



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: May 28, 2020
FROM: Denise Juneau, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Laura Davis-Brown/Principal, (206) 252-6605
Dr. Joe Powell/Assistant Principal, (206) 252-6606
Fred Podesta/Chief Operations Officer, (206) 252-0088

For Introduction: August 26, 2020
For Action: September 9, 2020

1. TITLE

Approval of name change of South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report proposes the name of South Lake High School (8601 Rainier Ave South) be changed to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board authorize the change of the name South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This is a four-year collaborative effort to rebrand South Lake High School as a new Option School with continuous enrollment. The building has undergone structural updates and a deliberate programmatic change from an assigned school with focus on behavior development to a Seattle Public School Option School. The intent of changing the name from South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake, signifies a new beginning and a connection to local culture and leadership. Historically, there have been some negative connotations with South Lake associated with its history as an assigned program for students having disciplinary issues. The community has taken the lead in changing this through a name change that celebrates a new beginning, and a respect for the historical past through keeping South Lake within the new name.

Community member Bob Watt and State Representative Tomiko Santos approached school leadership and initiated the effort to change the name to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake. In accordance with School Board Procedure No. 6970BP, school leadership met with the Sugiyama family to learn about Mr. Sugiyama, his service and connection to the community. It was quickly recognized that Mr. Sugiyama embodied the vision, mission and core values of the newly reformed and rebranded South Lake High School. Further, Mr. Sugiyama attended Seattle Public schools, created strong community connections throughout his tenure and went on to have a profound positive impact on the community through grassroots organizing, advocacy and leadership.

Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama attended Bailey Gatzert Elementary, Washington Junior High, and Garfield High School, graduating in 1968. After high school, Mr. Sugiyama enrolled in Seattle Central Community College and went on to the University of Washington. As a college student, Mr. Sugiyama led and participated in many different protest and demonstrations, calling attention to issues of inequality and racism against Asian Americans. Mr. Sugiyama was a well-respected and influential community activist. He co-founded the Asian Family Affair (AFA) newspaper. Mr. Sugiyama led his own non-profit agency Center for Career Alternatives (CCA), founded in 1979, where he diligently served as Executive Director for thirty years (until 2010).

Mr. Sugiyama was the first Asian American elected to the Seattle School Board in 1989 where he served two terms until 1997. Mr. Sugiyama later served as the new director for the Executive Development Institute (EDI) until 2015.

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

The total cost for the new signage for the name change to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake will cost \$20,000. This cost is for the sign and an installation fee. The leadership team at South Lake is enthusiastic in their support for this renaming and has already raised \$15,000 which came from the community members who initiated this name change. The school has applied for a \$5,000 grant to fund the remaining balance.

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

The initiative to change South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake was initiated by community members. In accordance with Board Procedure No. 6970BP the school leadership team responded to this community request by meeting with the community. School leaders met with community members at least 5 times, reaching out to families, community members, and other interested parties. They also met with Mr. Sugiyama's family to get his engaging story and learn more about his legacy within the community. The Building Leadership Team, with staff, community and student representation reviewed the initiative,

published plans of the initiative and moved unanimously to rename the school after Mr. Alan T. Sugiyama.

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

The school leadership team reviewed School Policy 0030 and firmly believes that rebranding South Lake High School and renaming it after Alan T. Sugiyama, a local person of color who advocated for racial equality in the community and in Seattle Public Schools will promote educational and racial equality in the school and the community.

The school leadership team have considered all of our stakeholders, the history of our neighborhood and the historical stigma associated with the South Lake High School name. Renaming the school and ensuring that the students and community understand the legacy and values of Mr. Alan T. Sugiyama will promote racial equity and provide an enduring example to students of how one person's actions and determination can break down barriers to racial and educational equity. Mr. Sugiyama believed that all persons need and deserve a second, and sometimes third opportunity and he promoted determination and compassion while standing up to institutional systems of racism.

The newly named Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake will leverage Mr. Sugiyama's legacy and values to promote racial and educational justice furthest from educational justice.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

As the school works to establish a culture of **Voice** and **Choice** for their students, the legacy and values of Mr. Alan T. Sugiyama will inspire, illustrate and guide students. The name change will provide a firsthand example of a person of color who acted upon his values to create change.

Further, in renaming South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama @ South Lake High School, students will benefit from the rebranding and release from the negative connotations sometimes associated with the 're-entry' behavior modification program previously housed at South Lake High School. This will help set the way in which students view their school, how the community views the schools and ultimately, how students view themselves as students at the school.

The school **Believes**, **Inspires**, and **Empowers** their students, and they **Remix** how their students navigate **Education**. Renaming the school will help them with this mission.

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 and Board Procedure 6970BP, Naming of School District Buildings, provides the Board shall approve this item

Other:

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

Board Policy No. 6970, and Board Procedure 6970BP, Naming of School District Buildings, require School Board approval for changing the name of a building. This board action reports documents the procedural requirements were met from Board Procedure 6970BP.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting on August 13, 2020. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward with a recommendation for approval by the full Board.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of this motion, South Lake High School will become Alan T. Sugiyama High School @ South Lake.

September 2020 Building Leadership Team (BLT) convene and plan rollout of new name
September 2020 BLT and school work with Community in Schools Family Cultural Navigator to coordinate community and family involvement.

September 2020 School will collaborate with the Alan T. Sugiyama foundation for the roll-out of the new name.

October 2020 Reader Board Unveiling with new name to go live.

