

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: March 11, 2003
TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**
FROM: Dr. J. Hairston, Superintendent
SUBJECT: **Name Change for Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School**

ORIGINATOR: Ann Glazer, Executive Director of Schools, Southeast Area

RESOURCE

PERSON(S): Ed Fangman, Principal of Sollers Point/
Southeastern Technical High School
Sarah Trenergy, Chairperson of Board of Directors of Sollers
Point/Southeastern Technical High School

RECOMMENDATION

That a name change for the school to Sollers Point
Technical High School be approved.

Background

In 1946 the school was opened as a segregated high school in Baltimore County with the name Sollers Point High School. The school was closed in 1966 due to integration and was reopened the following year as Dundalk Regional Vocational School. Since that time, the school has undergone a number of name changes. Listed below are the changes that occurred:

- Dundalk Regional Vocational Technical Center
- Dundalk Vocational Technical Center
- Southeastern Vocational Technical Center
- Southeastern School of Technology
- Southeastern Technical Magnet High School
- Southeastern Technical High School

The latest change was to the current name of Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School. The reason for this change was based on community leaders wanting to recapture the roots of the school and its heritage. To satisfy the business community at that time, a transitional name Southeastern was left in the title.

Rationale for Change

Stakeholders, at this point, want to shorten the name of the school to its original moniker. An example of the rationale is the Board Chairman's statement that "The proposed name captures the essence of the school's heritage and is market savvy and business friendly." In addition, students, staff, parents, and community members have a desire to recapture the roots of their community.

Support for Change

The impetus for this change came from the Board of Directors of Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School. This resulted in the principal of the school contacting numerous community organizations through the Greater Dundalk Community Council. The principal also met with students and staff who supported the proposed name change. Attached are letters of support from the Greater Dundalk Community Council, Appendix I; Board of Directors of Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School, Appendix II; Day Village Community, Appendix III; Turner Station Heritage Fund, Appendix IV; and Carver Manor Association, Appendix V.

Process

Appendix VI, Board Policy #7520, outlines the process for Board of Education to name a school. There is not a process for a name change; therefore, the decision by the Board for this recommendation may be managed in the same manner as naming a school.

AG/ma

- Appendix I – Letter to Ed Fangman, Principal, from Greater Dundalk Community Council
- Appendix II – Memorandum to Board of Directors, Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School
- Appendix III – Day Village Limited Partnership
- Appendix IV – Turner Station Heritage Fund
- Appendix V – Carver Manor Association
- Appendix VI – Board Policy #7520

GREATER DUNDALK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Serving the Community for over 30 years

c/o Community College of Baltimore County - Dundalk Campus
7200 Sollers Point Road
Baltimore, MD 21222

December 19, 2003

Mr. Edward J. Fangman
Principal
Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School
325 Sollers Point Road
Dundalk, Maryland 21222

Dear Mr. Fangman: *Ed*

On behalf of the members of the Greater Dundalk Community Council, I would like to extend our support for a change of the name of your school from Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School to **Sollers Point Technical High School**.

As you well know, many in the community refer to your school as "Sollers Point," while others say "Southeastern." Very few refer to it as "Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School." Giving this outstanding educational institution the name of Sollers Point Technical High School brings the name back to its roots in the Dundalk community. This community will once again be able to become closely identified with your school. As a popular TV psychologist states, "You have to name it, to claim it!"

Let me also take this opportunity to thank you for providing the students in Dundalk the opportunity to gain access to the superb, high quality technical education you and your faculty provide. If there is anything we can do to support you and your school in the future, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Ann Bonner
President

Baltimore County Government
Department of Economic Development



400 Washington Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-8000
Fax (410) 887-8017

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors, Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School

From: Sara Trenergy, Chairman

Date: October 22, 2002

Re: Proposed Name Change for the School

At the first Board meeting of the new school year, I replaced Charles Wheatley as the Chairman of the Board. I look forward to seeing many of you at the November 6th Board meeting. In the meantime, I would appreciate your consideration of a proposal to shorten the name of the school to **Sollers Point Technical High School**.

The current name was adopted as a combination of the former Southeastern Vo-Tech High School and the historic reference to Sollers Point Junior-Senior High School. The name is long and cumbersome and often does not fit in standard databases and spreadsheet cells. The production of letterhead and promotional materials presents a challenge due to the excessive space that the name of the school takes up. The current name is difficult to market and many people refer to the school as Sollers Point in casual conversation.

The proposed name captures the essence of the school's heritage and is market savvy and business friendly. The focus of the school remains as it always has been – to prepare students for careers and continued education.

