



# School Naming Task Force

## Purpose:

The purpose of the School Naming Task Force will be to determine and execute a public, participatory process to provide a recommendation to the School Board for school building names.

## Specific Responsibilities:

- Understand the present and future use of school buildings as per the Moorhead School District Master Facilities Plan.
- Understand the symbolism and significance of existing and future school names.
- Research, determine, and execute a public, participatory process for soliciting community-wide input for possible school names.
- Consider and select school name options as per the following guidelines:
  - a) A person
    - deceased unless unique circumstances warrant an exception.
    - a famous American or world figure.
    - a significant local contribution to public education by a local resident.
    - a significant historical contribution by a person or family.
    - persons who have attained significant prominence in their professional field, public service or leadership in the betterment of the human race.
  - b) A place
    - geographic names, landmarks or characteristics relevant to the school.
    - the street, road, major thoroughfare or other geographic feature where the school is located.

- the community or neighborhood in which the school is located.
- c) A symbolic metaphor
  - a symbolic name that reflects the positive values of the school, the school district, the community, the region, or the country.
- d) Some combination of the above.

- Develop a comprehensive report for the recommendation for school names.
- Submit the recommendation report to the Superintendent of Schools for submission to the School Board.

## Time Frame:

- The School Naming Task Force shall meet regularly as needed commencing approximately February 1, 2003.
- Preferably, the recommendation report shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools on or before May 1, 2003.

## Task Force Membership:

The School Naming Task Force membership will be comprised of student, staff, administrative, School Board, parent and citizen representatives. Prospective members may volunteer or be nominated for consideration. The School Board chair, Superintendent, and the Superintendent's Advisory Council shall select the members for the School Naming Task Force. Membership shall include approximately 10-12 members.



*Concrete is poured for the foundation walls of the three-story academic wing of the new middle school.*



*The model shows what the south-facing side of the new middle school's three-story academic wing will look like.*

*"The names of our buildings are symbolic and connote the values of the institution. When we have the opportunity to name our school buildings, we have to take it very seriously."*

*– Dr. Larry P. Nybladh  
Superintendent*



# School Naming Task Force Member Selection Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in being named to the School Naming Task Force.

I will bring the following perspective(s) to this process:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I believe I have the following experience or expertise which will facilitate this process: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Please mark all that apply to you:**
- Student
  - Alumni
  - Parent
    - Edison
    - Probstfield
    - Riverside
    - Robert Asp
    - Washington
    - Junior High
    - Senior High
    - RRALC
  - Grandparent
  - Administrator
  - Teacher
  - Support Staff
  - School Board
  - College Faculty
  - Senior Citizen
  - Community Leader
  - Business Leader
  - Government Leader
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Return form by January 27, 2003 to:**  
**Superintendent's Office, Townsite Centre, 810 4th Ave. S., Moorhead, MN 56560 or call (218) 284-3330.**  
**This form can be completed and submitted online on the district's Web site at [www.moorhead.k12.mn.us](http://www.moorhead.k12.mn.us).**



# Guidelines for Consideration of the School Names

a) **A person**

- deceased unless unique circumstances warrant an exception
- a famous American or world figure
- a significant local contribution to public education by a local resident
- a significant historical contribution by a person or family
- persons who have attained significant prominence in their professional field, public service or leadership in the betterment of the human race

b) **A place**

- geographic names, landmarks or characteristics relevant to the school
- the street, road, major thoroughfare or other geographic feature where the school is located
- the community or neighborhood in which the school is located

c) **A symbolic metaphor**

- a symbolic name that reflects the positive values of the school, the school district, the community, the region, or the country

d) **Some combination of the above**



# School Name Suggestion Form

Moorhead Area Public Schools is making history and we need your help. The School Naming Task Force will be recommending names for the district buildings. It is vital for us to find out what community members would like to see reflected in the names of the schools. **Deadline for suggestions is March 10, 2003.**

Several options are being considered.

1. We can reuse names previously used for buildings.
2. We can develop a theme such as presidents, trees, other historical figures, etc.
3. We can name the buildings based on other considerations.

