

May 25, 2021

Dr. Ayindé Rudolph
Superintendent
1400 Montecito Ave.
Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Dr. Rudolph,

In 2020, the Mountain View Whisman School District Board of Trustees voted to rename Frank L. Huff Elementary in order to ensure all school names in the district aligned with the values of inclusivity and social justice. It has been the distinct pleasure of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to dedicate themselves to the process of renaming Frank L. Huff Elementary School over the past year.

The CAC, composed of Huff's principal, teachers, staff members, parents, students, and alumni convened 7 times over the past year. Using detailed community input from Huff's parent community through the use of the ThoughtExchange platform, the CAC crafted and perfected a rubric that was used to score each namesake candidate put forth.

Through the rubric formation process, we learned that Huff families valued namesake candidates that *elicit a feeling of pride, represent the diversity of the Huff community*, and that are *inspiring and represent the awe associated with bravery and perseverance*. Along with these considerations, members of the CAC determined using the district's mission and vision statements that MVWSD wants a namesake candidate that *represents inclusivity, is symbolic of greater society change and growth, and represents academic excellence and achievement*. Using these parameters, the CAC collected and vetted namesake candidates and used the rubric to make difficult decisions regarding distilling the list of namesake finalists.

In the final stages of the year-long Huff renaming project, the final three namesake candidates emerged: Katherine Johnson, Ruth Bader Ginsbrug, and Amy Imai. Information about the lives and legacies of these candidates, along with the scoring rubrics developed by the CAC, were presented to multiple MVWSD leadership organizations including the Leadership Team, Mountain View Education Foundation (MVEF), PTA Executive Board, and the District Advisory Committee (DAC). Once the scores were collected and averaged, Amy Imai was the



namesake candidate who garnered the most support from these organizations with Katherine Johnson closely behind.

Students of Frank L. Huff Elementary were also involved in the renaming process. Library technician Doreen Kalb met with every classroom to introduce each candidate to students and read books about the lives and experiences of each candidate. This meaningful instruction culminated in individual classrooms voting for the candidate they thought would best represent the values and virtues of the school community. As a result of the voting process, 68.4% of classrooms supported Amy Imai as the next namesake of Frank L. Huff Elementary school.

Given the overwhelming support for Amy Imai from the community along with her deeply compelling history of courage, resilience in the face of hardship, bravery, and service to her community, the CAC is delighted to provide our enthusiastic recommendation of ***Amy Imai Elementary School*** for the next name of what was formerly Frank L. Huff Elementary School in the Mountain View Whisman School District. Along with the support of the CAC, you will find remarks from the community attached to this letter.

Community members including family, friends, students, and witnesses to the life of Amy Imai wrote to the district and described Amy as “selfless”, “humble”, “generous with her time,” and as someone who “had boundless energy and love for helping her community.” Her younger brother Arthur noted that Amy has “positively touched the lives of all who knew or encountered her.” “During a well-lived lifetime,” others wrote, “She put her whole heart into serving the Mountain View community she loved, especially towards educating children on what it means to be informed by history, the importance of being an active citizen and how to be guided by an open mind & compassion for others.”

Those in support of Ms. Imai as the next namesake candidate also talked about Amy’s personal history of having been relocated to an internment camp at Heart Mountain in Wyoming during World War II. Her subsequent community activism through storytelling and educating young people in the community about the perils of prejudice seems to meet the current moment with particular relevance. It is without reservation that we make this recommendation to you today.

In service,



Megan Henderson
Equity Coach
CAC Facilitator



Arline Siam
Principal
Frank L. Huff Elementary

Linda Lopez, Teacher, CAC Member
Kristin Montgomery, Teacher, CAC Member
Joanna Graciano, Teacher, CAC Member
Camela Algieri, Teacher, CAC Member
Shelley Hsieh, Teacher, CAC Member
Teresa Diaz, Clerk, CAC Member
Yael Shaked, Parent, CAC Member
Aishwarya Rengan, Parent, CAC Member
Shannon Shwartz, Parent, CAC Member
Juakita Berkley, Parent, CAC Member
Chris Ito, Parent, CAC Member
Vedika Raman, Student CAC Member
Benjamin Cittadino IV, Alumnus, CAC Member
Mathias Hausman, Alumnus, CAC Member

To: Megan Henderson

From: Arthur Kunimoto

Re: Huff Elementary School Renaming

As a younger brother of Amy Imai, I am honored that her name is being considered for the renaming of Huff Elementary. I feel she is very deserving of the honor as she was Mountain View in spirit and heart.

Our family were residents of Mountain View until our Interment at Heart Mountain Relocation Camp in Wyoming. Upon returning to California from the Camp we had to settle in Cupertino and started the sharecropping of berries. My mother could not handle the transition from camp, so Amy started taking care of my younger sister Kathleen and myself. I was eight, Kathleen was one and Amy was only fifteen.

Because of all this added responsibility Amy was unable to go to high school until her sophomore year. The principal initially thought that she would need to spend an extra year but she was able to meet the requirements and graduate with her class. She did so well in her studies that she became her class Valedictorian.

After graduating high school, she was offered a scholarship to San Jose State. My father, however, did not want her to go as he felt it would not be of use to her because she would eventually "just get married". Amy followed my father's wishes. About that time my older brother George wanted to go to college. My father was once again against it. Amy was able to convince my father that she would work the farm with him until George graduated college. George was able to graduate Cal Poly San Luis Obispo due to this effort.

Amy met and married Robert Imai and the couple resided for life in Mountain View. They raised four children and grew carnations at their Ada Avenue home. Amy was very devoted to her children and would instill them with strong religious based values of right and wrong. She also raised them to have pride in and support for their community.

Amy was a tireless woman who worked hard growing carnations as well as any other effort she undertook. She instilled her work ethic and strong Buddhist values to her family and to others.

I remember the time she organized a conference at the Buddhist Church to present other religions to a forum. She asked people of the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant denominations to share some of their religion's main themes. It was very interesting, that even some time ago she was aware that we need to live in harmony with all religions.