October 2020 Redo website and school communications with name change

October 2020 School and Community celebration with new name to go live week of October 12th with online renaming ceremony.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Letters of Support (For Reference)
- Northwest Asian Weekly Article: Remembering a giant-Alan Sugiyama Way street sign serves as a reminder for future generations (For Reference)
- Obituary Inserts: Remembering the Life and Contributions of Alan Sugiyama (For Reference)
- Board Procedure 6970BP, Naming of School District Buildings Procedure (For Reference)



Approval of Name Change of South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake

Board Action Report

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For questions and more information about this document, please contact the following:

Laura Davis-Brown
Principal at South Lake High School
ldavisbrown@seattleschools.org

Attached to the Board Action Report there are several letters of support to change the name of South Lake High School and there are a lot of pictures sent in with the letters. Some of the letters are also sent in as pictures.

Superintendent Denise Juneau
Seattle Public Schools
2445 3rd Ave S.
Seattle, WA 98134

December 16, 2019

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

I am writing in full support of renaming South Lake High School to the “Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake.”

I knew Alan Sugiyama as “Uncle Al” as he was my father’s younger brother. I grew up with his two daughters, Mari and Alysa, who were the exact same age as me and my older sister. One of my greatest childhood memories was when my Uncle Al graciously took me to Hawaii with Mari and Alysa. He welcomed me into their family vacation like it was no big deal.

When I was a child, I didn’t truly know how involved my Uncle was in the community and what a great impact he was making in education, social justice and community activism. Now, as an adult and as a teacher in the Seattle School District, I understand his importance and his legacy.

My uncle began his instrumental community work in college when he advocated for Asian Americans in local colleges and formed Asian American student unions at Seattle Central and then at UW. In 1979, he founded the Center for Career Alternatives and significantly impacted the lives of 30,000 people with his work. In 1989, he became the first Asian American on the Seattle School Board where he advocated for equity in education. Throughout his life, my uncle dedicated his life to defend and advocate for marginalized populations. It seems like a fitting tribute for his name to be emblazoned on a school like South Lake.

My uncle was a fighter until the end. When he was diagnosed with cancer, it didn’t even faze him and for two years, he battled it with unending courage and determination. I was always so amazed when I saw him after a chemotherapy treatment, and you couldn’t even tell he was tired. He would write the family update emails on his chemo sessions and tell us he was eating a donut while he was writing the email. He would tell us that this sickness was just a “temporary setback” and that he would overcome it. He really was Superman, and I am so proud to have been part of his family.

There is no one else whose name would look better on the front of this high school than my uncle’s.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Sugiyama (Alan Sugiyama’s niece)
EmilYESugiyama@gmail.com
206-579-6154

December 30, 2019

Superintendent Denise Juneau
Seattle Public Schools
John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
2445 3rd Avenue South
Seattle, WA. 98134

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

I am writing to convey my full and enthusiastic support for renaming South Lake High School to “the **Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake**”.

Alan (Al) Sugiyama, a lifelong Seattle resident, was the first Asian American elected to the Seattle School Board, served as Chair of that board and devoted his life to helping secure justice for people from every background. Al played a critical leadership role in the success of the first Education Summit hosted by the Mayor Norman B. Rice. That success resulted in the passage of the first Families and Education Levy, a legacy that lives on today.

Al’s long list of accomplishments started with his activism to call attention to issues of racism and inequities affecting low-income and minority-impacted communities when he was a college student. In 1979, he founded the non-profit, Center for Career Alternatives and led that organization for thirty years. During that time, he helped thousands of people, from all racial and economic backgrounds, to gain the skills needed to become employed and/or further their education so that they could contribute to their families and communities. Al also served several years as the Director of the Executive Development Institute (EDI). That work, along with his devotion to helping young professionals build their leadership skills, propelled many to greater roles and responsibilities within their organizations, politically, and in the community.

Having been raised in Seattle, with a background in education, including work with the Seattle schools, Al was an early mentor, colleague and personal friend for many years. As a career public servant, now serving in a leadership role in government, I am committed to provide that same support to others.

Re-naming South Lake High school is a visible way to honor the life and legacy of Alan Sugiyama and his service to the Seattle Schools and broader communities. I urge you and the Board to approve this name change. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edmon Lee
2401 – Crestline Drive NW
Olympia, WA 98502

JAN 27 2020

Superintendent Denise Juneau
Seattle Public Schools
John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
2445 3rd Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98134

Seattle Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent

January 19, 2020

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

This letter is submitted in support of the renaming of South Lake High School to Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake.

Such a designation would be a well deserved honor that represents Alan's lifelong experiences and commitment to serving others.

Alan was born in Seattle's inner city and attended Seattle Public Schools, including Bailey Gatzert, Washington Jr. High, and Garfield High School. He went on to Seattle Community College and University of Washington to earn his bachelor's degree.

His career included positions in education, community service, career training, and being elected to the Seattle School Board.

Throughout his life he strongly felt the need and responsibility to support, work with, and defend the underserved and disadvantaged. From his early college days he was involved in civil rights movements, activism in the creation of ethnic programs, and organization of various cultural events throughout the community.

He led by being involved as well as by example. Besides teaching in classrooms and being on picket lines and marching for cultural sensitivity, he started a business, held board positions in several organizations, including the Seattle School Board, Asian Student Coalition @UW, and Executive Development Institute.

His organization, The Center for Career Alternatives, provided programs for job/skills training as well as continuing education classes and job placement programs for 30 years. Their clients were a diverse range of underserved, low income, and cultures/ethnic groups.