### Guidelines for consideration of the school names:

#### a) A person

- deceased unless unique circumstances warrant an exception
- a famous American or world figure
- a significant local contribution to public education by a local resident
- a significant historical contribution by a person or family
- persons who have attained significant prominence in

their professional field, public service or leadership in the betterment of the human race

#### b) A place

- geographic names, landmarks or characteristics relevant to the school
- the street, road, major thoroughfare or other geographic feature where the school is located
- the community or neighborhood in which the school is located

#### c) A symbolic metaphor

- a symbolic name that reflects the positive values of the school, the school district, the community, the region, or the country

#### d) Some combination of the above.

We are asking for your assistance. Please submit your ideas for consideration by the task force. Complete the following survey and return it to any Moorhead School office or the district office. The form may also be completed online. Please include your name, address and phone number so we may contact you if we need further clarification.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make the following recommendation(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I'm making this/these recommendation(s) because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Specify which building(s) your suggestion is for:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any school</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All buildings</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New elementary school at 14th Street and 40th Avenue South</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remodeled elementary school in current Junior High building</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remodeled elementary school in current Robert Asp building</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any elementary school</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All elementary schools</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New middle school at 3601 12th Ave. S.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> District education center in current Probstfield building</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Moorhead High School</p>
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**Return form by March 10, 2003 to:**

**Superintendent's Office, Townsite Centre, 810 4th Ave. S., Moorhead, MN 56560 or any Moorhead Public Schools' office.**

**This form can be completed and submitted online on the district's Web site at [www.moorhead.k12.mn.us](http://www.moorhead.k12.mn.us).**

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

## Suggestions For: *All Buildings or Any School*

Suggestion	Rationale
<p>Names of the new schools should reflect important things/people in our community's past. I think that it would be especially appropriate to name at least one building after an influential woman in our community, if buildings are to be named after important people.</p>	<p>Finding people from our community's history will allow for students as well as community members to learn more about the people who were influential in Moorhead's growth and development.</p>
<p>Named after important people in Moorhead's history.</p>	<p>It is imperative that children learn about the history of their community and how important people in Moorhead's past contributed to the growth and development of their community.</p>
<p>All our schools follow a common theme: historical figures of Moorhead (or Minnesota).</p>	<p>I think people become interested in learning more about historical figures when they work, live by, or go to places that are named after these people. And when you know more about the place you live, work or play, I think you feel more connected to the community as well as that building. For those reasons, I would like to see the Probstfield name kept as part of the theme, although it does not need to stay with an elementary building.</p>
<p>Names should refer to our area. Examples: Prairie, Aggassi, Red River, Pioneer, Probstfield, Comstock, Hjemkomst.</p> <p>Pioneer, Highland Acres, Lowland Acres, North, East, South, West, Lewis and Clark, Millenia, Fields</p>	<p>I think we need to honor our local heritage.</p> <p>These names have at least a little significant meaning in relevance to our area.</p>
<p>Stay away from President's names.</p>	
<p>Local people who have contributed to the Moorhead community (Robert Asp, Probstfield,)</p>	<p>To keep Moorhead's legacy/history alive.</p>
<p>New names for all buildings.</p>	<p>Let's start fresh. If we bring the old names with us, some of the old feelings – good and bad – will come with the names. An appropriate site could be designated to display the old buildings and honor their names. We need a fresh start.</p>
<p>Name a school for person in history who has done something for society, and belongs to a minority group.</p>	<p>Because it is time for Moorhead to show its openness toward other cultures and diversity.</p>
<p>Use the same names as the old schools.</p>	<p>To keep a connection with the past, especially for those community members that grew up in Moorhead, attended these schools and now have children attending.</p>

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Hjemkomst (elementary, middle school)	Reflects the heritage as well as the values of our area. A good cultural tie-in with Robert Asp.
Red River Hogs	I was at the San Diego Zoo and there were some pigs there called the Red River Hogs. They are about the size of an average dog and come from Africa. I believe this would be a great mascot for one of the new schools.
Jace Lahlum Elementary	Mr. Lahlum is a great teacher and he should be recognized.
ISD 152	It is our independent school district number.
Harry Houdini Elementary	
Paul Wellstone or Paul and Sheila Wellstone or Paul and Sheila Wellstone Memorial School	<p>His support for public education.</p> <p>Mr. Wellstone was a great leader for our state and lost his life in service. He is an inspiration to all. He was a teacher and educator first and is very deserving of this honor. Thank you.</p> <p>The Wellstones were great supporters of education, and their legacy deserves to be honored this way.</p> <p>Paul and Sheila Wellstone were dedicated heart and soul to the education of our children. They represent the best of Minnesota; people who loved and worked for children, not only in our state, but throughout the country and the world. I don't care which school you honor with their name, but it is unthinkable that these two incredible Minnesotans not be acknowledged in this way. Paul and Sheila can never be replaced, and it is absolutely vital that their work never be forgotten.</p>
Colores Unidos (United Colors)	This is an area with peace, unlike some parts of the world where there is so much conflict.
Freedom	Freedom is so important to us in the USA and education is part of that right.
Zebulon Pike	He is an explorer that rarely receives the recognition that Lewis and Clark do, yet paved the way for westward exploration and expansion. Not to mention elementary-aged kids would enjoy attending a school called "Zebulon."
Ronald Reagan	Ronald Reagan was our oldest elected president and as of now, our longest living president. He also put an end to the Cold War, and many other accomplishments.
Columbia	In respect for the astronauts who perished in the disaster as they served our country as explorers of space, our final frontier.

