

January 28, 2021

Dear Dr. Posley,

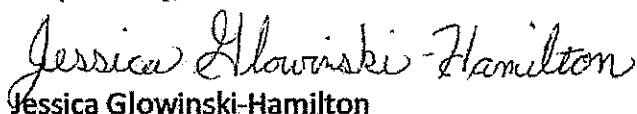
As chairperson of the School Engagement Council at James Whitcomb Riley School, I am writing on behalf of our council to request a name change for our school. The members of the School Engagement Council voted unanimously in favor of a school name change at the December 17, 2020 meeting. In addition, a vast majority of our staff, families, and community members favor a school name change that reflects the dual language Montessori programming our school offers.

Four years ago, our school launched the new dual language Montessori program for MPS. Not only was this program unique to MPS, but it was the first of its kind in Wisconsin. As the program continues to shift from monolingual/bilingual to dual language Montessori, it becomes clearer each school year that the current school name, James Whitcomb Riley School, doesn't represent our program.

Over the past four years, school enrollment has been decreasing. After analyzing the data and discussing reasons with school stakeholders, staff, families and community members, we believe it is in part, due to our school name. We all agree that a name that better explains our program would increase enrollment numbers because of the specialized school program we offer. Therefore, we ask that the school board consider changing our name from James Whitcomb Riley School to **Riley Dual Language Montessori School**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Jessica Glowinski-Hamilton
James Whitcomb Riley School
Chairperson, School Engagement Council
Google Voice/Text: (414) 436-4970
glowinj@milwaukee.k12.wi.us



J.W. Riley School
2424 S. 4th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53207
(414) 902-7100