

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
August 16, 2021**

RESOLUTION 4190

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: COMMITMENT TO RENAMING JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Board of Education may consider a change in the name of an existing school or facility to ensure and model an inclusive, welcoming and respectful learning environment; and

WHEREAS, naming a school for a person is to honor that person and to hold them up as a role model for students; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Elementary School, located at 518 Ridgewood Road in Maplewood, New Jersey, bears the name of an enslaver committed to upholding the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education will no longer hold up an enslaver as a role model for students of the South Orange Maplewood School District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education desires to adopt a new name for Jefferson Elementary School, to be selected with the involvement of Jefferson Elementary School students and the District's student community at large; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education directs the Superintendent or a designee to work with the students of Jefferson Elementary School to seek input from the District's student community to propose a new name for that school to the Board of Education by June 30, 2022, so that the Board may vote on the adoption of such name to take effect commencing with the 2022-2023 school year.