



NAMING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES NOMINATION FORM

Please print or type all information; use additional sheets as necessary and attach exhibits or other documentation in support of this nomination. Refer to Guilford County Schools administrative procedure "Naming of Schools and School Facilities." (FDCA-P)

It is proposed that Special Education Center West
(describe facility)
be named THE MEREDITH LEIGH HAYNES EDUCATION CENTER
(specific name)
in honor of Meredith Leigh Haynes

according to the following criteria established by the Board of Education.

- A.** If a geographic location or similarly site specific identifiers, such as road, community or the like, explain the reasoning and significance of the recommendation below.

Property for the new facility was transferred to Guilford County Schools by T.G. Haynes, grandfather of Meredith Leigh Haynes, exhibiting family ties to the site.

- B.** If an individual, please attach a resume or vita and fully respond to the following criteria:

(See attached Exhibits)

1. Has made an outstanding contribution to a school, the Guilford County Schools, the community, county, state, or the nation. (describe with documentation)

2. Record of recognizable excellence in his/her respective field evidenced by a variety of outstanding accomplishments, awards and leadership and service roles in his/her profession, community, professional and civic organizations. (describe with documentation)

3. Has been a positive role model for others. (describe with documentation)

4. Has exhibited values like honesty, integrity, respect, sense of fairness, concern for others, self discipline, teamwork, dedication to work, etc. (describe with documentation)

5. Has shown a commitment to excellence. (describe with documentation)

Signed: *T. Norris Haynes* on behalf of: The Haynes Family
Print Name: I. Norris Haynes (group name, if any)
Date: June 19, 2009

Contact Information:

Address: I. Norris Haynes Phone: 336-454-1682
5017 Wiley Park Drive
Greensboro, NC 27407

Please note:

- Evidence of broad community support for this request should accompany this application.
- School and community groups/individuals making the nomination must agree to provide appropriate recognition, such as a plaque, portrait, or marker for the school.
- This form should be forwarded to:
Guilford County Schools
Office of District Relations
Attn: Facility Name Nomination
712 N. Eugene St.
Greensboro, NC 27401

Meredith Leigh Haynes was born April 4, 1972 in High Point. At the approximate age of eighteen months she was diagnosed with Tuberous Sclerosis and exhibited signs of both physical and mental retardation – unable to communicate with language, unable to feed herself, unable to control bodily functions, difficulty in walking, all pronounced with numerous seizures. In 1974 she moved with her parents to Jamestown into a new home on property deeded to them by Meredith's paternal grandparents. This served as her loving home her entire life.

During her formative years Meredith was given both care and enrichment in many Guilford County School programs that were being provided by the system to address the special needs required by students like her – Northwood Elementary, Oakview Elementary, Johnson Street Elementary, and Ferndale Middle in High Point; Jamestown Elementary in Jamestown, and Gateway Center in Greensboro. Numerous church care programs as well as ARC of High Point were also actively responsible for her development. Throughout the many years that she was fortunate enough to have such accommodating programs available to her, none were as intensive and dedicated a facility as Gateway Center due to the in-depth nurturing and care afforded by its specialized staff and equipment. Meredith's tenure at Gateway, however, proved to be a daily transportation burden from Jamestown for her parents. A like facility nearer would have been a blessing. The western part of the county was seemingly underserved.

After many years of constant, yet loving, care by family, friends, and yes, the Guilford County School System, Meredith died on March 9, 1993, just short of her twenty-first birthday. Subsequent to Meredith's death an oak tree was planted at Johnson Street School in High Point in her memory, yet with a dedication "For Special Children Everywhere."

The 2003 school bond did indeed provide for a facility such as Gateway Center for the western part of the district. A search for a suitable site was initiated. Meredith's widowed grandfather resided on property adjacent to the already in-progress Jamestown Middle School on Harvey Road and was approached by Guilford County Schools to consider a transfer of property to it to make this facility a reality. An opportunity had arisen to not only honor a person who had touched our lives in so many meaningful ways but also to allow that person, in a sense, to touch the lives of so many more people like her – one special person to symbolize all special persons. The transfer of property that ultimately occurred was a significant personal tribute by Meredith's grandfather.