Suggestion	Rationale
Nikola Tesla	Because of Tesla’s contribution to modern technology and the lack of attention and recognition he has received for his inventions like AC power, AC motor, wireless communication, X-ray, neon and fluorescent lighting, hydro-electric power and more. Without Tesla’s contributions to science, modern commerce and standards of living would cease.
Central	
Probstfield	Retain the name Probstfield for one of the buildings in the district, either for the new admin building or for one of the new elementary schools. Randolph Probstfield was a key figure in the early history of the Red River Valley during the late 19th century. Historical memory is important to community. Maintain connections between the district and Probstfield farm.
Kenneth M. Tangen	I spent time in two different universities on my journey toward my degree, but not one instructor had as much influence on my life as Ken Tangen at Moorhead High School. Through literature, he opened my eyes to possibility, justice, and self-worth. Whenever I meet a new instructor, I set the bar at Ken Tangen, and then challenge the instructor to reach as high.
George Bush	An elementary school should be named after George Bush. He has been a great leader in our time of crisis and he should be remembered for that. New President, new school. George Bush, for both George Bushes. The only father and son to both be president of the United States.
George Washington School	He did a lot for this country and he was a father of our country. It's an honor to keep his name going.
Cesar E. Chavez Middle School	Cesar E. Chavez brought hope and inspiration to tens of thousands of farmworkers. He taught us that injustice anywhere affects all of us everywhere. Cesar was a symbol of hope to the farmworkers. He provided a voice for the voiceless and leadership for those who had the will but were unsure of the way.  He helped created the United Farm Workers Union. Let’s honor a man who dedicated his life to improving the lives of the people who pick the food that we eat.
Kalpana Chawla (Columbia Mission Specialist)	In reading an article about Kalpana, it was highlighted that she “set her sights on an American education – an education that would send her into space.”
Ada Comstock or Comstock Elementary School	A family with roots and history in Moorhead. A female role model. We have easy access to info on the family and historical landmarks in town for the students to see. Family who pioneered the area and have left several historical contributions.

Suggestion	Rationale
<p>If not a school, at least the High School Auditorium or Theater Wing should be named for Edmund and Kathryn Gasper.</p>	<p>Our community has been extremely lucky for the last two decades to have these marvelous performers and teachers in Moorhead. There are literally hundreds of former students that have found success in many different disciplines, not only in the performing arts but in medicine, law, public service, and business, as a result of the life lessons taught by this extraordinary couple.</p> <p>Eddie and Kathy are the very definition of excellence. They set high standards of conduct in their expectations for their students, and further, they show each sincere student how to achieve those high standards. The performing arts community of Moorhead-Fargo would have nowhere near its reputation for excellence without the influence of the Gaspers. From the Trollwood Performing Arts School to Gooseberry Park Players to the Community Theater to the Opera ... , all have a huge debt to Kathy and Eddie. We need to recognize that Moorhead High School’s award winning performances of “Grease” and “Working,” leading to the invitation to attend the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, would not have been possible without the training that began at Carousel Dance Theatre.</p> <p>But the importance of the Gaspers to Moorhead isn’t just what happens on the stage, as wonderful as that is. Eddie and Kathy teach kids, day by day, the importance of preparation, of training, of prioritizing. The Gaspers’ students tend to have higher grades – they need be more careful in scheduling homework, so homework tends to get done. Needless to say, students at Carousel also get an extensive education in Music Appreciation, learning to distinguish all genres from Classical to Classical Jazz to Modern to Broadway. It is said that training in music helps learning in math. Another factor that helps dancers achieve in math is that they learn to keep at a problem until it is solved, in the same way they keep working to improve technique. They learn that persistence is a component to acquiring skills, in school as well as in dance. Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative has recognized that participation in the performing arts is one of the key indicators of a child’s self-esteem, and further a key factor in keeping our kids away from self-destructive behaviors.</p> <p>Since the late ’70s, the Gaspers have had innumerable offers from all over the country, if not the world. They have chosen to remain here. Further, they chose to live in Moorhead, they sent their three children through the Moorhead Public School system. It would be a wonderful gesture to return their loyalty by recognizing their contributions to Moorhead and Fargo. It would be a wonderful way to reinforce to our community that excellence in itself is a worthy goal. Please consider Edmund and Kathryn Gasper.</p>
Moorhead Eagles	It’s patriotic and it’s nice to be patriotic.
All Nations	All nations welcome here at these schools.
Abraham Lincoln High	



<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Imagination or Explore Elementary	It sounds like something that would be a great school and for our community.
Norm Felde Elementary	
La Paz (means The Peace)	This is an area with peace, unlike some parts of the world where there is so much conflict.
Moorhead Stars	Moorhead Stars: all Moorhead Students are stars.
Shining Star	
Martin Luther King Jr.	Because of the vast importance this historical figure had in America in the 20th century. He taught that all people deserve respect and to be treated fairly. The Birmingham Address is something everyone in the community should strive to follow.
Mosaic	Emphasis on diversity, different pieces fitting together.
Hope	We should be optimistic about our children, our future.
La Tierra	Spanish for “The Earth”
Aurora	Reflects our geographic position in the northern hemisphere and its natural grandeur (as in “Aurora Borealis,” the Northern Lights).
Gandhi (high school?)	A world model for nonviolent resistance, participation and responsibility.
Henry H. Ford	He made it possible to get to school without walking.