There is some history of other schools seeking similar changes – Central Vocational Technical High School became the Carver Center for Arts and Technology. Sollers Point/Southeastern's image remains enhanced by the school's accomplishments and those of its students. The school's marketability will be enhanced by this simple change that should not be offensive and, in fact, recognizes the school's unique history.

To begin the process of changing the name, the Board will discuss this at the November 6th meeting and take a vote on the issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-887-8030 with any comments or questions. If you are unable to attend November's meeting, you may submit written comments on the subject to the school office by November 4th.

I look forward to working with all of the members of the Board to continue the long tradition of excellence at Sollers Point/ Southeastern Technical High School.

DAY VILLAGE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

503 AVONDALE ROAD, TURNER STATION, BALTIMORE, MD. 21222 • 284-7100

February 27, 2003

Sollers Point Southeastern Technical High School
Mr. Edward J. Fangman, Principal
325 Sollers Point Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21222

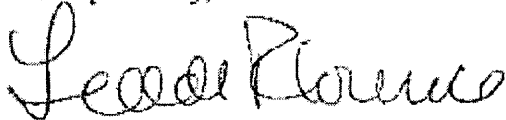
RE: Name Change

Dear Mr. Fangman:

The Turner Station Residents and some former students of Sollers Point High School wholeheartedly support all actions necessary to rename Soller Point Southeastern Technical High School to more closely resemble its original name to **Sollers Point Technical High School**.

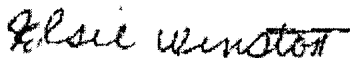
Thank you so much for your efforts in helping to restore the memories of many good times at that school.

Respectfully,



Teddi Florence

Day Village Property Manage



Elsie Winston

Day Village Tenant Association, President



118 William Wade Avenue * Baltimore, Maryland 21222-6253 * Phone: 410-285-8640

March 3, 2003

Edward J. Fangman
Principal
Sollers Point Southeastern Technical High School
325 Sollers Point Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Dear Mr. Fangman:

What a coup it would be to have Sollers Point Southeastern Technical High School simply named Sollers Point Technical High School!

On behalf of former students, Turner Station residents, and members of the Turner Station Heritage Foundation, we believe in the proposed name change for the following reasons:

- For the sake of brevity and simplicity;
- For being faithful and true to its original historic name (Sollers Point High School since its inception in 1948);
- For the love of our history - to honor those who fought for a high school for African American students; and,
- For the pride of our community and ownership in naming the only remaining school in Turner Station.

We enthusiastically support the renaming of our beloved school, which still stands as an institution of enduring excellence in our community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Courtney Speed".

Courtney Speed
President

*Edie Brooks * Roberta Bryant * Angelissa Jones * Lorraine Hawkins
Mandy Martin * Margaret Watkins * Jerome Watson*

CARVER MANOR ASSOCIATION

124 Carver Road • Baltimore, MD 21222 • c/o Alice Mason • Phone: 410-288-9453

March 2, 2003

Edward J. Fangman
Principal
Sollers Point Southeastern Technical High School
325 Sollers Point Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Dear Mr. Fangman:

The Carver Manor Association represents 100 households in Turner Station. Many of our residents, and/or their family members, have fond memories of attending Sollers Point High School and the positive, nurturing relationship that existed between the school and the community. We wholeheartedly support all actions - including the renaming of the school - that **would** rekindle these memories.

Under the guidance of the Baltimore County Offices of Planning and Community Conservation, the Turner Station Community is currently involved in the process of creating a "community improvement plan". A portion of that plan (and the Dundalk "Renaissance" plan) includes emphasizing the rich history of our community. The name, "Sollers Point High School", refers to our pioneering ancestors who fought for a community school we (African Americans) could attend, the building, the administrators, teachers, support staff and the students - all an integral part of our history.

For these reasons, and because we still harbor a deep-seated love for our alma mater, we totally support the renaming of the school to more closely resemble its original name.

Sincerely,



Alice Mason
President

NEW CONSTRUCTION: Occupying

Naming of the Building and Dedication

The Board of Education reserves the right to approve, or reject, a name for a new school building upon receiving a recommendation for same from the Superintendent of Schools. Normally, the Board of Education shall not name buildings for persons living or dead. The Board of Education further reserves the right to approve as to design, wording, and placement, or reject, proposals for erecting memorials in the form of plaques or monuments in new school buildings or on their sites. The Superintendent of Schools shall establish administrative procedures for appropriate dedication ceremonies that may be celebrated following completion and occupancy of a new school project.