Another example of her love of Mountain View was when the Buddhist Church in San Jose wanted the church of Mountain View to be called 'San Jose Buddhist Church, Mountain View'. Amy was against this proposal and she endorsed that the church be called Mountain View Buddhist Church, the name it holds to this day.

Amy was not only concerned with people of all faiths but also all pets and other animals. In the days we were strawberry farming our mother wanted the stray cats to be moved because they were doing damage to the strawberries. My mom asked Amy to round up the strays and move them miles away. Amy reluctantly did as my mother asked but I later saw her crying. Subsequently the mother cat came back to the farm and did not want to leave. Amy then took care of her.

She continued her love of pets for the rest of her life. When Amy passed away her dogs seemed to know that she was not coming back. A short time later her dogs also passed away as if knowing that they could join her and she would lovingly take care of them forever.

Amy was always a very giving person and her support of the Buddhist Church of Mountain View was monumental. She organized trips for the aged church members to Japan and Europe as well as to Reno. When there was a funeral at the Church she would take charge of the post ceremony funeral meal. This would allow the family to be free to reminisce with those attending about the people who had passed away.

Her contribution to the city of Mountain View was tremendous. Her children all went to Whisman District schools and Amy was a big participant in the PTA and other school activities.

She positively touched the lives of all who knew or encountered her. I feel it would be a great honor to recognize my sister and name a school after her. Amy represented all that is good about Mountain View. She was part of a Mountain View from its agricultural past all the way into its change into being part of Silicon Valley. Amy represented and never forgot the roots of this city.

I feel it would benefit the Whisman schools to honor Amy as she was not only part of the schools but of Mountain View. I feel she perfectly embodies the districts motto of Inspiring Each Student to Succeed Every Day.

Thank you for considering Amy for this honor and your time



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Fwd: Renaming of Huff School

2 messages

Leslie Imai <leslie.imai@gmail.com>

Wed, May 19, 2021 at 4:59 PM

To: trustees@mvwsd.org, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Cc: Shawn Imai <simairealtor@aol.com>

Hello Trustees & Megan,

Shawn has tried to send you a note about Amy Imai but has had trouble with the email addresses bouncing. So I am forwarding this to you on her behalf.

Thank you,
Leslie Imai

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <simairealtor@aol.com>

Date: Wed, May 19, 2021 at 1:50 PM

Subject: Renaming of Huff School

To: leslie.imai@gmail.com <leslie.imai@gmail.com>

Dear Honorable MVWSD Trustees,

I hope all of you are staying healthy during these challenging times.

I am writing regarding the renaming of Huff School. It is without hesitation that I offer my enthusiastic support for Amy Imai. In the interest of full disclosure, I am married to her son, Darren.

From the moment I met Amy, it was obvious she placed a high priority on education and achievement. As she and her husband were carnation growers, income was limited. However, they still managed to put 4 children through college. It was extremely important to Amy, in particular. She knew it would give them a broader perspective of the world, and opportunities for a better life.

Amy also encouraged participation in school clubs and activities, as well as church and community organizations. Her children were all active in athletics, as well. She knew the skills they learned through these pursuits would make them well-rounded, and give them the necessary resources to succeed later in life.

Amy's enthusiasm did not end with her family. When she worked at Lucky's, she encouraged her young co-workers to work hard in school and get engaged in community activities. She even played matchmaker for two of them. They are now married and teaching English in Japan. They had such high regard for her, that they flew all the way from Japan for her funeral service.

It is no secret that Amy and her family spent several years at the Heart Mountain, Wyoming internment camp during WWII. Although it was not a pleasant experience, they made the best of it. Rather than become bitter, Amy chose to use it as a teachable moment in history. She wanted people to understand why the treatment of the Japanese people was unjust, so that such events would not be repeated. When 9/11 happened, and hate crimes against those of Middle Eastern descent were occurring, she was very concerned that history would be repeated. Over her lifetime, she made it her mission to speak at schools, libraries, and other venues to educate others on the dangers of injustice.

In summary, Amy believed that a well-educated populace would help eliminate prejudice and injustice. This is particularly relevant in today's world. She encouraged others to get involved in their communities, as she did, to be a positive catalyst for change and advancement.

Please give Amy your strongest consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn Imai

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mwwsd.org>
To: Leslie Imai <leslie.imai@gmail.com>
Cc: trustees <trustees@mwwsd.org>, Shawn Imai <simairealtor@aol.com>

Thu, May 20, 2021 at 10:17 AM

Good Morning Leslie,

Please send this response on my behalf, though the email from Shawn did go through and I was able to respond.

Good Morning Shawn!

It is an honor and privilege to get to connect with you and your family and it has been nothing short of inspirational learning about the life and legacy of Mrs. Imai. She has made the short list of candidates (top 3) and the next step in this process is to solicit feedback from some of our stakeholder groups and committees about their thoughts on the top 3 candidates. The Superintendent along with myself will be leading this process over the next few weeks. We anticipate being able to deliver the group consensus during the June 3rd Board meeting via public hearing and a final decision will be made by the Board on the June 17th Board meeting. I will absolutely keep you updated on the progress and you will be kept in the loop.

I wish to offer my sincere congratulations and well wishes to you and your family on the consideration of Amy Imai as the new school namesake for Huff Elementary. Regardless of the final outcome, know that she continues to be an inspiration to educators, parents, and students in the Mountain View community.

In service and gratitude,

Megan Henderson
(Quoted text hidden)



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Renaming Huff School

3 messages

Susan Imai <mtnball@sbcglobal.net>
To: mhenderson@mvwsd.org

Thu, May 6, 2021 at 9:22 PM

Dear MVWSD Board Members,

My name is Susan Imai. I am Amy Imai's daughter. I am truly grateful that you are considering my mom in the renaming of Huff school. You have already heard a lot about my mom. I want to emphasize that my mom enjoyed living and participating in the Mountain View community. She would watch and support various programs offered by the local schools - sports, music, and theater productions. She would also take any opportunity to share her life experiences, especially during the time of WWII. She wanted everyone to know what it felt like to be uprooted from her home and to live under a time of hatred and discrimination to people of Japanese ancestry. She encouraged young adults to participate in cultural exchange to broaden their awareness of other cultures by being a long time Board member of the Sister City Student Exchange Program.

