

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 17-0069  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Pinkett, Cohen

Introduced and read first time: May 8, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Commission, Department of Real Estate, Baltimore City Public School System

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **City Property – Renaming John Eager Howard Elementary School to**  
3 **Dorothy I. Height Elementary School**

4 FOR the purpose of changing the name of John Eager Howard Elementary School (School #61),  
5 located at 2011 Linden Avenue, to Dorothy I. Height Elementary School (School #61).

6 BY authority of

7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement

8 Section 20-2

9 Baltimore City Code

10 (Edition 2000)

11 **Recitals**

12 On May 14, 2015, John Eager Howard’s school modernization “Design Team”  
13 submitted to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Buildings Program a request for the Board of  
14 School Commissioners to consider changing the name of John Eager Howard  
15 Elementary School. On January 12, 2016, the Board of School Commissioners  
16 voted to close the Westside Elementary School and to change the school zone of  
17 the John Eager Howard Elementary School to include the Westside School zone.

18 In accordance with the regulations of the school system, the principal convened a  
19 committee comprised of teachers, administration, school partner (Child First  
20 Authority), 1 parent from the former John Eager Howard Elementary School  
21 (before the zones were combined), 1 parent from the former Westside Elementary  
22 School, 1 representative from the Penn North Community (Westside), and 1  
23 representative from the Reservoir Hill Community. After deliberations, this  
24 renaming committee submitted 2 names to members of the communities and the  
25 school community, and the name of Dorothy I. Height was selected to replace the  
26 name of John Eager Howard. Changing the name of the school will help build a  
27 new school identity.

28 Dorothy I. Height (March 24, 1912 - April 20, 2010) was an American  
29 administrator and educator and a civil and women’s rights activist whose

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

**Council Bill 17-0069**

1 focus was the issues of African-American women, including unemployment,  
2 literacy, and voter awareness. Dorothy Height was the president of the National  
3 Council of Negro Women for 40 years and was awarded the Presidential Medal of  
4 Freedom, in 1994, and the Congressional Gold Medal, in 2004.

5 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
6 name of John Eager Howard Elementary School (School #61), located at 2011 Linden Avenue, is  
7 changed to Dorothy I. Height Elementary School (School #61).

8 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
9 after the date it is enacted.