His life and career align well with the mission and goals of the South Lake High School. His hard work and his constant commitment to creating a positive learning environment for all students are an inspiration to many people. Renaming the school in his honor would be a constant reminder of Alan Sugiyama's positive contributions to the Seattle community and educational system.

Sincerely,



Bruce Abe
10443 61st Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98178

btabe610.11@gmail.com

DIANE YEN-MEI WONG
8925 SE 54TH STREET
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON 98040
425-736-6080 DYMWONG@GMAIL.COM

January 9, 2020

Superintendent Denise Juneau
Seattle Public Schools
John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence
2445 Third Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98134

Dear Superintendent Juneau:

I've heard that the district has the opportunity to rename the South Lake High School to the "Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake." This is a potential action that I wholeheartedly support.

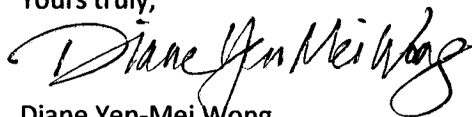
Though I now live on Mercer Island, I grew up in Seattle and attended Seattle public schools from kindergarten (Lowell), through junior high/middle school (Meany) and high school (Garfield). Al and I were Garfield classmates, and it was there that we shared many experiences that guided each of us along our paths to seek social justice in our respective ways.

You've undoubtedly heard from many others about Al's journey from being elected as the first Asian American school board member, to his critical role in the passage of the first Families and Education levy, to his leadership at the Center for Career Alternatives. He was very vocal and assertive about what needed to be done – and how it needed to be done *now*.

I want to point out to you, however, one of the lesser known facts about Al. When we were in high school, he wasn't as vocal as he later became. What prompted him to learn to speak up and speak out was that sense of what he saw was unfair and unjust about the society around him. Throughout his student, community and professional spheres, his message was consistent: Fight racism and inequality through ensuring that young people have access to education and jobs.

What better way to recognize his commitment to this worthy cause than to rename South Lake High School, which focuses on students and helps them find their own individual paths to success. It's a very good match. To support this effort, I'm making a donation to the Alliance for Education to the Alan T. Sugiyama School Fund. I look forward to hearing from you about your decision and hope that it's a positive one in response to this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Diane Yen-Mei Wong

Superintendent Denise Juneau

Seattle Public Schools

John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence

2445 3rd Avenue South

Seattle, WA. 98134

Bob Watt

6554 49th Ave. SW

Seattle, WA. 98136

206-930-1075

12/08/2019

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

I write to you to convey my complete, enthusiastic support for renaming South Lake High School to "the Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake".

Alan (Al) Sugiyama, a lifelong Seattleite died January 2, 2017. Al was the first Asian American elected to the Seattle School board, he was the first Asian American to serve as Chair of that board and he devoted his life to helping secure justice for people from every background. Al Played a critical role in the success of the first Education Summit hosted by the Mayor Norman B. Rice. That success resulted in the passage of the first Families and Education Levy, a legacy that lives on today.

Al's list of accomplishments is long, starting with his activism to call attention to the issues of racism and inequity affecting Asian Americans when he was a college student. He founded the Center for Career Alternatives in 1979 and led that organization for thirty years. During that time, he helped thousands of people, from every racial and economic, background gain the skills they needed to land a job so that they could contribute to their families. That work and his devotion to helping young people is why putting his name on South Lake High School is so right. Or as Al would say so "right on to the right on."

The leadership team at South Lake is enthusiastic in their support for this renaming. \$15,000 has already been raised and is sitting in an account at the Alliance for Education to help defray any costs associated with the name change and as the beginning of a fund to help support the staff and students at South Lake. In my many years of civic involvement in Seattle, I have never seen a better way to honor the life and legacy of such a remarkable man. I urge you to approve this name change as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob Watt, (Friend of the Sugiyama family)

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Remembering a giant — Alan Sugiyama Way street sign serves as reminder for future generations

AUGUST 9, 2018 BY NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

By Zachariah Bryan

NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY



Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan (3rd from right) with Sugiyama's family members. (Photo by Zachariah Bryan)

It's only fitting that the late community activist Alan Sugiyama had a street named after him on Beacon Hill.

When he first moved here, it wasn't a perfect neighborhood, but it was one of the only areas

in Seattle where he could buy a house, thanks to discriminatory practices preventing Asian Americans from buying elsewhere. Larry Matsuda, a longtime friend of Sugiyama who also lives in Beacon Hill, said people used to call the neighborhood "Rice Hill."

But, in typical Sugiyama fashion, he built a community around himself and made this place his home. This is where he went on jogs, hosted softball and flag football games, and raised his family.

"His life was around here," said Willon Lew, another longtime friend. "His home base was here."

About 100 people, including friends and family and public officials, gathered together on Friday, Aug. 3 to celebrate the sign's unveiling on the intersection of South Nevada Street and 15th Avenue South, just a few blocks away from Sugiyama's former home.

At a time when Beacon Hill is changing and gentrifying, along with the rest of Seattle, the event served as a moment to remember how Sugiyama has contributed to the neighborhood and the city.

"It shows you Seattle, at its best, learns from its civil rights leaders, from its communities, from its activists," said Mayor Jenny Durkan, who gave remarks at the event. "We have seen so much change in our city, so rapidly ... but what we have to make sure remains is that commitment to being a better city that Alan stood for."

And what a long list of things he did.