Thank you again for considering my mom in the renaming of Huff School,

Susan Imai

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>
To: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>
Cc: Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 8:19 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>
To: Susan Imai <mtnball@sbcglobal.net>

Mon, May 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM

Good Morning Susan!

It is an honor and privilege to get to connect with you and your family and it has been nothing short of inspirational learning about the life and legacy of Mrs. Imai. She has made the short list of candidates (top 3) and the next step in this process is to solicit feedback from some of our stakeholder groups and committees about their thoughts on the top 3 candidates. The Superintendent along with myself will be leading this process over the next few weeks. We anticipate being able to deliver the group consensus during the June 3rd Board meeting via public hearing and a final decision will be made by the Board on the June 17th Board meeting. I will absolutely keep you updated on the progress and you will be kept in the loop.

I wish to offer my sincere congratulations and well wishes to you and your family on the consideration of Amy Imai as the new school namesake for Huff Elementary. Regardless of the final outcome, know that she continues to be an inspiration to educators, parents, and students in the Mountain View community.

In service and gratitude,

Megan Henderson
[Quoted text hidden]



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Huff Elementary Renaming - Amy Imai

3 messages

Leonard Lane <awkupant@hotmail.com>
To: mhenderson@mvwsd.org
Cc: lisa@satosato.net

Sat, May 8, 2021 at 3:55 PM

I am sending this email on behalf of Arthur Kunimoto.

Thank you for your assistance with this. Attached is a statement about my sister Amy for the consideration of the Board.

Arthur Kunimoto

 **AmyImaiTestimonial.pdf**
81K

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>
To: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>
Cc: Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Sat, May 8, 2021 at 4:23 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

 **AmyImaiTestimonial.pdf**
81K

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>
To: Leonard Lane <awkupant@hotmail.com>

Mon, May 10, 2021 at 9:58 AM

Hi Leonard,

Thank you so much for sending this along! Would you be able to pass on this reply to Arthur? Thank you!

Good Day Mr. Kunimoto!

It is an honor and privilege to get to connect with you and your family and it has been nothing short of inspirational learning about the life and legacy of Mrs. Imai. She has made the short list of candidates (top 3) and the next step in this process is to solicit feedback from some of our stakeholder groups and committees about their thoughts on the top 3 candidates. The Superintendent along with myself will be leading this process over the next few weeks. We anticipate being able to deliver the group consensus during the early-June Board meeting via public hearing. The final decision will be made at the June 17th Board meeting. I will absolutely keep you updated on the progress and you will be kept in the loop.

I'll be excited to invite you (and whomever you wish) to the public hearing. Once we have a date and time set, you'll be among the first to know.

I wish to offer my sincere congratulations and well wishes to you and your family on the consideration of Amy Imai as the new school namesake for Huff Elementary. Regardless of the final outcome, know that she continues to be an inspiration to educators, parents, and students in the Mountain View community.

In service and gratitude,

Megan Henderson
[Quoted text hidden]



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Fwd: Support for Renaming of Huff Elementary School in Honor of Amy Imai

3 messages

Lisa Sato <lisa@satosato.net>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 8:52 AM

To: "mhenderson@mvwsd.org" <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Hello, Ms. Henderson,

Last night, Leslie Imai notified us that we should send our letters of support to you or to the Board directly so I am forwarding to you the email that I had sent to the Trustees a couple of days ago.

Thank you kindly for your consideration and keeping us informed on the school renaming effort.

Sincerely,
Lisa Sato

----- Original Message -----

From: Lisa Sato <lisa@satosato.net>

To: "trustees@mvwsd.org" <trustees@mvwsd.org>

Date: 04/28/2021 1:19 PM

Subject: Support for Renaming of Huff Elementary School in Honor of Amy Imai

Dear Honorable MVWSD Trustees,

I am writing to express my support for selecting Amy Imai as the new namesake for Huff Elementary School.

In all transparency, Amy was my aunt, my father's older sister. Having grown up in New Jersey, I was not fortunate enough to know Amy well during my childhood. My first-hand recollections of her came from a few summer vacations to California to visit my father's extended family. But in our house in New Jersey, Auntie Amy was legendary.

My father, who was 7 years younger than Amy, spoke highly about how she had raised his younger sister and him in the internment camp during World War II and after the war while his parents and older brother worked on the farm. My father had respected her selflessness and fortitude as she juggled many responsibilities as a student, the primary caregiver of her younger siblings, and head of household. As a high school student who was very focused on my own academic achievement, I could hardly believe that Amy was able to graduate near the top of her high school class and still be so active in school and her Buddhist temple. Yet Amy never had the chance to go to college and pursue further academic or professional opportunities. Amy's teenage years was, indeed, a different time from mine, and in that moment, her priorities were to take care of her family.

After graduating from college and starting my career, my husband and I decided to move to the Bay Area in 1997 to be closer to family. It was then when I truly started to appreciate and admire Amy's moral character and impact that she had on our family and community. During family get-togethers, Amy shared stories about her life in Heart Mountain and back in the Bay Area after they had returned home. Also, through the photos and bits of information that she had collected over the years, she passed down our family history, which went back to Hawai'i in the late 19th century.

Whenever Amy spoke about her experience in the internment camp, she never talked about it with anger or resentment. She was able to impart her memories and bring life to her personal experience through funny, bittersweet anecdotes of things that happened and the people she grew up with. She demonstrated her incredible ability to tell stories with so many of the people around her, and later I found out that she had been passing down those stories at local community events, schools, and in documentaries all in the hope that future generations would never forget the injustice that Japanese Americans faced during her time.

