

Denton Independent School District
1307 N. Locust St., Denton, TX 76201

PROPOSED NAME FOR FACILITY

In accordance with DISD Administrative Regulations for naming of District facilities, the Board has invited written nominations and the following provisions will govern the naming or renaming of school facilities. Nominations can be submitted at any time.

Please note facilities will generally be named for deceased persons who have made a significant contribution to society as may be deemed appropriate by the board, streets or geographic areas within the district, or historical sites.

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1. Existing Building and/or location proposed for naming or renaming

I propose that the Woodrow Wilson Elementary School
(Designation of building and/or location)
1306 E. Windsor Drive Denton TX 76209
(Address)

2. Proposed Name

be named for: Nette Shultz

3. I am proposing the aforementioned name for the following reasons:

Please select all that apply:

- ☒ Deceased ☐ DISD staff member ☒ Historical Name
☐ Geographic Name ☐ Other

4. Comprehensive biological report (with work history if DISD employee) or INFORMATIONAL REPORT if historic or geographic name:

(Attach extra sheets if needed.)

Please see the attached document

5. Reasons for Nomination

I believe the facility should be named for this (person) (place) (historical event) because:

Please see the attached document

6. Name(s) of person(s) or supporting group(s) responsible for nomination:

Name submitted by Dr. Jamie Wilson, Superintendent of Schools

7. Your contact information

Jamie Willson
(Printed Name)

October 20, 2020
(Date)

116 West El Paseo Street
(Address)

817-319-1139
(Telephone number)

History of Woodrow Wilson
Donation of Nette Shultz

From the Woodrow Wilson Elementary website:

It was September 1960, and time for a new school year to begin. This was a special year for Sammy Spratt, five teachers, as well as 183 boys and girls. They were the first principal, teachers, and students at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School. Workers were still adding finishing touches, and the cafeteria would not be finished for several weeks, but school would and did begin on the second day of September.

Ms. Nette Shultz donated land to be used for a new elementary school on June 8, 1956, to the Denton Independent School District. On Feb. 9, 1959, an additional three acres were purchased by the Denton Independent School Board. Ms. Shultz was a county home demonstration agent in Cooke County, Texas and in 1935, she purchased 191 acres that were two- and one-half miles northeast of Denton. The property she gave for the Woodrow Wilson Elementary School was in the middle of that farm. Ms. Schultz taught at Texas State College for Women (presently TWU) from 1944 to 1952. She was interested in a good education for the boys and girls in Denton.

The name Woodrow Wilson was submitted by Ms. Shultz (at the time she asked that the school not be named for her) to the Denton Independent School District Board of Trustees.

Notes from Dr. Wilson:

After visiting with numerous residents of the Woodrow Wilson neighborhood, current Woodrow Wilson Employees, past Woodrow Wilson employees, past students of Woodrow Wilson, etc. It is obviously and evidently clear this community sees the school as a beacon of the neighborhood. One former student and employee told me the name "Nette Shultz Elementary" makes more sense than any other person's name as reverence to the local community and recognition of the land donor. In addition, names such as Avondale Elementary and Windsor Elementary were mentioned as potential names to galvanize the neighborhood's significance.

Nette Shultz donated the property for the current Woodrow Wilson Elementary to be built in the north east side of town. In addition, the City of Denton received property and subsequently named the neighborhood park after Ms. Shultz in appreciation and recognition for the donation. Although Ms. Shultz initially requested the school not be named in her name, she was a very humble person who did not want a big "hoopla" over the donation, nor was she vain enough for the school to be named after herself

For the reasons, herein, I recommend adding the name "Nette Shultz Elementary" to the name back for consideration by the Denton ISD Board of Trustees.