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

Suggestions For: *District education center in current Probstfield building*

Suggestion	Rationale
Moorhead District Education Center	It just makes good sense to call it what it is!
Moorhead Public Schools District Offices	
Probstfield	<p>This building should retain its name because the land was originally given by the Probstfield family.</p> <p>Probstfield should stay Probstfield.</p> <p>Historical Moorhead figure who supported education.</p> <p>To save money. The name is already there.</p>
Probstfield Education Center	<p>People know where this school is located, it memorializes one of our early school leaders in the community, it means maps don't have to change, it reflects our respect for his contribution to education in Moorhead. Also, all elementary children could learn about him and the living history farm – not just ones from one building.</p> <p>Probstfield should stay Probstfield.</p>
Randolf Probstfield District Education Center	<p>The building is already known as Probstfield and his family deserves to keep this as his namesake.</p> <p>Don't confuse people by changing the name. The Probstfield name has served us well and will in the future in this building.</p>
Moorhead DEC or Mhd District Ed Center ISD 152	Name should "explain" use.

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

## Suggestions For: *Moorhead High School*

Suggestion	Rationale
Moorhead High School or Moorhead Senior High School	<p>Keep the same name; It should remain Moorhead High to reflect the entire community.</p> <p>Moorhead High School says it all; there is no need to attach any other name. Moorhead has had that name for a long time.</p> <p>It helps people who travel to events who ask “where is Moorhead High School?”</p> <p>It is the only high school in Moorhead; changing the name to something else it will be confusing to the public.</p>
Paul and Sheila Wellstone Memorial High School	<p>Moorhead should take this opportunity to honor the Wellstones. They both worked to improve the lives of Minnesotans and all Americans, particularly the vulnerable and underserved.</p> <p>Senator Wellstone was respected by people across the country as someone who was willing to take a stand and fight for his convictions. That’s a trait our schools should certainly seek to instill in students. I think the high school is the best choice, but in fact, I would be happy to see any school named in their memory and honor.</p>
Harlan Shuck High School	<p>Mr. Shuck taught here for over a quarter of a century and still continues to come back to coach and teach. A man with that sort of commitment to education should be honored.</p>
Louis Armstrong High School	<p>Because we should have a name with CLASS.</p>
Jason Blake High School	<p>Jason Blake grew up and went to school in Moorhead and I think he would be proud to have a school named after him in the town he grew up in.</p>
Columbia High School	<p>In memory of the Columbia space shuttle.</p>
Lincoln High School	<p>One of our presidents and it sounds good.</p>
John Adams High School	

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

## Suggestions For: *New Middle School*

Suggestion	Rationale
<p>In order to preserve the names of the current elementary schools yet avoid confusion by having “old” names for buildings and “new” names for buildings, I would suggest that the three floors, or houses, in the new middle school be named Probstfield House, Washington House and Edison House.</p>	<p>There is community interest in preserving the names of the existing schools, but this could cause some confusion. Since the new middle school was advertised to have a “school within a school” kind of set up, it seems appropriate to me to preserve the school names by creating three house (floor) names that does exactly that.</p>
<p>Find a name with meaning — not for a person — but that all middle school students can aspire to.</p>	
<p>William G. Moorhead Middle School</p>	<p>He founded the city in 1871 and it was named after him.</p>
<p>Moorhead Middle School</p>	<p>Because all children from Moorhead will be attending this school.</p> <p>Moorhead Middle School sounds good and simple. Truly, it is who and where we come from. Then they can use the same colors as the Spuds in sporting events, black and orange.</p> <p>I believe the name should be simply, Moorhead Middle School. This signifies the proud name of Moorhead and that we have moved into the current education model of a middle school. I have been to conferences and people have said the school name that they’re from (ex. Voyageur Middle School - who knows where that is). Moorhead should be proud and include Moorhead in its new middle school name.</p> <p>It’s the only middle school in town.</p> <p>The name represents the entire community and at this age, the students and athletes begin to travel and represent Moorhead. We should all be Moorhead Spuds starting at this level and through high school. We should be proud to be “Moorhead.”</p> <p>The name for the new middle school should be Moorhead Middle School because people will know where the school is located and won’t get it confused with other schools in the area and it shows pride in our community.</p> <p>The students at this level are starting to connect to the high school in many ways. They follow closely the activities, wear Spud clothing, etc. I think it would help develop school and community connectedness.</p>