Leading a very humble, down-to-earth life, Amy and her husband, Robert, ran a carnation business while they raised four children. Before permanently retiring, she also worked in the deli at a supermarket. Despite these demands, she was generous with her time and had boundless energy and love for helping her community. She taught at the Dharma School at her Buddhist temple, ran the flower and plant booth at its annual Obon Festival, organized meals for funerals of congregation members, and volunteered in the student exchange

program with Mountain View's sister city, Iwata, Japan. And no matter what walk of life you came from or what language you spoke, Amy made anybody who walked through her door feel welcome – through great food, lively conversation, and laughter. Amy was always at the ready to help someone in need and lift their spirits with her kind smile, and she never expected anything in return. And what is even more amazing is that her kindness and generosity live on as her children and grand-children embody the same values as their beloved mother and grandmother.

I did not fully appreciate the extent of Amy's social impact until, sadly, her death. She passed away on New Year's Eve 2013, on the day that she would have spent hours preparing Japanese food for the upcoming holiday gatherings with friends and family. Her funeral was held at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, and I was astounded at the sheer number of people who came to pay their respects. The temple was so filled with mourners that they set up the auditorium across the main hall as an overflow section and broadcast the service on closed-circuit television. The poor minister must have chanted for two hours non-stop while hundreds of people lined up and completed the funeral ritual of bowing at the altar and burning incense. It was an eye-opening, surreal experience for my husband, my two young children, and me. I was truly moved by the outpouring of love and respect from so many people in the local community for my dear Auntie Amy.

I want to impress on you how very proud and grateful for Amy's nomination and selection as one of the finalists. While we can never know what she would think about this honor if she were alive, I can only imagine that she would be extremely humble about the matter. At the same time, I also imagine that Amy would be very pleased that in 2021, any Asian American – whether it was herself or somebody else – could be recognized publicly for her dedication towards educating future generations and serving the community. While I respect the achievements of the other finalists, I urge you to consider the impact of selecting Amy Imai as the new namesake. Except for her time in Heart Mountain, Amy spent most of her life in Mountain View and dedicated her life's work to making a difference. Renaming Huff Elementary School after Amy Imai would be a strong message of support for our local Asian American community and symbolic of the greater social change we all hope to come.

Respectfully,

Lisa Sato
Sunnyvale Resident since 1997

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>
To: Lisa Sato <lisa@satosato.net>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 10:01 AM

Ms. Sato,

Thank you so much for such a thoughtful email and tribute. I'm so glad you were also able to forward it to the Board members. I look forward to keeping in touch regarding the public hearing and final decision-making processes.

In service,

Megan Henderson
[Quoted text hidden]

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>
To: Lisa Sato <lisa@satosato.net>

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 10:22 AM

Cc: "trustees@mvwsd.org" <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Sato,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual. I am glad that our students and our school community have had the opportunity to learn about her contributions to Mountain View. You are fortunate to have had such an incredible family member.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to further evaluate the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Renaming of Huff school- Amy Imai

7 messages

Martha Kovacs <marthako@me.com>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:15 AM

To: mhenderson@mvwsd.org

Cc: dkalb@mvwsd.org

Dear Board of Mountain View Whitman School District:

I had the pleasure of meeting Amy Imai during the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's Obon festival. She was working the flower booth with her family and we had a chance to talk. Mrs. Imai was always inclusive and very family oriented. I later discovered she had you tube videos of her experience while she lived in a Japanese relocation camp. I watched her speaking to others and her community about how she felt and the lifelong impact the relocation camp had on her and her family. She shared how she watched over her little sister and helped raise her, her hardships about being relocated and as I watched, I couldn't help to think how I would feel if that had happened to me. My thoughts were that I would be angry even many years later and that sharing my story would serve for others to feel my anger and pain. Amy did not share her stories in this manner. She maintained her dignity, her pride for her flower business and her hard work ethic. The more I listened to her stories, the more my admiration grew. She was not angry instead she was relatable. Amy was not bitter, instead she displayed poise throughout her struggles. Mrs. Imai was truly an exemplary woman that never allowed her traumatic experiences to overshadow who she genuinely was. Amy was respectful, hardworking, honest and inclusive. My hope is that if she gets chosen for the renaming of Huff School, that it will create a spark of curiosity in others to research the legacy of Amy Imai and it will inspire people to just BE BETTER.

Sincerely,

Martha Kovacs

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:22 AM

To: board@mvwsd.org

Cc: Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Dear Trustees,

I wanted to make sure this made it to you as well. I saw that Ms. Kovacs addressed the letter to the Board of Trustees, but they were not listed in the email recipients. I apologize if you were already included!

In service,

Megan Henderson

[Quoted text hidden]

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:23 AM

To: mhenderson@mvwsd.org

**Address not found**

Your message wasn't delivered to **board@mvwsd.org** because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The response was:

550 5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try double-checking the recipient's email address for typos or unnecessary spaces. Learn more at https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser_v67sor2400185yba.204 - gsmtpt

Final-Recipient: rfc822; board@mvwsd.org

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.1

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 550-5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try 550-5.1.1 double-checking the recipient's email address for typos or 550-5.1.1 unnecessary spaces. Learn more at

550 5.1.1 https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser_v67sor2400185yba.204 - gsmtpt

Last-Attempt-Date: Fri, 30 Apr 2021 11:23:02 -0700 (PDT)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

To: board@mvwsd.org

Cc: "Ayindé Rudolph" <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 30 Apr 2021 11:22:50 -0700

Subject: Fwd: Renaming of Huff school- Amy Imai

----- Message truncated -----

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

To: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>

Cc: Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:24 AM

Dear Trustees,

I wanted to make sure this made it to you as well. I saw that Ms. Kovacs addressed the letter to the Board of Trustees, but they were not listed in the email recipients. I apologize if you were already included!

In service,

Megan Henderson

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Martha Kovacs** <marthako@me.com>

Date: Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:15 AM

Subject: Renaming of Huff school- Amy Imai

To: <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Cc: <dkalb@mvwsd.org>

[Quoted text hidden]

D Kalb <dkalb@mvwsd.org>

Sun, May 2, 2021 at 12:35 PM

To: Martha Kovacs <marthako@me.com>, alexxakovacs@gmail.com

Cc: Leslie Imai <Leslie.imai@gmail.com>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

I am the librarian at Huff School. I'd like to thank Martha and Alexxa Kovacs for their letters and add to their comments. I had the wonderful experience of talking to each of the Huff classes about the three candidates being considered for the renaming of Huff School.

