

DISCUSSION/ACTION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Rockville, Maryland

July 15, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To/From: Members of the Board of Education

Subject: Naming Correction— Ronald McNair Elementary School

WHEREAS, The Ronald McNair Elementary School was opened as a new Montgomery County Public Schools building in 1990; and

WHEREAS, The school was named for Dr. Ronald E. McNair who was a physicist and astronaut. He was the second African American in space for National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was killed in the Challenger disaster on January 28, 1986; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McNair earned a bachelor's degree in physics from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1971 and a doctoral degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1976; and

WHEREAS, The name Ronald McNair Elementary School does not reflect that Dr. McNair earned a doctoral degree; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education strives to recognize educational excellence and would like to honor the full breadth of Dr. Ronald E. McNair's achievements; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with Board of Education Policy FFA, *Naming School Facilities* and Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation FFA-RA, *Naming School Facilities*, the Board of Education makes final decisions on renaming schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the superintendent of schools to correct the name of Ronald McNair Elementary School by amending the school's name to "Dr. Ronald E. McNair Elementary School" no later than December 2021.

BOE:rns