Mayor Jenny Durkan at podium with Sugiyama's family and friends (Photo by Zachariah Bryan)

In the 1960s and 70s, he fought for Asian American representation at local colleges, co-founding the Oriental Student Union at Seattle Central Community College and, when he transferred, leading the Asian Student Coalition at the University of Washington.

He founded the Center for Career Alternatives in 1979, which provided education and career development services to over 30,000 people over 30 years.

In 1995, he became the first Asian American to serve on the Seattle School Board.

And, up until a few years ago, he acted as director for the Executive Development Institute, which provides Asian and Hispanic leadership development.

Sugiyama, who passed away on Jan. 2, 2017 after a two-year battle with cancer, continued to speak up until the end. He called for police accountability, hiring Asian Americans for senior positions in the police department, and improving public safety in the International District.

Lew gets exasperated just thinking about everything Sugiyama did in his life. "I don't know how he found the time," he said.

That's just who he was, though. Sugiyama made time for anybody and everybody, said

daughter Alysa Sugiyama. It didn't matter who you were, whether you were an immigrant from Ethiopia or a barista who worked just a couple blocks away from his house, he would do everything he could to help.

It's a value that Alan Sugiyama would instill in his two daughters. Alysa said she and her older sister Mari grew up going to community events.

"We thought it was normal to go to all these agency functions," she said. "He wanted us to engage with people every day, to get out there and talk to people."

Mari Sugiyama remembered when her high school required a certain number of hours for community service and her only response was, "Yeah, so what?" Compared to her father's demands, the requirements were nothing.

Both Mari and Alysa Sugiyama said that their dad had inspired them to help people in their own careers. The former has made a career out of working with nonprofits, while the latter works with special needs children as a teaching assistant.

Matsuda, who's known Alan Sugiyama since grade school, can't help but to laugh at all his friend achieved in life. He remembers when they were in the Army Reserve together. Matsuda was a sergeant when Alan Sugiyama showed up one day, looking lost.

"He was just a little private. He didn't know what shoes to wear. He didn't even have a uniform," Matsuda said. "But we watched out for him."

Later on, their roles would reverse, when Matsuda was the Seattle Public School superintendent and had to take orders from Alan Sugiyama, who was elected to the school board. It was an example that you should treat people below you kindly, because you never know when they're going to be your boss, Matsuda said.

Reflecting on Alan Sugiyama's life, Matsuda said he grew into a great leader: "Truthful, honest, unlike our politicians today," he said. "He wasn't in it for self interest. He was in it to help people."

Mari Sugiyama said the street sign is important, because not everyone living in Seattle right now know people like her father — people who are willing to give everything and then some to the community.

"There are more and more people (living here) who don't know people like that. Not everyone has a Sugiyama as a dad," she said.

Hopefully, Alysa Sugiyama said, people will see his name on the sign and Google it and learn about what he has done for the community.

Alan Sugiyama's values and actions should never be forgotten, Matsuda said. He likes to ascribe a famous Andrew Jackson quote to his friend, "One man with courage makes a majority."

"That's how he lived his life," he said. "He was five-foot, three-inches tall, but he was a giant."

Zachariah can be reached at info@nwasianweekly.com.

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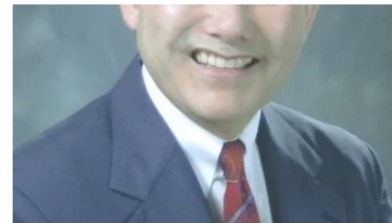
Proposal to rename city intersection after Al Sugiyama

July 13, 2017
In "Features"



Top Contributor: Mark Okazaki

November 21, 2012
In "Features"



Community mourns passing of Al Sugiyama

January 5, 2017
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January 22, 2020

Superintendent Denise Juneau
Seattle Public Schools
2445 3rd Ave S.
Seattle, WA 98134

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

I am the oldest daughter of Alan Sugiyama and write to you in full support of renaming South Lake High School to the “Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake.”

My dad was born and raised in Seattle and was a proud graduate of the Seattle Public Schools – most specifically Garfield High School class of 1968 and their self-imposed nickname as “the greatest class.” Anyone can read about my dad’s career, his years on the Seattle School Board, or his political activism and involvement, but I want to share some of the things that not everyone may know to further share why this would be a great fit for South Lake and the South Seattle area.

Growing up, my dad struggled with school. He would often share how he probably suffered from some form of dyslexia and he would also share about his stress and anxiety around reading and taking tests. After graduating from Garfield and heading to Seattle Central Community College, he transferred to the University of Washington before getting his degree from SCCC. This may have been in part due to his educational ability or shortcomings, but was also linked to his involvement in protests and demonstrations about SCCC leadership at the time. Nonetheless, an alternative path to a university education is one my dad always supported, which speaks to his support of different strategies to help students learn.

Later, my dad found himself as a “junior counselor” at Franklin High School. My dad wasn’t that much older than the students at the time, but these were connections and relationships he maintained until his dying day. He would mention his ongoing lunch catch-up sessions, even in the years leading up to his passing, with the group of “knuckleheads,” but with the utmost respect and endearment. I share this because his ability to connect with high school students as their counselor, back in the 1970s, shows a side of him where he clearly saw the value in support for students who could thrive from “alternative” school staff members. My dad was someone who could relate to the students, but they could also see themselves in him, too.

When my dad founded Center for Career Alternatives in 1979, I don’t think he knew or could even imagine being ahead of his time. The innovation of having a GED program and middle school re-entry program that would help kids back into the Seattle Public Schools, is just the kind of support we need for students. This is one piece that seems to be most closely aligned with South Lake and the effort it takes to help kids get back on track with their education.