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Valley Middle School	The name should reflect where we live.
Red River Valley Middle School	We live in the Red River Valley and it would be fun to have a school name like that.
Red River Middle School	The name should reflect where we live. We are located in the Red River Valley. It's the nearest major natural landmark.
Moorhead Red River Middle School	For middle school we are in the Red River area.
(Betty) Myers Middle School	I have worked for/with Dr. Myers for sixteen years. She is supportive of all her employees. Dr. Myers has to be one of the most caring student (child) centered principals in Minnesota! She has an excellent rapport with parents and/or guardians. You can always be assured that the job will get done – a very dedicated individual with a big heart.
Roger Maris Middle School	
The Meadows Middle School Meadows Middle School Moorhead Meadows Middle School	The name should reflect where we live. Community where located. Because it is going to be by the Meadows golf course.
Prairie Middle School	The name should reflect where we live.
Robert Asp Middle School	<p>Robert Asp influenced positively many junior high students in Moorhead the years he worked as a counselor. His dream was and still is an inspiration to many area people. I love the logo of “Dare to Dream.” It is so appropriate and meaningful to have his name on the middle school.</p> <p>He was a teacher who had a vision, a dream and pursued it. Good message for middle school aged children</p> <p>Robert Asp was the right name then, and it's the right name now! Let us continue to honor the memory of this Moorhead teacher who showed us the value of dreaming large dreams and turning them into reality.</p>
Loren Douglas Hagen Middle School	Loren Douglas Hagen, Doug Hagen to those who knew him, went to South Junior High through the ninth grade. He would have been in the class of 1964. Doug graduated from NDSU with a degree in engineering and then entered the service. To my knowledge, Doug Hagen is the only person who attended the Moorhead schools who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. I would suggest that the new middle school be named the Loren Douglas Hagen Middle School in honor of an American hero who attended the school the new middle school will be replacing. Doug was a first cousin of Dale Harris. The Harris family was in business of Moorhead for over fifty years. Harris Bros. was an implement dealership and Studebaker outlet for years.

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Meadow View Middle School	It's near Meadows golf course.
Horizon	<p>You can see the horizon from the middle school.</p> <p>It is being built out in the horizon. I don't think every school needs to be named after someone.</p>
Probstfield Middle School	Didn't he once own that land?
<p>Wolf Valley Middle School</p> <p>Wolverine Wild Middle School</p> <p>Wolf Wilds Middle School</p>	<p>Because we're up north and there's a Wolf valley up north and Minnesota is the state of the wolf. I think it would just be appropriate for a northern middle school.</p> <p>Because the Wilds is the state hockey team name and wolverines used to be very common in this part of the region.</p> <p>I think the new middle school should be named that because the Wilds is the state hockey team name and wolves were very common around this area and region and I like wolves and Minnesota is the wolf state.</p>
Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School	It's the age when kids tend to notice their difference and tend to start their groups.
Jefferson Middle School	We don't have a Jefferson around here. It sounds good.
Spuds Middle School	They're from Moorhead (Spuds), and they are in middle school. It would be the first school of Moorhead named after our town in some way.
Challenger Middle School	In memory of the bravery and commitment to exploration of the astronauts who died.
Citizen Middle School	Because too often only the minority of Americans get recognized for their efforts. By naming the Middle School... "Citizen" Middle School it would acknowledge all Americans who have contributed in making the United States what it is today! The United States of America is what it is today because of the collective effort and contributions of all its citizens.
Excel Middle School	The middle school will not only be a totally new facility but will also feature the new middle school concept. I think Excel Middle School would be a very positive identifying name that would speak clearly about the opportunities for achievement for all students.
Edmund Fitzgerald Middle School or Fitzgerald Middle School	Legend of the north country - the Edmund Fitzgerald.

