



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: June 28, 2017
FROM: Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Dr. Flip Herndon, Associate Superintendent of Capital, Facilities and Operations, Enrollment and Planning Services;
ltherndon@seattleschools.org; 206-252-0644
For Introduction: August 30, 2017
For Action: September 6, 2017

1. TITLE

Approval of the naming of the Highland Park Elementary School Library in honor of Mrs. LouAnne Rundall

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report details the recommendation from Principal Chris Cronas that the Highland Park Elementary School Library be named in honor of Mrs. LouAnne Rundall, longtime library volunteer at Highland Park Elementary School.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board approve the naming of the Highland Park Elementary School Library as *The LouAnne Rundall Library*.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- a. **Background** Highland Park Elementary School opened in 1913; LouAnne Rundall has been the volunteer in its library for 45 years of its 104-year existence. Mrs. Rundall has actually been working in the library for 48 years, but for three years in the mid-70s, she was a paid library assistant; the other 45 years, she has been an unpaid volunteer. She has dedicated thousands of hours of her time to the library and to the students and staff of Highland Park Elementary School since 1968. As Mrs. Rundall begins her 49th year working in the Highland Park Library in September 2017, it is only fitting that we name the library in her honor.
- b. **Alternatives** No alternatives were considered. Highland Park Elementary School opened in 1913, and the new building has been open since 1999. As far as we know, the library at Highland Park Elementary School has never been named.
- c. **Research** Highland Park Elementary School is proposing to name its school library after longtime volunteer LouAnne Rundall. Several schools in Seattle Public Schools have named their school libraries, among them:
 - Thornton Creek Elementary School – *Mary Cooper Library* named after a former longtime librarian

- Coe Elementary School - *Karen and Richard Kearns Library* named after longtime teachers and literacy education pioneers
- Ballard High School - *John Stanford Library* named after our former SPS superintendent
- West Woodland Elementary School – *Don Holert Library* named after a former longtime librarian
- Arbor Heights Elementary School – *Lynn Barnicle Memorial Library* named after a former teacher
- Roxhill Elementary School – *Harrison L. Caldwell Library* named after the first Roxhill principal and first African American SPS principal
- Kimball Elementary School – *Bill Towner Library* named after a former longtime librarian
- Cleveland STEM High School – *Edward Landis Library* named after a former longtime teacher/coach

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be less than \$100. (A custom-engraved metal brass sign, 2”x24”, costs \$89 on plaquemaker.com.)

The revenue source for this motion is a donation from Christopher Robert, current Highland Park Librarian.

Expenditure: **One-time** Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year **N/A**

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District’s Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

Tier 2: Consult/Involve – Highland Park’s building leadership team and PTA unanimously approved this recommendation. We then sought feedback from community members, and we received letters of support from a) former Highland Park staff, parents, and student, b) a Board Member of the Highland Park Improvement Club, and c) members of Grace Church/White Center, where Mrs. Rundall regularly worships and volunteers. The relevant feedback we got was overwhelming support for this recommendation and many requests to be invited to any naming announcement ceremony. These letters of support are available to be read upon request.

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

We did not use the Racial Equity Analysis Tool in our recommendation, as we did not deem it applicable for this decision.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

From Soleil Weiland, 18-year-old former Highland Park student - *When I was little, I knew that Ms. Rundall volunteered in the library, but I did not understand the significance of that until I grew older. Ms. Rundall has given so much to Highland Park over the years by encouraging students to read, and she has done it without asking for anything in return.*

I cannot think of a better person to name the library after! In so doing, we will honor Ms. Rundall's hard work and dedication forever to help serve as inspiration for Highland Park's current and future generations of readers.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. 6970 BP, Naming of School District Buildings Procedure, provides the Board shall approve this item
- Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

This action aligns with Policy No. 6970BP, Procedure 2. Initial Naming of a Portion of School Building

- a. Portions of a school include rooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, athletic fields, libraries, and the like.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting on June 15, 2017. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved it forward to the full board for consideration.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of this motion, a plaque with the name *The LouAnne Rundall Library* will be ordered and installed above the entrance to the Highland Park Elementary School Library. Highland Park Elementary will have a ceremony on the opening day of school, September 6, 2017. Ms. Randall will attend the board meeting that night with community members to be recognized by the board as it takes action.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Board Policy No. 6970 BP, Naming of School District Buildings Procedure - https://www.seattleschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_543/File/District/Departments/School%20Board/Procedures/Series%206000/6970BP.pdf
- Letter from the staff of Highland Park Elementary School

May 16, 2017

To Whom it May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support to name Highland Park's library after Mrs. LouAnne Rundall.

I first met Mrs. Rundall when I started teaching fourth grade at Highland Park in 2009. Being the daughter of a school librarian I was well versed and understood the power of a well stocked and well used school library. Our school librarian at the time was always eager to help me find books for literature studies that I was working on with my students and do all calls for titles that I needed. But, it was kind-hearted Mrs. Rundall who often checked them out to me, who effortlessly made new covers for books that were ordered for our intermediate team ensuring their use for years, and was always gracious with any of my students who came in to check out a new book.

As libraries and other things like the arts get further strapped in school budgets—the time and efforts put forth by Mrs. Rundall did not go unnoticed by the staff at Highland Park while I was there. Because of her presence, students were able to access the library even if the librarian was with another class. Teachers were able to ask for assistance, even if the librarian was doing PCP with another teacher. The librarian could assist children in finding the perfect book, that would keep them wanting to read more, because Mrs. Rundall was there to support check-out.

In a democratic society, there are two institutions of powerful import: our public schools and our libraries. Mrs. Rundall has given her long time support and performed an important civic duty by supporting generations of Highland Park students and scores of classroom teachers access books and spark ideas. She has done all of us a great service. We are greatly indebted to her and I hope we can honor her with naming the library she has served for so long, after her.

I support this honor of Mrs. Rundall and would like to add my name to this recommendation.

Yours truly,

Kate Napolitan
Teaching Associate – University of Washington, Seattle
katen@uw.edu | 206-992-3900

Hello Mr. Robert,

Please include my letter with the others!

Thanks,
Jessie Clark
(Former 3rd Grade HP teacher)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am in support of naming the school library at Highland Park Elementary after LuAnne Rundall, a longtime volunteer and member of the Highland Park community.

LuAnne Rundall has volunteered at the Highland Park Library for the past 48 years! She was there daily when her own children attended the school many years ago and never stopped volunteering. Her love for the children, the community, and the library set her apart from the rest. It would be an honor to recognize her dedication by naming the Highland Park Library after her.

Sincerely,
Jessie Clark
Former Third Grade Teacher at Highland Park

Hi Chris,

I don't know if you remember me. I taught at HP ten years ago. I worked there for 15 years. I moved on to Greenwood Elementary until I retired last summer.

I can't think of anyone who deserves the honor of having the HP library named after than LuAnn. Everyday she walked to HP, worked all day in her mumuu and mostly barefeet, (she loves Hawaii) in the library, and than walked home She was ALWAYS busy, filing books, organizing, running around doing something. When I was there, she brought in her famous banana or other breads every Tuesday. A treat that brought me into the staff room when I was usually working through recess. She is a kind, sweet and giving soul. She invited me several times to see her garden which her husband created and tended with love. She is just naturally generous that way.

Please let me know if there is a ceremony for this honor if she is named.

Julie Miller

PS There are four HP people who were at Greenwood when I left who might be interested. I will pass this on.

Naming the library after Luanne is the least Highland Park school can do. I endorse the idea wholeheartedly.

-Mike Russell