In all his years, his community and professional endeavors were all focused on some of the same key components – help others, do what you can, and speak up. I remember when it came time for me to pick a school and I made a comment about a school being “ghetto.” My dad said something along the lines of – “why do you say that? If kids like you never go there, parents and families don’t put in work at the school, how do you expect it to get any better? You gotta put in the work!”

A few months ago, my sister and I had the pleasure of meeting the principal and vice principal of South Lake High School and in that conversation, we learned so much more about South Lake High School that would make my dad proud of their model. The on-site childcare facility paired with a parenting class as part of the curriculum for young parents was a major highlight. The music studio and production course was another component we talked about after we left. The comfortable, yet spacious layout also felt very welcoming and conducive to a great setting for students. But most notably, the sense of community really felt to be aligned with the spirit of my dad. Not to mention the school color being the exact shade of blue my dad often gravitated towards in terms of his jackets, suitcases, sheets, towels, etc.

A prominent name addition to South Lake High School, can be that extra push, that extra “oomph” for students at South Lake to figure out what their path to success will look like. Learning about my dad and his accomplishments, but also his philosophies and drive can help these students see their future in new ways. They, too, can find alternate ways to get support from their administrators and community to be successful in school and beyond, just like my dad. South Lake High School is exactly the type of institution my dad would be honored, humbled, and excited to support. I urge you to make this vision a reality.

Thank you.

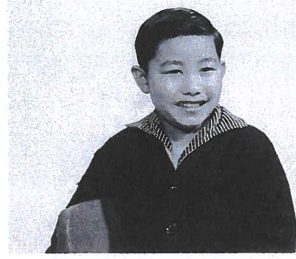
Sincerely,

Mari Sugiyama

Maple Elementary School, Madison Middle School, Franklin High School graduate

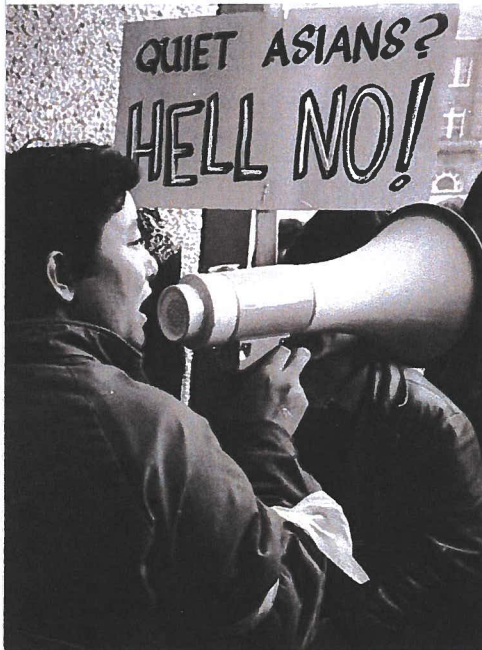
marmar.mari@gmail.com

206-669-2535



ALAN TSUTOMU SUGIYAMA

passed away January 2, 2017 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He will be remembered as a loving dad, doting grandfather, loyal and lifelong friend to many, activist, and inspiration to us all.



A proud Seattle native, Alan was born on September 10, 1949 to Sansaku and Susan Sugiyama, the youngest of five children. Alan attended Bailey Gatzert Elementary, Washington Junior High, and Garfield High School, proud class of 1968. After high school, Alan went on to Seattle Central Community College

and then the University of Washington. As a college student, Alan led and participated in many different protests and demonstrations to call attention to issues of inequity and racism against Asian Americans. Although Alan would talk about his trouble in school and was

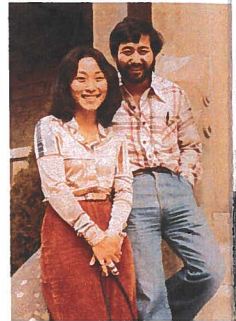
never the greatest speller even decades

later, he, perhaps ironically, co-

founded the

Asian Family Affair (AFA) newspaper which is where he met his future wife, Kathy Tagawa.

In 1973, Alan and Kathy were married and continued their roles in community activism and the AFA. From trips to Hawaii and Mexico, and



road trips along the coast to California, Alan and Kathy loved traveling together. Both would fondly recall these trips as some of their most memorable vacations. Many of their adventures and travels included their nieces and nephews and after these "trial run" kids, Alan and Kathy



welcomed daughter Mari in 1983 and daughter Alysa arrived in 1987. By this time, Alan was busy leading his own non-profit agency Center for Career Alternatives (CCA), founded in 1979, where he diligently served as executive director for thirty years.



Raising the girls on Beacon Hill and after enrolling Mari in Seattle Public Schools, Alan decided to run for the school board. He was the first Asian American elected to the board in 1989 where he served two terms until 1997. To his daughters, Alan was coach, short order breakfast cook, BBQ extraordinaire, and

career advisor. They happily remember the days when Alan would purchase cases of cookies to deliver to the schools in his region (with the girls getting the extras!) When Mari and Alysa embarked on career

paths that led them to working in public schools, they were always proud to encounter people who still knew and recalled memories of their dad and his time on the school board.