While in the past we have read books about both Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Katherine Johnson and are familiar with their life accomplishments, many of us didn't know the details behind Amy Imai's background. I spent time over spring break trying to track down any of Amy's relatives and was thrilled to connect with both her daughter and daughter-in-law.

I was provided with many details about Amy's life that I could share with the Huff students when I presented. The students had many questions. For most of them, it was the first time they had heard about the internment camps. It sparked important discussions - discussions that, (as the Kovacs pointed out), Amy engaged in with many students and adults during her lifetime.

We talked about the fact that Amy's mission was to educate people so that an injustice like what happened to Japanese Americans during WWII in the U.S. would not happen again to any family. Many students are now reading about the internment camps as a result of our discussion.

You might not know that Amy was a leader for 35 years in the Mountain View Sister City which is a student exchange program with Iwata, Japan and Hasselt, Belgium and she instilled its importance in her family and the community. She felt it was important that students have the opportunity to experience other cultures, learn about our differences and become culturally tolerant. Amy's family continues to play important roles in this program.

As I talked to Huff classes, we were surprised to discover that Amy and her family had many connections with others at Huff and in our community! For instance, Amy shares a relative with one of our teachers! A long term substitute teacher at Huff told me she attended school with two of Amy's children and also served as Girl Scout Leaders with Amy's daughter-in-law. I found out that another Huff teacher's wife teaches at MVHS along with Amy's daughter (also a teacher). I even learned that Amy taught my friend's children at the MV Buddhist Temple for years. I was very surprised to find out that my son attended MVHS with Amy's granddaughter!

Students were excited to hear Amy once lived right behind Huff School's location and that her family attended schools that their own siblings now attend. They enjoyed hearing stories about Amy. A favorite was: When 9/11 happened, Amy was very concerned that the Muslim community not be treated the way the Japanese were treated after Pearl Harbor. She worked within the community to fold 1000 cranes and form them into a US flag to send a message to Washington as a reminder for healing and that we must be tolerant. Norman Mineta took the piece to the capitol.

I want to thank the Imai family and the Kovac family for sharing their insights with us. Clearly Amy's service to our community has touched many lives. The Imai family is firmly rooted in our community and has continued her legacy.

Sincerely,
Doreen Kalb

Librarian
Huff School
Mountain View Whisman School District
www.mvwsd.org

[Quoted text hidden]

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Thu, May 6, 2021 at 3:11 PM

To: marthako@me.com

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Kovacs,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to further evaluate the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board

Devon Conley <dconley@mwwsd.org>

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 10:08 AM

To: D Kalb <dkalb@mwwsd.org>

Cc: Martha Kovacs <marthako@me.com>, alexxakovacs@gmail.com, Leslie Imai <Leslie.imai@gmail.com>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mwwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mwwsd.org>, trustees <trustees@mwwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mwwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Kalb,

Thank you for sharing with the Board the information that you gathered about Amy Imai. Your outreach to family members and the discussions you led with students are important and powerful. Ms. Imai, long with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable person. Your work teaching students about her and her contributions to the community is greatly appreciated.

I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Introduction - Re: Renaming Huff School

3 messages

D Kalb <dkalb@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 2:48 PM

To: Leslie Imai <Leslie.imai@gmail.com>

Cc: Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Hi Leslie,

I would like to introduce to you Megan Henderson (by cc'ing in this email.) Megan is our Mountain View Whisman School District Equity Coach. Megan has been facilitating the renaming of Huff School. She can fill you in on the timeline for determining Huff's new name.

Megan, Leslie is Amy Imai's daughter-in-law and is a wonderful contact for the Imai family.

Sincerely,

Doreen Kalb

Librarian
Huff School
Mountain View Whisman School District
www.mvwsd.org

Leslie Imai <leslie.imai@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 2:55 PM

To: D Kalb <dkalb@mvwsd.org>

Cc: Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Thank you again Doreen.

Hi Megan, I understand there will be a public hearing some time in May. I would like to know when as the family and some friends are interested in attending.

Thank you,
Leslie

[Quoted text hidden]

Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Wed, Apr 21, 2021 at 4:58 PM

To: Leslie Imai <leslie.imai@gmail.com>

Cc: D Kalb <dkalb@mvwsd.org>

Bcc: Shelly Hausman <shausman@mvwsd.org>

Good Evening Leslie!

It is an honor and privilege to get to connect with you and your family and it has been nothing short of inspirational learning about the life and legacy of Mrs. Imai. She has made the short list of candidates (top 3) and the next step in this process is to solicit feedback from some of our stakeholder groups and committees about their thoughts on the top 3 candidates. The Superintendent along with myself will be leading this process over the next few weeks. We anticipate being able to deliver the group consensus during either the late May or mid-June Board meeting. I will absolutely keep you updated on the progress and you will be kept in the loop.

In the meantime, please feel free to share this information with other family members. Your family is welcome to submit (if they wish) additional narrative for consideration by the Board. You can send any information to the Board directly (board@mvwsd.org) or you can send it to me as well (mhenderson@mvwsd.org). I'll be excited to invite you (and whomever you wish) to the public hearing. Once we have a date and time set, you'll be among the first to know.



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:10 PM

To: Trudy Fujii <trudyken@yahoo.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Fujii,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 5:12 PM 'Trudy Fujii' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

Amy Imai was the aunt of my daughter's best friend. She was always so warm and welcoming when she had her weekly Saturday dinners. My daughter was always included in their family dinners but she made sure my younger daughter was invited too so she wouldn't feel left out.

When my mother passed away the funeral and otoki (Japanese custom of serving food after the service for all who attend) was held at the San Jose Buddhist Church. Even though she was in charge of the Otoki's at the Mt. View Church, she volunteered to head-up ours. She didn't have to do this as she was not a friend of my mother-in-law but she did it out of the kindness in her heart because of our friendship with her niece.