Suggestion	Rationale
Columbia Middle School	<p>I thought it would be nice to name it after the space shuttle that blew up on Feb. 1, 2003.</p> <p>The Columbia Shuttle Tragedy was an important event that happened during our elementary school years. Naming our new middle school after it will help us to remember the astronauts that died. Naming our school after Columbia will also be comforting to the families because they will know that others care about what happened.</p>
Margaret Mead Middle School	<p>Margaret Mead (1901-1978) taught about the value of looking openly at other cultures to better understand what it is to be human. Mead was a scientist, explorer, writer, and teacher. She worked in the Department of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History from 1926-1978.</p> <p>Her work addressed important issues like adolescence, gender, and race. She was the first anthropologist to study child rearing practices and developed a learning theory. There are people who were critical of her work, like Alan Bloom. He views her as someone who advocated a progressive and liberal set of ideas that have been disastrous both educationally and in terms of social programs in the U.S. Mead also had strong views on parent involvement with their children.</p> <p>Understanding ourselves and others, parental involvement, and mutual acceptance are all congruent with the middle school philosophy, so the name is fitting.</p> <p>Here are some quotes by Mead:  “Children are our vehicles for survival - for in them there is hope, and through them what has been, and what will be will not only be perpetuated, but also united.”  “If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which diverse human gifts will all find a fitting place.”  The inscription of Mead’s gravestone reads:  “To cherish the life of the world”</p>
Minnesota Moorhead Middle School	It sounded really cool and it was the first thing to come to my mind and it is named like Minnesota State University Moorhead and I think that the name Minnesota Moorhead Middle School sounded really cool.
Lanning Middle School	After former mayor Morrie Lanning.
East Acres Middle School	Makes sense geographically.

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Lewis & Clark and/or Sacajawea	From January 18, 2003 until September 23, 2006, there will be 200 year celebrations to honor the Lewis & Clark expedition. A large portion of Minnesota was included in the Louisiana Purchase and it changed the history of the United States forever. It would behoove us to honor these men and Sacajawea in this manner for their contribution to history.
Prairie Wind Middle School	
Viking Middle School	Location
Eastmoor Middle School	Location
Lake Agassiz Middle School	Moorhead is on the bottom of what used to be Lake Agassiz.
Wild Middle School	Home state of the Minnesota Wild plus 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are a little wild too!
Happy Days Middle School	We want the students to have a positive attitude about school. I think that my name will remind the students to smile while they are at school. When one person is smiling it makes everyone a little happier!!!



# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

Suggestions For: *All Elementary Schools or Any Elementary School*

Suggestion	Rationale
Use community leader names and have children learn more about our former leaders and the lives they lived here in the Red River Valley.	So all elementary children would learn about all the people behind the names of the elementary schools — all former leaders of education in our community — Probstfield (pioneer); Ada Comstock (women educator); Sharp (community service/board room leader); Robert Asp (modern day venturer). Each connects with our community and deserves study by all the students.
Follow the theme of inventors such as Thomas Edison, Alexander Bell, George Pullman, Samuel Morse or others.	Idea came from Thomas Edison in south part of town
Using presidents would be doubling up with Fargo.	
Robert Asp Elementary, Probstfield Elementary and Comstock Elementary	<p>These three individuals all had a positive influence on education in our area.</p> <p>These people and their families are important historically to our local community. Probstfield's and Asp's visions guided them to achieve great dreams; we want our children to follow their dreams. Elements of their individual character traits are worthy of study by our students. One could support their roles as local heroes. Children need everyday heroes, including people throughout history, such as Randolph Probstfield and Robert Asp.</p>
Probstfield Elementary	<p>As leaders of education in our area, I think the name is of significance. The name lends itself to a study of people who actually lived in our area, were leaders in many areas including farming methods, politics of the time, and education. I feel that children can connect to a name of someone who once lived here. I would say the same of Robert Asp.</p> <p>One of first three white settlers in this area. Helped build first school. Believed strongly in education for his children and all children.</p> <p>He was an important part of Moorhead and was very interested in education. Local pioneer, fun to spell.</p>
Wellstone Elementary School	Because I thought it was an appropriate name, and Paul Wellstone was involved with this community during his time here.
Marlene T. Olson Elementary School	Marlene was a teacher who epitomized the work ethics and the concern for children and learning for which the Moorhead School District is known. Her 21 year career with Moorhead Schools was cut short by her death in February of 1999. I believe her name would lend respect and honor to any school in the district.

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Ellingson Elementary	Jim Ellingson is a retired elementary teacher and continues to dedicate himself to education in Moorhead. He is still involved in education for our future teachers as a professor at Concordia College in Moorhead. He was Minnesota State Teacher of the Year in 1990 (if memory serves correctly). As a former student (and his niece) Jim's dedication to education is truly inspirational.
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School	Thomas Jefferson named after President who made Declaration and constitution.
George Washington Elementary	George Washington was the first president and George Washington Elementary Schools has been a part of Moorhead for a very long time. And I feel that the adults who used to attend George Washington would like for their kids to attend the same school.
Ada Comstock Elementary	She was a woman who was well-educated, went on to be president of Radcliffe College. Was born and raised in Moorhead.
Maplewood Elementary School	
Rose Asp Elementary	As the wife of the builder of the Hjemkomst Viking ship Rose gave much more to this community than most people realize as she sacrificed financially and emotionally in supporting her husband Bob's dream to build a ship and sail it to Norway. As someone who knew and loved Rose Asp as a friend, I know how much she gave and it is my belief that she gave much to our community because she is the one who supported finishing what Bob started. She did this by giving her children and Bob's friends the financial and emotional support needed to complete the voyage. And she gave of herself tirelessly until it had been accomplished. When it was done she took nothing for herself but turned around and gave the Ship (worth \$500,000) to the community of Moorhead so that the Hjemkomst center could come to fruition. I think it is far past time that this courageous and generous WOMAN be remembered and honored by this community and naming an elementary after her would be a great start. Thank you for considering an unsung hero, my friend, Rose Asp.
Columbia Elementary	It's timely because of the recent Columbia space shuttle tragedy, but also Columbia has been a name associated with American democracy since the birth of our nation.
John Dewey Elementary School	Arguably the most influential educational thinker of the 20th Century, Dewey paved the way for self-directed learning and interdisciplinary/independent curriculums in school. He created the philosophy behind the incredibly successful KEEP independent research program at Moorhead High School (says Charles Fisher).

