

What's in a Name?

The names of many district facilities are evident of the history of the district and Missouri.

Schools named for Board of Education members include:

- Bissett Elementary-Mrs. Emma Bissett, BOE member 1924-1930.
- Bowerman Elementary-Mr. Milton Bowerman, BOE member 1874-1899, County Court judge
- Cowden Elementary-Mr. Guy Cowden, BOE member 1933-1954
- Fairbanks Elementary-Mr. Jonathon Fairbanks, BOE member 1871-1874, Superintendent of Schools 1875-1912
- Jarrett Middle School- Mr. J.H. Jarrett, BOE member 1900-1915
- Jeffries Elementary-Mr. James A. Jeffries, BOE member 1945-1960
- McGregor Elementary-Mr. John McGregor, BOE member 1874-1894
- Pepperdine Elementary-Mr. George Pepperdine, BOE member 1911-1917
- Reed Middle School-Mr. W.A. Reed, BOE member 1891-1894
- Robberson Elementary-Dr. Edwin Taylor Robberson, BOE 1867-1870
- Rountree Elementary-Mr. Newton Rountree, BOE member 1884-1888
- Tefft-Dr. J.E. Tefft, BOE member 1871-1874
- Watkins Elementary-Mr. Tom Watkins, BOE member 1924-1933
- Williams Elementary-Mr. Ed V. Williams, BOE member 1900-1915

Schools named for teachers or administrators include:

- Pittman Elementary- Ms. Alice Pittman, teacher and administrator
- Graff Area Vocational Technical Center-Mr. Willard J. Graff, Superintendent 1952-1970
- Boyd Elementary-Ms. Mary S. Boyd, teacher (1867 when the district began)
- Study Middle School-Mr. Harry P. Study, Superintendent 1925-1952
- Gray Elementary-Ms. Wanda Gray, teacher and administrator

Schools named for people instrumental in the development of or contribution to Springfield, Springfield Public Schools or Greene County and/or their namesakes include:

- Berry-Dr. Daniel Berry, Businessman and Greene County treasurer
- Campbell Elementary-Mr. John Polk Campbell, early settler of Greene County in 1829
- Doling Elementary-J.M. Doling, prominent Commercial Street merchant and founder of Doling Park
- Fremont Elementary-The school is named for the street on which it is located which bears the name of General John C. Fremont, explorer, Civil War officer and railroad builder
- Holland Elementary-The school is named for the street on which it is located which bears the name of Colonel C.B. Holland, banker, businessman, builder and leader in the defense during the Battle of Springfield
- McBride Elementary-Ms. Gertrude McBride, longtime contributor to SPS
- Phelps-Mr. John Smith Phelps, local attorney, Congressman and Governor of Missouri
- Pipkin Middle-Mr. William H. Pipkin, local businessman whose house stood on the site of the school. His son, Lewis, was a BOE member 1915-1924
- Ritter-Mr. Oliver Ritter, mill operator
- Sherwood Elementary-Mr. Thomas A. Sherwood, judge of the Missouri Supreme Court whose home-site was near the school location
- Weaver Elementary-the family of Mr. Joseph Weaver, former Mayor of Springfield
- York Elementary-Mr. William York, Civil War veteran who carried the petitions to get the school built
- Harrison Elementary-Mr. David Harrison, local author and businessman

Famous Missourians who have lent their names to schools include:

- Bingham Elementary-Missouri artist Mr. George Caleb Bingham

- Carver Middle-Mr. George W. Carver, Missouri scientist
- Disney Elementary-Mr. Walt Disney, Missouri-born motion picture producer
- Field Elementary-Mr. Eugene Field, noted author with Missouri connections
- Pershing-General John J. Pershing, Missouri soldier during WWI
- Truman Elementary-President Harry S. Truman, only US President from Missouri
- Twain Elementary-Missouri author Samuel Clemens aka Mark Twain
- Wilder Elementary-Ms. Laura Ingalls Wilder, author

Schools named in honor of individuals include:

- Mann Elementary-Mr. Horace Mann, known as the father of Education

Schools named after events or groups of people:

- Cherokee Middle-Legend says Cherokee Indians camped in a field near the site during their long, hard journey on the “Trail of Tears”
- Kickapoo High- Legend has it that the Kickapoo Indians had villages around the Southern edge of the Springfield Plateau.
- Wilson’s Creek Intermediate-The Battle of Wilson’s Creek was fought between Union forces and the Missouri State Guard near Springfield during the American Civil War

Other facilities in the district named in honor of individuals include:

- Kennedy Stadium (Parkview High)-President John F. Kennedy
- Shumate Stadium (Hillcrest High)-Mr. Hoyt Shumate, former principal
- Lowe Stadium (Glendale High)-Dr. H.A. Lowe, Sr., longtime athletic booster
- Harrison Stadium (Central High)-Mr. Ralph Harrison, longtime coach and athletic director
- Pottenger Stadium (Kickapoo High)-Mr. Orville Pottenger, athletic director