



**MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Franklin Pierce School**

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August 6, 2018

Dr. Keith Posley  
5225 W. Vliet Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Dear Dr. Posley,

While I have been at Pierce, serving in the capacity of principal, it has come to my attention that students' families and staff members are offended by the current school name, Franklin Pierce. Research shows that President Franklin Pierce's actions, especially those while president, do not align with the beliefs of our current students, their families, or staff members. Based on this, we request a name change to reflect our current community. We request that Franklin Pierce School be renamed Riverwest Elementary School.


On March 7, 2018, a letter was crafted and sent home with a ballot in our students' weekly Wednesday folder. The ballot included a space for parents to choose between two new names, Riverwest Elementary School or Pierce Street Elementary School. There was also a space for families to suggest a different name option. The ballot was also available for students, staff, and community members during local elections held here at Pierce.

The final results from the 346 returned ballots from stakeholders were: Riverwest Elementary School – 245, Pierce Street Elementary School- 99, Future Generations- 1, and Franklin Pierce School- 1.

If you are in agreement of this name change, we ask that you please submit this to the MPS School Board for the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. We ask that the name be reflected for the Three Choice enrollment process for the 2019-20 school year and in all MPS related data bases and records upon Board approval.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Leticia N. Washington  
Principal

  
Gena Gonzales  
SEC Chairperson

Cc: Dr. Katrice Cotton  
Janel Hawkins

***Start. Stay. Succeed.***  
***Comienza. Quédate. Triunfa.***