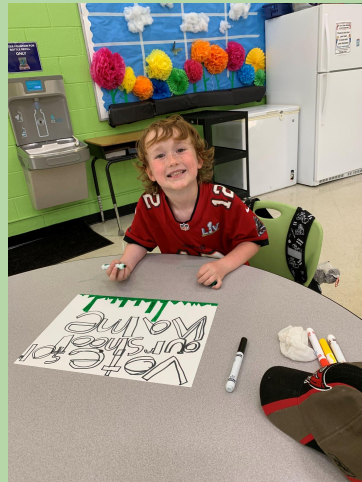
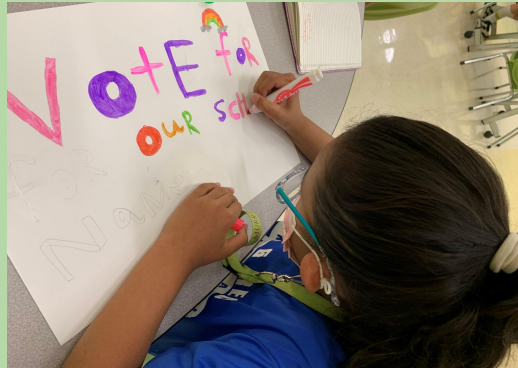
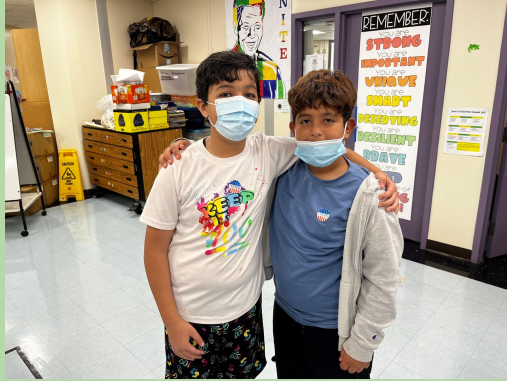
# Student Engagement

## Voting!

- After School Students created signs for voting
- Created a ballot box
- Voted on both surveys
- Helped translate information about the survey in different languages during Greer morning announcements
- One our 4th graders helped translate the survey for our linguistically diverse preschool students.



# Student Engagement



# Recommendation

As a result of all of the research, public comment, and survey results, the committee voted to retain the name **Mary Carr Greer Elementary**, based on the criteria below:

- Mary Carr Greer's contributions align with the division's values and the school's guiding principles.
- The committee took into consideration all stakeholders' voices, in particular, the votes of members of the Greer community and current students. The majority of the students as well as the community voted to retain the name after learning about Mary Carr Greer's service and involvement in the community.

# Q&A