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Savior Elementary	
John F. Kennedy Elementary School	
Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	She was a champion for equal rights.
Ann Bancroft Elementary School	<p>She is a polar explorer from Minnesota and an internationally recognized leader dedicated to inspiring women and girl audiences around the world to unleash the power of their dreams. She became one of the first women in history to sail and ski across Antarctica's landmass. She also earns the distinction of being the first woman in history to cross the ice to both the North and South Poles. She was also a teacher in the Minneapolis area schools. She taught physical and special education and coached various high school sports. She is currently an instructor for Wilderness Inquiry, an organization that helps disabled and able-bodied individuals enjoy the wilderness year round. She currently lives in Scandia, MN and is 47.</p>

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

Suggestions For: *Remodeled elementary school in current Robert Asp building*

Suggestion	Rationale
<p>Robert Asp Robert Asp North Elementary</p>	<p>Continuing to honor a very unique and important individual in our district.</p> <p>We've made a difference in this community. If you name it something else people will always refer to it as the old Robert Asp School!</p> <p>Robert Asp deserves to have his name live on for the degree of renown he has brought our city and school district. Keeping the name also helps maintain some community familiarity.</p> <p>I have been in this school since 1983 – went through many names and naming committees. The school name had much thought and tied into the spirit of the Dare to Dream. It has a local person and Hjemkomst associated with it. I still like the name and its meaning.</p> <p>A lot of thought and time went into naming that school. Calling it Robert Asp School seems to fit — and it is where Mr. Asp worked.</p> <p>Local person of scholastic influence and area history, important figure historically.</p> <p>This building is already known as “Asp” and his family deserves to keep it as his namesake but add “North” if the other two elementary schools end up being something similar to Central &amp; South.</p> <p>He was a great instructor, a person students looked up to. If Probstfield keeps its name, then you must give the students of north Moorhead the same option.</p> <p>Robert Asp worked as a teacher and counselor at the building and he showed us all that hard work can help make a dream come true. It is important to honor local people as well as those who are nationally know.</p> <p>He was my counselor in the 1980s and a very good man. It is a good name, a local name, and people are used to that name as a school on the north side.</p> <p>Mr. Asp was a very important person and that his name should go on at the school that the name was given to; he was a great man who made his dreams come true under poor health and is a good role model for our kids. Robert Asp School name was given in honor of Robert Asp from our community and it would be a dishonor to remove the name. It doesn't matter that there will be younger grades in there. Keep the history of Moorhead alive as well as honor those who did so much in establishing the city of Moorhead and its schools.</p>
<p>North Elementary North Elementary Lightning</p>	<p>Location It makes sense, geographically, compared to the other two elementary schools.</p>

Suggestion	Rationale
Cesar Chavez	Sr. Chavez fought for farmworkers rights and because this area has had farmworkers for decades, it is a way of showing appreciation to those who work to put food on our tables.
George Washington Elementary	<p>I think it would be nice to keep the northside elementary as Washington Named after George Washington and it is the name of our old school.</p> <p>The referendum has paved the way for many positive changes, yet many district residents are still very reluctant to accept those changes. Let’s honor their feelings by keeping the names we all know and love as a way to perhaps ease the pain of change for so many of our community members while, most importantly, honoring our past. George Washington is an icon, an institution that is held deeply in the hearts of thousands of our citizens of the district. Let's honor the memory of that fine school, all of its fantastic teachers and staff, past and present, and all of its graduates by transferring its name to our new north elementary school. I’m thinking that the folks from the north side of our district would be proud to see this name live on.</p>
John Adams Elementary	Adams was the most vocal advocate for Independence in the entire Continental Congress. He helped Jefferson draft the Declaration of Independence. He was born a Farmer’s son, but entered Harvard at 15 and rose to our 2nd President. His views on education were so strong that he wrote, “Laws for the liberal education of youth, especially for the lower classes of people, are so extremely wise and useful that to a humane and generous mind, no expense for this purpose would be thought extravagant.” A plaque with this quote would be a good reminder for all in John Adams elementary school.
Myers Elementary	I have worked for/with Dr. Myers for sixteen years. She is supportive of all her employees. Dr. Myers has to be one of the most caring student (child) centered principals in Minnesota! She has an excellent rapport with parents and/or guardians. You can always be assured that the job will get done – a very dedicated individual with a big heart.
Crystal Elementary School	American Crystal is in the north Moorhead area and it is a part of Moorhead so thought of Crystal Elementary, making it unique.