After leaving CCA in 2010, Alan spent a few years as a consultant, or as Kathy would clarify, "unemployed." When Kathy fell ill in 2012 with her own bout of cancer, Alan's "unemployment" allowed him to care for her in the last few





months of her life. Just a few short months after Kathy's passing, Alan was selected as the new executive director for the Executive Development Institute (EDI). As executive director, Alan truly enjoyed the new experiences with each EDI cohort. It seemed to be the perfect progression from his time at CCA and working with clients in need of basic job skills, to now working with professionals in pursuit of greater leadership development. Even when diagnosed with esophageal

cancer, which spread to the pancreas, in September 2014, Alan continued in his position at EDI. After much thought and amidst intense chemotherapy sessions, Alan stepped down from his role in 2015, but maintained his involvement as executive director emeritus up until his passing.

With his treatments being every other week and with his fighting spirit and positive outlook about how chemotherapy was keeping him alive, Alan was not one to

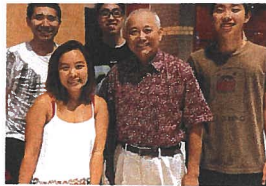
deviate from the busy schedule he had maintained his entire life. He set up a number of meetings and gatherings on his "off weeks" from

chemotherapy, so much so that it was sometimes difficult to track him down! During two years of chemotherapy, Alan



remained fierce and upbeat. Typical of his "go get 'em" attitude, numerous people recall Alan reaching out to them during their own cancer treatments and offering encouragement.





Two years after his initial diagnosis, one which did not have a favorable prognosis, nor did it have statistics or



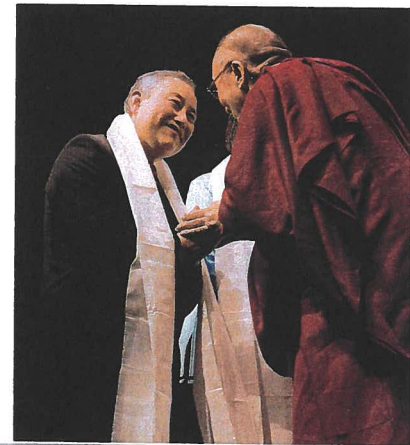
typical treatment measures for doctors to refer to, Alan finally convinced himself, at the prodding of his daughters and oncologist Dr. Soma, to take a celebratory trip to Hawaii. On November 4th, as he was tying his shoes to go

for an early morning run, Alan fell in his hotel room. In the Hilo Hospital, doctors found a large tumor in his brain, as well as two smaller tumors.

Once home in Seattle, Alan was immediately admitted to Swedish Hospital Cherry Hill where he underwent two brain surgeries. The days and nights were long, recovery was difficult, and the usual indomitable spirit of Alan was starting to falter. Thankfully, family members and close friends stepped in to help provide comfort and assistance to Alan as he tackled each day. No one was more supportive or helpful than brother-in-law Eugene Tagawa. When things got especially tough for Alan, Eugene was his go-to guy who provided much strength and reassurance until the very

end. In the last few months of Alan's life, nieces Tracy and Annie flew up from California to help him in the hospital, and niece Sheri was a weekly helper dedicating many hours to being by her Uncle Al's side during some of his most difficult moments. When he passed away, Alan was surrounded by family and dear friends.

Alan is survived by daughters Mari (Adam Woolverton) and Alysa (Adam Kong); siblings Glenn (Corey), Steve (Carol), and Dick (Jan). He is also



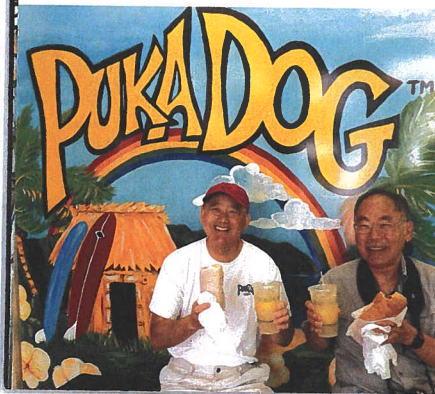
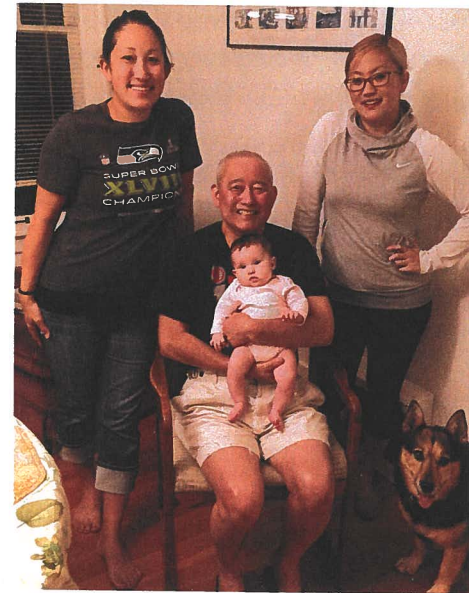


survived by granddaughter Kaia Woolverton whom he lovingly called "Hiya Kaia;" numerous nieces and nephews; and a large extended family. Alan was preceded in death by his parents; former wife Kathy; and sister Carole Burrus. Even after his passing, Alan's impact on those around him was evident. While standing outside his hospital room, his nurses came by to offer

sympathies to the family. They shared how much it was their pleasure and privilege to care for him and commented

on how nice he was. Even in his weakened state, Alan still tried to call people by name and wanted to do what he could to listen to the nurses and their orders. Throughout this entire ordeal, the one person Alan relied on most was his oncologist, Dr. Soma, of the Swedish Cancer Institute. The calm resolve of Dr. Soma perfectly balanced Alan's "take charge" attitude, even when fighting for his life. The family is grateful to Dr. Soma, nurse Carrie, and Gus for their care of Alan, as he always held them in high regard.