Her kindness and generosity should be acknowledged by naming the school after her. She is so deserving

Trudy Fujii
trudyken@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Support for Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:09 PM

To: Kathee Yamamoto <katyamaflem@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Yamamoto Fleming,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 5:01 PM Kathee Yamamoto <katyamaflem@gmail.com> wrote:

Mountain View Whisman School District Board:

Devon Conley
Laura Blakely
Laura Ramirez Berman
Christopher Chiang
Ellen Wheeler

As you consider renaming Huff Elementary School, I respectfully & enthusiastically support the name "Amy Imai"!

She's someone who represents deeply admirable personal qualities, purposeful accomplishments and a spirit to which students there can aspire!

Amy Imai, during a well-lived lifetime, put her whole heart into serving the Mountain View community she loved, especially towards educating children, on what it means to be informed by history, the importance of being an active citizen and how to be guided by an open mind & compassion.

With her example as an overarching theme to the academic achievements of your students, it would be both a gift & an empowerment as they move forward in their education and make marks of their own in the world.

Thank you so much for your consideration!

Kathleen Yamamoto Fleming
katyamaflem@gmail.com

--

Devon Conley
President



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming of Huff Elementary

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:08 PM

To: Kristin Fujii <auntiemidori@yahoo.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Fujii,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 2:31 PM 'Kristin Fujii' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

I had the pleasure of knowing Amy Imai most of my life. She was the aunt of my best friend. I had spent several family vacations together in Lake Tahoe, holiday gatherings, events at the Mountain View Buddhist Church, and Sunday family dinners hosted at her house. Her personality was just like my family matriarchs- they would cook, clean, provide, and take tremendous joy in family time. However, she was different. She had a strength and independence about her that I admired. She had a soft spoken voice but when she talked people always listened, a great story teller. I quietly hoped I would have some of her qualities. And I hope that other Asian women want to be strong, have independence, be smart business investors, while still maintaining a strong family unit- just like Amy Imai. Changing this school name in her honor would be a wonderful reminder of all her amazing qualities and dedication to our Japanese community. Our Asian Americans in this area have had horrible attacks in last year, we need to come together to show support in many ways just like this opportunity. Thank you, Kristin Fujii

Sent from my iPhone

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:07 PM

To: Julie Morimoto <jemorimoto@yahoo.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Morimoto,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 18, 2021 at 9:17 PM 'Julie Morimoto' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

Dear Mountain View Whisman School District Board,

I was extremely privileged and honored to have known Mrs. Amy Imai and have her in my life for so many years. When I recently learned she was one of the top six namesake candidates for the renaming of Huff Elementary School, I wanted to share the impact she has had on my life.

I grew up in Mountain View and in the Mountain View Whisman School District. My daughter is now following in my same elementary and middle school footsteps. Ever since I can remember, Mrs. Imai had always been actively involved in the Mountain View community.

My first recollection was having Mrs. Imai as my Sunday School teacher at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. In my high school years, I remember her always being involved in Mountain View High School activities and events. Long after my high school years, she continued her passion of making a difference in the lives of so many young people. She wanted us to be mindful of the past, learn from it and grow into whatever we desired to be. She never let the extreme hardships she and her family endured in the internment camp make her bitter and resentful. Rather, she shared her experiences, encouraging future generations of Asian Americans to be involved, have their voices heard and be the best that they could be.

She truly was an inspiration, who had an enormous heart and gave to so many in so many ways with her generosity, compassion, wisdom and talents. I will always be extremely grateful and thankful to her for being so kind and generous to me, and to my daughter in her first years of life.

Thank you for your valued time and consideration. What a recognition it would be to have a local Mountain View resident, who gave so much to her community for so many years, be honored with a local elementary school in her name.

With thanks and appreciation,
Julie Morimoto

Sent from my iPad



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming Huff School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:06 PM

To: Art Takahara <atakahara@aol.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>

Dear Mr. Takahara,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. Thank you, as well, for your service to Mountain View and our community. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 18, 2021 at 8:22 PM 'Art Takahara' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

April 18, 2021

You board of trustees well soon we make an important decision on who to select to rename Huff School . I feel that the primary criteria that should be used as one of how many years they have volunteered and work in the Mountain View community and its impact.

I have lived in Mountain View for the past 50 years and I have spent most of my time as a volunteer and also as a councilmember and mayor. I have known Amy Imai for the past foueyears and your hard work and involvement in many activities in Mountain View. I would recommend has she had to be considered as a prime candidate for her to be mean.

Att Takahara

Sent from my iPad

--
Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: I support Amy Imai school as a new name for Huff School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:05 PM

To: Gilda Wunderman <gdhmss496@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Wunderman,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sat, Apr 17, 2021 at 3:17 PM Gilda Wunderman <gdhmss496@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Trustees of MVWSD:

I am a Mountain View homeowner that would like to vote in favor of renaming FL Huff elementary school to the Ami Imai elementary school.

I knew her personally and worked with her on the Mountain View/Iwata Sister Cities Program, which she did on a completely volunteer basis and helped run for 35 years. She was a truly remarkable and dedicated Mountain View resident who grew up in a small residence about 1 km southeast of present day Huff. Her life story was remarkable and well worthy of presentation to children and the larger community. She was a goodwill ambassador and we can all be proud of her accomplishments.

Yours,
Gilda Wunderman
655 Eunice Ave,
Mountain View, CA

--
Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming of Huff Elementary School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:03 PM

To: Martha Okamura <meokamura@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Okamura,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Fri, Apr 16, 2021 at 4:42 PM Martha Okamura <meokamura@gmail.com> wrote:

Amy Imai was a long-time resident of Mountain View. Her four children attended Mountain View public schools and she volunteered at their schools and at their after school activities.

She was a member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and a board member of the Mountain View Sister Cities Student Exchange Program when I met her in the late 1970's.

Amy was a tireless volunteer. She actively participated in Sister Cities because she believed that it was a great opportunity for the selected high school exchange students to experience living in a different culture with a host family.