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

Suggestions For: *Remodeled elementary school in current Junior High*

Suggestion	Rationale
Howard Wergeland Elementary	He was such a kind and fair administrator! (I know he's still living.)
Probstfield	<p>He was a very important part of education in Moorhead.  Historically important figure in Moorhead.  Because both of my children attended Probstfield K-4 and I feel strongly about the name being carried on.  It is a good name, a local name, and people are used to the elementary school on the south side with that name.  I believe the history of Probstfield deserves to stay in place.</p>
Central Elementary Central Elementary Patriots	<p>Location  It makes sense, geographically, compared to the other two elementary schools.</p>
Liberty Central Elementary School	<p>“Central” conveys two messages:  1) that the school is geographically in the middle of the district’s layout of elementary school buildings.  2) that the concept of Liberty is a central value that our students, our community, and our nation can commonly cherish.</p>
George Washington Memorial School George Washington Elementary	<p>If the current George Washington school is going to be torn down than there should be a George Washington school in it’s place</p> <p>Universally acclaimed by his contemporaries as the only person who could have lead the Continental Armies in a successful war for Independence. Could have been King, but chose the title President instead to serve the people. Rated the #1 President by most historians. We should continue to honor President Washington for leading our new country in 1776. He was quiet, honest, incredibly brave, and a man of the highest integrity.</p>
Sharp School	This would again recognize the work this community leader did for Moorhead Schools. Since there is no current school with his name, it could be used again.
Red River Elementary	Location
Thomas Edison - Riverside	Thomas Edison and Riverside Elementary Schools are icons, institutions that are held deeply in the hearts of thousands of the citizens of this district. Let’s honor the memory of those fine schools, all of their fantastic teachers and staff, past and present, and all of their graduates by transferring their names to our new central elementary school. I’m thinking that the folks from the center of our district would be proud to see these names lives on.

# School Name Suggestions Received by March 10, 2003

## Suggestions For: *New Elementary School*

Suggestion	Rationale
Fourteenth Street Elementary	Location
Madison Elementary	
John F. Kennedy Elementary School	He was one President who really cared about people of color.
South Elementary South Elementary Stars	It makes sense geographically compared to the other two elementary schools; location
Valley Elementary	After the Red River Valley
Wild Prairie Elementary School	
Comstock Elementary School Ada Comstock Elementary	<p>I believe she has been a pioneer in education from our community, reflects the ideals young women in the community can learn from and be proud of, and her roots and bones are right here with us.</p> <p>Figure of historical importance to Moorhead.</p> <p>Keep the history of Moorhead alive as well as honor those who did so much in establishing the city of Moorhead and its schools.</p>
Laveta Scott (not positive on first name) -- she was once principal of Riverside School.	She was a wonderful principal at Riverside and it would be a tribute to Riverside residents as well! I think it would help the Riverside neighborhood with the closing of their school to have one of their former principals honored.
Freedom "Eagles" Elementary Freedom Elementary	<p>From 1776 until today, our country has been a bastion for Freedom and we too often take this for granted. The name Freedom Elementary with the eagle as the mascot would be appropriate today and in the future of our country and school.</p> <p>Because of recent events (9-11)...this just seems right to name a school Freedom. This great country was created on this fundamental human right that some of us don't realize we had and take for granted.</p>

<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Moorhead Area Elementary	It lists the town, and none of the elementary schools do that now.
Randolph Probstfield Elementary School	<p>Randolph Probstfield Elementary School is an icon, an institution that is held deeply in the hearts of thousands of the citizens of this district. Let's honor the memory of that fine school, all of its fantastic teachers and staff, past and present, and all of its graduates by transferring its name to our new south elementary school. I think that the folks from the south side of our district would be proud to see this name live on.</p> <p>Mr. Probstfield is was the first teacher in the area and founded Moorhead. I would like his name to be on the new school because it is part of our history and we plan on continuing to educate the students in the primary grades about him.</p>
David Crocket	Part of the American history.
Prairie Wind Elementary	
Washington Elementary	He is the Father of our Country, first President of the USA, and his name should be honored and remembered for all future generations of our children.
Panther Pride School	Because panthers are our mascot.