Naming the special needs school in honor of Meredith Leigh Haynes will be fitting not only because of her family ties to the site which is adjacent to her home for her all too short life, but also because the facility will be for people with special needs like Meredith – people for whom it is intended.

"FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN EVERYWHERE"

The Haynes family thanks you for your kind consideration.

Dale J Metz
5328 Montevista Drive
Greensboro, NC 27408

June 18, 2009


Dear Board Members:

I am writing in support of naming the new EC West school building after Meredith Leigh Haynes, former EC student of the Guilford County School System. I truly believe that it is the right and proper thing to do to name this special school after a special student who so characterized the very reason it is being built. Meredith died less than a month before her twenty-first birthday after years and years of battling a disorder, as so many of our exceptional children do, that took away everything a non-disabled school child lives for: from communication to walking; from eating a hot dog at the ball game by yourself to running out in the yard to give mom or dad a hug. Meredith was never able to do any of those "normal" things of childhood. After attending Johnson Street and some other fine Guilford County Schools, Meredith's health declined such that it was necessary to reassign her to Gateway Education Center and that I how she came into my life.

Meredith was with us less than one full school year, but we remember her well. Her smile and her laugh were contagious and she was a welcome addition to our special family. How sad that she could have received the same nursing and therapy services in Jamestown, but no school in the western part of the county could provide what she needed except Gateway which was all the way across Guilford County. That will no longer be true when EC West becomes a reality. In fact, on the very land where Meredith lived is where the new school, which I hope will bear her name, will now provide the same services she received at Gateway.

You will, no doubt, receive many names for this project of honorable and caring people who have advanced the cause for these special needs children in Guilford County Schools. But please do not forget to consider this child who symbolizes the past, present, and future of the exceptional children in the very building that I hope will bear her name: the Meredith Leigh Haynes Education Center. What a day that will be! Thank you!

Gratefully yours,


Dale J. Metz
Retired Principal
Gateway Education Center

GILDA C. SCOTT, ED.D.

■ 4700 Harvey Road
■ Jamestown, NC 27282
■ gsha@northstate.net

June 17, 2009

Guilford County Schools
Department of District Relations
ATTN: Naming of Facilities
712 N. Eugene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

To The Guilford County Schools Board of Education:

I am pleased to support the nomination of Meredith Leigh Haynes as the name for the new Special Education Center near the new Jamestown Middle School on Harvey Road. I was the principal of Johnson Street Elementary School when Meredith was a student in the special education class at Johnson Street. By the time Meredith was almost 21 years old, she had touched the lives of so many students, teachers and families because the class was moved over the years to many of the schools in High Point. Meredith who was loved by everyone also made a difference in the lives of everyone. Meredith deserves this honor, and since the school is being built and designed for handicapped students, it will be fitting as well as the right thing to do to name the school for Meredith. Thurman G. Haynes, the owner of the property on which the school will be built is Meredith's grandfather. Imagine how proud he will be to have a school named for Meredith.

Meredith's uncle, Gary Haynes, planted a tree at Johnson Street School in 1993 in "Meredith's honor for children everywhere." Naming the new Special Education Center in honor of Meredith Leigh Haynes will be in honor of special education children everywhere.

Sincerely,



Gilda C. Scott

P.O. Box 11
Jamestown, NC 27282
June 17, 2009

Guilford County Board of Education
712 North Eugene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

Dear Board of Education Members:

Around 1975, a cute little 3-year old joined my class at High Point Kindergarten for the Handicapped. I was the teacher. I remember Meredith Haynes: her red hair, her gentle manner, but also her many physical and mental challenges and her absence of words to speak to me. Her needs were many, yet she won our hearts.

We were not alone. How pleased I was to learn that her grandfather, Mr. T. G. Haynes, also touched by Meredith's experience, had decided to offer his property to house an educational facility for children with special needs.