At the temple, she volunteered for numerous activities. Her most memorable achievement was volunteering to help any bereaved family with the funeral reception. According to temple policy, the family was responsible for the reception. She met with the family to decide on a menu and how many people would attend. The family was responsible for the cost of the food, paper products and the eating utensils. She took responsibility for planning and coordinating the rest: setting up tables and chairs; ordering some food while preparing other foods; and cleaning up when done. She mustered the volunteers to help her do it. It became a huge success as more families asked for her help. After several years the temple added her function to its funeral procedure. She would tell you that she could not have done it alone but it took one person to step out of a crowd to volunteer and become the rallying point for the rest.

She publicly spoke about her internment when she was about 11 years of age at the Heart Mountain Relocation Camp during World War II and the hardships her family endured. I watched her on a televised panel discussion and later asked her why she does it. Her reply was that she knew the younger generations did not learn about the internment camps. She wanted them to remember so hopefully it would never happen again.

It is remarkable what she accomplished during her lifetime but I only knew her in the last 35 years of her 83-year life.

Please support Amy Imai in the renaming of Huff Elementary School.

Thank you for your service to the Mountain View community.

Sincerely,
Martha Okamura



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Support for Amy Imai for Renaming of Huff School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:02 PM

To: Helen Sasaki <helen.t.sasaki@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Sasaki,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Wed, Apr 14, 2021 at 9:55 AM Helen Sasaki <helen.t.sasaki@gmail.com> wrote:

To: Mountain View Whisman School District Trustees,

We heartily support the effort to name Huff School with Amy Imai's name! We lived in the Mountain View-Los Altos School District from 1971 to 1990 while LaVerne was the minister at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. Amy's long association (support) at our Temple was exceptional, always doing and leading others to help in our Sunday School, annual bazaar and other fundraising events, and support for temple activities that enhanced the lives of the entire membership.

We saw very personally how diligently Amy worked with the Sister Cities Program, because our own children were involved in it. Her participation in the program for many years included that of her children and grandchildren who devoted themselves to actively keep the program successful.

Amy worked tirelessly to help in beneficial causes for the entire Mountain View community. We know of no one else who was as devoted, and spent as much time and energy, for its betterment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
LaVerne and Helen Sasaki

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Amy I mai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:01 PM

To: Kimiyo Nishimura <kimiyonishimura@att.net>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Nishimura,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Tue, Apr 13, 2021 at 2:07 PM Kimiyo Nishimura <kimiyonishimura@att.net> wrote:

I first met Amy when we were in the 8th grade in Heart Mountain Wyoming and I really noticed how smart and efficient she was. After we returned from camp I returned to my hometown.

I moved to Mt. View in 1957 and then I renewed my friendship with Amy. Every thing people say about her is absolutely true.... she was extraordinary!!

Yes I'm am differently for Amy, she is the best candidate for naming the Huff Elementary school after her.

Most Sincerely, Kimiyo Nishimura

--
Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Amy I mai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:01 PM

To: Kimiyo Nishimura <kimiyonishimura@att.net>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Nishimura,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Tue, Apr 13, 2021 at 2:07 PM Kimiyo Nishimura <kimiyonishimura@att.net> wrote:

I first met Amy when we were in the 8th grade in Heart Mountain Wyoming and I really noticed how smart and efficient she was . After we returned from camp I returned to my hometown.

I moved to Mt. View in 1957 and then I renewed my friendship with Amy. Every thing people say about her is absolutely true.... she was extraordinary!!

Yes I'm am differently for Amy, she is the best candidate for naming the Huff Elementary school after her.

Most Sincerely, Kimiyo Nishimura

--
Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Support Amy Imai in the Renaming of Huff Elementary School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:01 PM

To: Casey Katayama <casey.harbin@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Harbin Katayama,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Tue, Apr 13, 2021 at 12:46 PM Casey Katayama <casey.harbin@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear MV Whisman School District board,

I would like to express my support for the renaming of Huff Elementary School after Mrs. Amy Imai.

Growing up, she was one of the beacons teaching us how to support family, friends, and our community. She was also my Sunday School teacher for several years, and I was lucky to have her kindness and guidance when I was young. Mrs. Imai was always happy, helpful, present, took no nonsense, and was an example of how to persevere through anything. When I think of people I want to be more like, Mrs. Imai is one of the best examples. She loved her family, friends and her community and we were all made better because of her presence.

Please consider bestowing this honor so that others will learn about Mrs. Imai's service and the impact she had on all of us. I know she will continue to inspire others to give selflessly as she did every day.

Best regards,
Casey Harbin Katayama

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Support Amy Imai in the Renaming of Huff Elementary School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 8:01 PM

To: Casey Katayama <casey.harbin@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Harbin Katayama,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

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Please consider bestowing this honor so that others will learn about Mrs. Imai's service and the impact she had on all of us. I know she will continue to inspire others to give selflessly as she did every day.

Best regards,
Casey Harbin Katayama

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming Huff: Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:55 PM

To: D Ryu <dr.danielryu@gmail.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Dr. Ryu,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 12, 2021 at 3:40 PM D Ryu <dr.danielryu@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear MV Whisman School District Board,

I am writing regarding the renaming of Huff Elementary School in support of Amy Imai's name -- Mrs. Imai was a central part of my upbringing in the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and a beloved community member. She was ever-present in our temple community and was outspoken about Asian American civic representation and her experience with internment.

She inspired me as a Mountain View resident and Asian American leader in our community to feel like I had a place in the world. Elders like Amy Imai are the reason I am engaged in activism and community work today. Especially in moments like the present when racism and anti-asian violence are front-and-center, I strongly believe in the importance of honoring Amy Imai as someone who represents our collective resilience and the power of community.

Thank you for your consideration,
Daniel Ryu, Psy.D.

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Recommendation for Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:54 PM

To: Gail <gjo3@verizon.net>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Ozawa,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 12, 2021 at 2:21 PM 'Gail' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

I grew up in Mtn. View, CA. Amy Imai was a very prominent figure at the Mtn. View Buddhist Temple, the Mtn. View Los Altos School District and the many clubs and community associations she contributed to. Over the years her foremost objective was to enrich the lives of those around her.

I strongly support Mrs. Imai's nomination for the renaming of Frank Huff elementary school. I attended Huff school and feel it would be a great way to honor Mrs. Imai's many contributions to the community.

Best regards,

Gail Ozawa
(formerly of Mtn. View)
1757 Calle Alto
San Dimas, CA
91773

Sent from my iPad

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:39 PM

To: ule <sugiaiko@aol.com>

Cc: "trustees@mvwsd.org" <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Sugimoto-Miyamoto,

Thank you for sharing your recommendation regarding renaming Huff Elementary School with the Board. Amy Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 11, 2021 at 11:14 AM 'ule' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

I support the naming to Amy Imai.

Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming Huff Elementary School--Support for Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:43 PM

To: Bruce Morimoto <bruce@morimoto.org>

Cc: "trustees@mvwsd.org" <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Mr. Morimoto,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 11, 2021 at 12:01 PM Bruce Morimoto <bruce@morimoto.org> wrote:

Dear Mountain View Whisman School District Board

I would like to provide my support to rename Huff Elementary School in honor of Amy Imai.

The list of namesake candidates, in addition to Amy Imai include Mary Tape, Malala Yousafzai, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Katherine Johnson. Each candidate represents an accomplished woman from different segments of our history and their contributions are undeniable. I would personally support any and all of the candidates.

My perspective comes from being a long time member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and what differentiates Amy from the other candidates is that she comes from our community. During her lifetime, she worked tirelessly in the local community and was truly an ambassador for Mountain View. I remember the first time I met Amy. She was orchestrating lunch preparation for about 200 people at our Temple, something she did for decades, and although it was general chaos in the kitchen, Amy took time to welcome me and my family to the community.

Amy Imai's core values include education, children, family and community, and she demonstrated kindness, compassion, resiliency, honesty and inclusion. Amy can best be described as a homegrown Mountain View-er. Her life story begins growing up in rural Mountain View until her family was incarcerated during World War II. After returning from Heart Mountain internment camp in Wyoming, Amy graduated from Fremont High school and remained a dedicated advocate in the community.

I believe renaming Huff Elementary school to honor Amy Imai would recognize someone from Mountain View who represents the very best of humanity.



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Renaming Huff Elementary School to Amy Imai Elementary school

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:47 PM

To: tnu44@aol.com

Cc: "trustees@mvwsd.org" <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Uyehara,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 11, 2021 at 4:05 PM tnu44 via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

I would highly recommend renaming Huff to Amy Imai Elementary School.

She was a very supportive lady who believed in the welfare of children as well as the community, especially Mountain View, her home town throughout her life.

Raising her family as well as supporting her grandchildren in the community of Mountain View she was so proud of!

Toshiko Uyehara - resident of Sunnyvale, but member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple over 50 years

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Re-naming Huff School

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:48 PM

To: Kathy Nilsson <kathy@kathleennilsson.com>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Nilsson,

Thank you for sharing your personal experience of Amy Imai's impact on our community with the Board. Ms. Imai, along with our other candidates, was a truly remarkable individual.

One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

Your thoughtfulness and recommendation are greatly appreciated. I am responding in my capacity as Board President and including my fellow trustees and Dr. Rudolph in this response.

Sincerely,

Devon Conley
Board President
Mountain View Whisman School District

On Sun, Apr 11, 2021 at 5:09 PM Kathy Nilsson <kathy@kathleennilsson.com> wrote:

Dear Trustees,

I received an email from the Imai family informing that Amy Imai's name is presently being considered for re-naming Huff School. Although my son went to Huff starting 2006, grades 2-5, I never knew the history of Frank Huff. On the other hand I knew Amy Imai as well as her family and associates in the Mountain View Sister City program. My family has participated in the MV Sister City program since our eldest son hosted a boy from Iwata, Japan in 2007 and have continued to enjoy engaging with our Sister City friends. It was gratifying to attend Iwata dinners and events and see Amy and other long time Mountain View elders working together, often putting on banquets at the Adobe House or a last minute party in a member's backyard. Those are great memories.

All the names put forward for consideration are worthy and inspirational but Amy Imai stands out for a number of reasons. Amy was born and raised in Mountain View and saw this area evolve from stone fruit to Silicon Valley; a true local who knew Mountain View. It is almost unfathomable to consider the pain, humiliation and economic hardship Amy's family endured when sent to Heart Mountain, Wyoming. How those families found the way forward to rebuild their lives and continue forward only speaks to the strength and fortitude that their ancestors must have instilled over generations. That fortitude guided many of those families to look toward a better future for their children. With that goal in mind Amy played an important role in founding the Buddhist Temple and grounds on Shoreline Blvd.

It is my hope that Amy Imai's name will be chosen and will live on to inspire the students and residents of Mountain View.

Yours truly,



Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Re: Recommendation for Amy Imai

1 message

Devon Conley <dconley@mvwsd.org>

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 4:54 PM

To: Gail <gjo3@verizon.net>

Cc: trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org>, Ayindé Rudolph <arudolph@mvwsd.org>, Arline Siam <asiam@mvwsd.org>, Megan Henderson <mhenderson@mvwsd.org>

Dear Ms. Ozawa,

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One of the next steps for Huff students and for the members of Huff's Citizens Action Committee (CAC), the committee formed to shepherd the renaming process at the school, is to conduct more research on the short-list of candidates. I am cc'ing here our Equity Coach, Megan Henderson, and Principal Siam of Huff Elementary who are working with the CAC and students. You can also view our discussion of the school renaming process [here](#).

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Mountain View Whisman School District

On Mon, Apr 12, 2021 at 2:21 PM 'Gail' via trustees <trustees@mvwsd.org> wrote:

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I strongly support Mrs. Imai's nomination for the renaming of Frank Huff elementary school. I attended Huff school and feel it would be a great way to honor Mrs. Imai's many contributions to the community.

Best regards,

Gail Ozawa
(formerly of Mtn. View)
1757 Calle Alto
San Dimas, CA
91773

Sent from my iPad

--

Devon Conley

President

Mountain View Whisman School Board