Although we all wish we had just a little more time with Alan, one of his common phrases, in addition to "right on to the right on," was "that's just the way it goes."



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Proposal to rename city intersection after Al Sugiyama

JULY 13, 2017 BY NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY

By Ruth Bayang

NORTHWEST ASIAN WEEKLY



Artist concept illustration of what the intersection would look like.

Over his 30-year career, the late Alan Sugiyama gave a helping hand to thousands of people who needed mentoring, job training, advice, or friendship.

Now, there is a proposal to rename a Seattle city intersection after the community activist.



Alan Sugiyama

“The late Mr. Sugiyama used the intersection for over 20 years as his literal pathway to serve thousands of K-12 students and adult work trainees in Seattle and Everett from his home between South Oregon and South Nevada Streets on 13th Avenue South,” said Larry Matsuda, of the Alan Sugiyama Memorial Committee. “The intersection is close to Mercer Middle School. The school was in the district he served as a board member and is close to his home ... Since the Center for Career Alternatives (CCA) no longer exists and the buildings are occupied by other agencies, there was not an opportunity to honor him at that site for his years of service as CCA executive director.”

Sugiyama, who died in January, established the CCA for young people in the 1980s, served as the first Asian

American on the Seattle School Board in the 1990s, and was the director for the Executive Development Institute (EDI) until a few years before his death.

On Memorial Day, a group of community members met to discuss how to remember and honor Sugiyama's work and service. The idea arose to have the south Seattle intersection named in his honor with a plaque and street sign. Sugiyama's daughter still lives in the neighborhood and uses the intersection.

The Alan Sugiyama Memorial Committee met with Seattle City Council President Bruce Harrell in late June.

Harrell agreed to support legislation to make the street signs and plaque a reality by a Sept. 10 unveiling — which would have been Sugiyama's 68th birthday.

Tim Julius, a former CCA board member, said, "Al was a great, passionate community activist who wanted everyone to have the opportunity to improve their lives and in turn our communities."

Sugiyama's friend Cindi Shiota told the Northwest Asian Weekly she was delighted to hear of this renaming effort, and that she could not think of a more appropriate recognition for a more deserving individual. "In fact, the only person I could think of who would not fully agree with and support this project would have been Alan himself," said Shiota. "It is really a memorial to all the good [Alan] has done in this world and a lasting reminder to all of us that there is more we can and should do to help our people and communities."

Now, the Committee's goal is to raise \$4,000 — \$2,000 for the signs and \$2,000 for the plaque, mailings, postage, and hall rental for the unveiling. To make a tax deductible donation, make checks payable to: OCA Greater Seattle and write "Al Sugiyama Memorial" on the left hand corner of the check. Mail to Larry Matsuda, Memorial Committee, 4134 12th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108.

Last year, the Seattle City Council approved a proposal to honor another late community activist — Donnie Chin. The International Children's Park was renamed Donnie Chin International Children's Park. Chin was instrumental in the founding and building of the park in 1981.

Ruth can be reached at editor@nwasianweekly.com.

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December 13, 2019

Dr. Denise Juneau, Superintendent
2445 3rd Ave. S
Seattle, WA 98134

Subject: South Lake High School Name Change

Dear Superintendent Juneau,

Please accept this proposal for the South Lake High School name change in honor of Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama to The Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama High School at South Lake, in accordance with procedure 3 of the School District Policy No. 6970BP, dated April 13, 2015.

Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama attended Bailey Gatzert Elementary, Washington Junior High, and Garfield, proud class of 1968. After high school, Mr. Sugiyama went on to Seattle Central Community College and then the University of Washington. As a college student, Mr. Sugiyama led and participated in many different protest and demonstrations to call attention to issues of inequality and racism against Asian Americans. Mr. Sugiyama was a well-respected and influential community activist, and he co-founded the Asian Family Affair (AFA) newspaper. Mr. Sugiyama lead his own non-profit agency Center for Career Alternatives (CCA), Founded in 1979, where he diligently served as excutive director for thirty years (until 2010). Mr. Sugiyama was the first Asian American elected to the board in 1989 where he served two terms until 1997. Mr. Sugiyama later served as the new director for the Executive Development Institute (EDI) until 2015.

This is year four of a collaborative effort to rebrand South Lake High School and to establish a culture of voice and choice for our students. Dr. Powell and I were initially approached by Bob Watt and State Representative, Sharon Tomiko Santos with this opportunity, once Dr. Powell and I met with Mr. Sugiyama's family we were further convinced that the name Sugiyama embodies the essence of South Lake High School. Furthermore, we believe the renaming of the school is an essential component to completing the rebranding of South Lake and the Sugiyama name is reflective of our vision, mission and core values.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our proposal. Additional letters of support for Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama is forthcoming. We look forward with great anticipation for Alan Tsutomu Sugiyama's name to serve as the beacon for South East Seattle and the entire South Lake High School community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Davis Brown".

Laura Davis Brown, Laura, PPrincipal

South Lake High School



Superintendent Denise Juneau

January 3, 2020

Seattle Public Schools

John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence

2445 3rd Avenue South

Seattle, WA. 98134

Dear Superintendent Juneau:

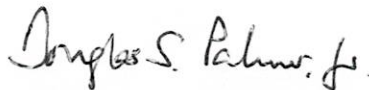
I am writing to you to convey my enthusiastic support for renaming South Lake High School as "the Alan T. Sugiyama High School at South Lake."