Meredith's life was brief, but it was not in vain. There would be no more fitting tribute than to name the educational center in her memory. On this very square of land where she had been loved and nurtured—where her grandparents saw the value of providing for educational opportunities of children with special needs—others will receive those opportunities.

Perhaps the lessons Meredith taught those around her and the legacy she left behind are unlikely ones to receive attention from our too-often impersonal and economically based society, but the lessons and legacy were important ones, and they will continue in this new school.

Names are important. Personal names bear stories—often stories of hope, heritage, and empowerment. We need these stories, as will the students who attend the school to be built. Please consider naming the new Gateway facility for Meredith Haynes.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julia Taylor Ebel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Julia Taylor Ebel

To whom it may concern:

It is my understanding that Guilford County Schools has plans to build a school for special children on property off Harvey Road in Jamestown. This property was previously owned by the Haynes family.

For several years I was employed by Guilford County Schools as a special education teacher assistant at Johnson Street School in High Point.

While at Johnson Street School it was my honor and privilege to get to know and work with a very special student, Meredith Leigh Haynes. Meredith was in my classroom for several years. She was a physically and mentally handicapped lovely teenager who was blessed with loving parents who took such good care of her and her needs. Meredith was the daughter of Norris and Susan Haynes and her grandfather, Thurman Haynes, previously owned the property that Guilford County Schools has recently acquired.

It would be most appropriate and so special and meaningful for her family if this new school could be named in memory of Meredith Haynes. Could you please consider this?

Thank you,



**Sherry C. Davis
603 Shamrock Road
High Point, NC 27265**

June 18, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

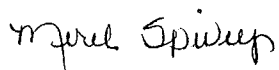
As a retired teacher of children with special needs, I was pleased to hear of the plans for a school for these special children in the Jamestown area. We have long needed such a school in this part of the county.

In my early days of teaching these special children I remember a very special young girl. Her name was Meredith Haynes. In spite of her limitations she excelled in bringing joy to all around her. I can still see her beautiful smile in my mind's eye.

After leaving Northwood, Meredith, like other students with her needs, was moved around to several different schools. This was hard on the students as well as their families. This is why I am excited about a special school for these exceptional students.

I can think of no better name for the school than The Meredith Haynes School for Exceptional Students. Meredith is a beautiful example of what special education is all about. I would greatly appreciate your considering Meredith for this great honor as would her parents, Susan and Norris Haynes, the rest of her family and all of those on whose lives she made a great impact.

Sincerely,



Merel Spivey
Retired Teacher

GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS

NAMING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES NOMINATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION; USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY AND ATTACH EXHIBITS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF THIS NOMINATION. REFER TO GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE "NAMING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES." (FDCA-P)

It is proposed that _____ **Special Education West**

(describe facility)

be named _____ **The Meredith Haynes Education Center**

(specific name)

in honor of _____ **All medically fragile special education students living in the Jamestown and High Point area who will no longer have the long bus ride that Meredith did.**

according to the following criteria established by the Board of Education.

A. If a geographic location or similarly site specific identifiers, such as road, community or the like, explain the reasoning and significance of the recommendation below.

B. If an individual, please attach a resume or vita and fully respond to the following criteria:

1. Has made an outstanding contribution to a school, the Guilford County Schools, the community, county, state, or the nation. (describe with documentation)

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2. Record of recognizable excellence in his/her respective field evidenced by a variety of outstanding accomplishments, awards and leadership and service roles in his/her profession, community, professional and civic organizations. (describe with documentation)

3. Has been a positive role model for others. (describe with documentation)

4. Has exhibited values like honesty, integrity, respect, sense of fairness, concern for others, self discipline, teamwork, dedication to work, etc. (describe with documentation)

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5. Has shown a commitment to excellence. (describe with documentation)

Signed: _____ on behalf of

(group name, if any)

Print contact Name: **EC Parent Advisory Council**

Date: June 19th, 2009 Address:

Phone: **EC Office-370-2323 or Chairperson Carlette Carlton**

Please note:

- It is the responsibility of a designated Board Committee to consider and recommend to the full Board of Education names for new schools and new names of existing schools or school facilities.