

News Release

Everett Public Schools
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Board considers four names for Elementary #17

At the February 27, 2007 school board meeting, planning Principal Brenda Fuglevand submitted four potential names for the district's seventeenth elementary school. Known only as Elementary 17 until it is officially christened with a real name, the new school will open next door to Gateway Middle School in September 2007.

"We are very much ready to have a 'real' school name," she emphasized. Following board policy and a process for soliciting name suggestions, Brenda and members of the naming committee narrowed the field to the following four suggestions:

- **Forest View Elementary** -The views to the woodland area were an inspiration for location and orientation of the educational spaces. The school's landscape has the potential of becoming part of the learning environment, providing opportunities for education outside of the classroom.
- **Pine View Elementary** -The school is specifically designed with environmentally friendly features and won a grant for its green design. The school will have two outdoor classrooms, one with a view of trees; the other with a meadow view.
- **Polaris Elementary** -The North Star (Polaris) is the most famous star in the Little Dipper and is also the star most important for navigation at sea. Little Dipper is sometimes called Ursa Minor or Little Bear. Little Bear Creek is near the school.
- **Thomas Creek Elementary** -The school sits within the original boundaries of Thomas Lake School District -so named for John Thomas who in 1888 staked a 158-acre claim in the area. Thomas Lake is closer to Mill Creek, but Thomas Creek is near E17.

The board will consider these names between now and their next meeting on March 13. At that time, they will make a final selection of the school's name and will officially retire the placeholder Elementary #17.

Fuglevand and members of her core team have been soliciting nominations for school names since January. They received more than 863 individual submissions. Those came from people who sent suggestions through the mail, by fax, and via a special e-mail box set up for that purpose. However, as Fuglevand explained, "The majority of those suggestions - about 800 of them — came from our visits with students at their schools."

As she told the 'Gateway Prep' was a good name and even 'Gateway to Gateway.' Cedar Wood Elementary students suggested 'Cedar Wolf.' Penny Creek Elementary students thought a good name for the new school would logically be 'Nickel Creek.' Silver Firs Elementary students saw good reason to combine a bit of their school name with that of Gateway Middle School to create 'Silvergate Elementary.' One student suggested 'Washing Machine' as a play on the state name.