I knew Al Sugiyama for a long time as a board director for the Center for Career Alternatives, which he founded in 1979 and led for thirty years. During that time, CCA helped thousands of people, from every racial and economic background, gain the skills they needed to land a job so that they could contribute to their families. No doubt others have written of Al's other accomplishments---his activism to call attention to the issues of racism and inequity affecting Asian Americans when he was a college student; the first Asian American elected to the Seattle School board and the first Asian American to serve as Chair of that board; and playing a critical role in the success of the first Education Summit hosted by the Mayor Norman B. Rice, which resulted in the passage of the first Families and Education Levy. Al devoted his life to helping people from every background, especially young people.


I understand that the leadership team at South Lake is enthusiastic in their support for this renaming, and that \$15,000 has already been raised and is sitting in an account at the Alliance for Education to help defray any costs associated with the name change and as the beginning of a fund to help support the staff and students at South Lake.

Putting Al's name on South Lake High School would be a fitting tribute to Al, and a perfect name for the school. I urge you to approve this name change as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Douglas S. Palmer, Jr.

	<p>NAMING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS PROCEDURE</p>	<p>Procedure No. 6970BP February 15, 2012 Page 1 of 4</p>
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Introduction

The School Board does not favor changing the names of existing School District buildings or portions of buildings. However, occasionally a change in the name of a school building or a portion of a building may be appropriate. Also, from time to time it may be necessary to name a new building or name a portion of a building. Before any name change and any naming of a new building or portion of a building is finalized, school and community input shall be sought.

Procedure

1. Initial Naming of a Building
 - a. The opportunity to name a new building comes about as a result of new construction. Replacing an existing building, either at the same or a new site, is not considered new construction for the purpose of this procedure. (See paragraph 5 below).
 - b. Names of new buildings should be selected based upon: (i) geographical location or local community name; or (ii) distinguished individuals who have served the local community, state, or nation, whether in education or other fields.
 - c. Whenever the opportunity to initially name a building is presented, the Superintendent will request the principal or appropriate District administrator to meet with community residents and other interested individuals to discuss the naming opportunity. If a name is proposed centrally, the school community will be asked to review the proposed new name. Otherwise, the school community will be asked to recommend a name or names.
 - d. The principal or appropriate administrator should prepare a written report summarizing school and community recommendations for the proposed new name. The report should be submitted to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall then make a recommendation to the Board.

- e. The Board will accept or reject the proposed name(s).
 - f. When a name is approved, the Superintendent shall send a notification of the name to the appropriate offices, locations, and persons.
2. Initial Naming of a Portion of School Building
- a. Portions of a school include rooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, athletic fields, libraries, and the like.
 - b. The opportunity to name a portion of a building or name a portion of a new building could come about for a number of reasons, including new construction or in recognition of a gift or other funding opportunity.
 - c. The name of a portion of a building should be selected based upon: (i) geographical location or local community name; or (ii) distinguished individuals who have served the local community, state, or nation, whether in education or other fields.
 - d. In the case of naming in recognition of a gift, the name could also be that of an individual donor or member of the donor's family. Corporate names of rooms and portions of buildings will not be allowed. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the placement of an appropriately-sized plaque, name plate, or donor wall in a room or other portion of a school in recognition of a corporate gift, provided no advertising, as opposed to recognition, is involved. Plaques, name plates, and donor walls are governed by Board Policy No. 6115.
 - e. Whenever the opportunity to name a portion of a building is presented, the Superintendent will request the principal to meet with staff, students, alumni, and community residents to discuss the naming opportunity. If the school has a site council, it shall be included in such meetings. If a name is proposed centrally, the school community will be asked to review the proposed new name.
 - f. The principal should prepare a written report summarizing school and community recommendations for the proposed new name. The report should be submitted to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall then make a recommendation to the Board.
 - g. The Board will accept or reject the proposed name change.

- h. If the change is approved, the Superintendent sends a notification of the change to the appropriate offices, locations, and persons.
- 3. School Building Name Change

Since a proposal to change a school building name could originate from many sources, the following steps should be taken:

- a. The person(s) proposing the name change should present the proposal to the Superintendent.
 - b. If the Superintendent decides the school name change should be considered, he or she will request the principal meet with staff, parents, students, alumni, and community residents to discuss the proposed change. If the school has a site council, it shall be included in such meetings. The principal should prepare a written report summarizing school and community support of and/or opposition to the proposed change. This report should be submitted to the Superintendent.
 - c. If the building is named after a local person, a good faith effort must be demonstrated to contact and seek input from the relatives of that person (e.g., Internet search, legal ads, phone book, daily newspaper) before the name change is approved.
 - d. If the Superintendent approves of the name change, the proposed change will be submitted to the Board.
 - e. The Board will accept or reject the proposed name change.
 - f. If the change is approved, the Superintendent sends a notification of the change to the appropriate offices, locations, and persons.
- 4. Changing the Name of a Portion of a Building

The procedure for changing the name of a portion of a building shall be the same as for changing the name of the building itself.

5. Replacement Buildings

When a building is torn down and replaced, either at the same location or a new location, it should retain the same name unless the procedure for school building name change is followed.

6. Program Names

Naming and changing the name of programs shall be within the authority of the Superintendent.

Adopted: February 2012

Revised: April 2015

Cross Reference: Policy Nos. 6970; 6115

Related Superintendent Procedure:

Previous Policies:

Legal References:

Management Resources: