

Rob Jackson, Ed. D., Superintendent

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MEMO

TO: Members, Board of Education

FROM: Rob Jackson, Ed. D. Superintendent

DATE: October 27, 2022

RE: C.A. Erwin High School Request to Name the Football Field Press Box
in Honor of William Eugene (Gene) McClure

Attached is a request from David Ball, BCS District Athletic Specialist. Mr. Ball, as Chairman of "The William Eugene (Gene) McClure Birthday Celebration Committee", is asking the Board to officially name the Erwin High School football press box as the "William Eugene (Gene) McClure Press Box". Details of the request and the committee's affirmation to work with BCS in this process are included in the letter. The committee is also seeking a Resolution in support of this request be approved.

In accordance with Board Policy 9300, I concur with the committee's request to name the press box at Erwin High School after William Eugene McClure and am happy to make the recommendation to the Board at this time.

Attachments: Request from Committee
Erwin High School's Principal Letter
Resolution
Policy 9300

September 26, 2022

Dr. Rob Jackson
Superintendent, Buncombe County Schools
175 Bingham Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Dear Dr. Jackson,

On behalf of the Planning Committee for the 90th Birthday Celebration for William Eugene (Gene) McClure, we would like to recommend that Buncombe County Schools grant approval for the Erwin High School Football Field Press box be named in honor of Gene McClure. In support of this recommendation is a letter attached from Mr. Chip Cody, Principal of Erwin High School, who has also gained the support and approval of the Erwin Advisory Council.

Our recommendation is based on the distinguished career of service that Gene McClure gave Clyde A. Erwin High School. He retired in June 1987 after serving 28 years of his 30-year career in education as a distinguished math teacher at Erwin. Many Erwin students have fond memories of Mr. McClure as a teacher of the advanced math courses. In addition to being an outstanding math teacher, Gene McClure also served as the school's bookkeeper during the early part of his career. Lastly, his service also extended into athletics. Here he kept the scorebook for the Erwin varsity basketball teams for 51 years, for the varsity football team for 45 years, and for the varsity baseball team for 23 years. His work in the role of scorekeeper was always exemplary and earned him the respect of coaches, officials, and school personnel across Western North Carolina. In recognition of this regional support Mr. McClure was recognized with the MOOG/Gene Ochsenreiter Award for Lifetime Achievement by the Mountain Amateur Athletic Club in 2018. It is in recognition of his exemplary service as a scorekeeper to Erwin Athletics and his outstanding educational career at Erwin High School that we recommend that the Erwin Football Field Press box be named the Gene McClure Press box.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation. Please let us know if there is anything else you need in consideration of our request. Additionally, we would like to affirm, that if our recommendation is approved, that our committee will raise the necessary funds to place the approved signage on the Erwin Press box. Neither Erwin High School nor Buncombe County Schools will incur any expense. Further, if approved, we will work with Erwin High School and the BCS Facilities and Maintenance departments to determine the best and most appropriate signage, its location, and the appropriate installation procedures.

Thanks again for the consideration of this recommendation. If you approve our recommendation and your recommendation is approved by the school board, Mr. McClure would be available for any public recognition at the appropriate school board meeting.

Respectfully yours,

David Ball
Chairman of the William Eugene (Gene) McClure Birthday Celebration Committee

Committee Members

Dick Franklin
(Class of 1967)

Charles Hall
(Former BCS Math Teacher & Coach)

Loyd King
(Class of 1967)

Charlie Metcalf
(Class of 1972 & Retired Educator/Coach)

Connie Rogers-Newcome
(Class of 1978)

Jack Teague
(Former Erwin Teacher, Coach & AD)

Pat Thompson
(Class of 1976)

Keith Webb
(Class of 1975)

Ann Phillips Clark
(Former Erwin Teacher)



Clyde A. Erwin High School

October 13, 2022

Dr. Rob Jackson
Buncombe County Schools
175 Bingham Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Dr. Jackson,

The Planning Committee for Mr. Gene McClure's 90th birthday has submitted a recommendation to recognize Mr. Gene McClure by naming the Erwin High School stadium press box in his honor. Mr. McClure is a retired Erwin High School math teacher who also served for 51 years as the Basketball statistician and 45 years as the Football statistician. This recommendation has both my endorsement and the endorsement of the Erwin High Advisory Council obtained on September 22, 2022.

It is understood that, if approved, neither Buncombe County Schools nor Erwin High will incur any cost associated with signage. Additionally, Erwin High will have input and work with the committee to select and place the approved signage. Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chip Cody". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Chip Cody
Principal

NAMING SCHOOL PROPERTIES

From time to time facilities other than “*new school facilities*” may be recommended for naming. These facilities may include, but are not limited to, libraries, ball fields, stadiums, gymnasiums, and tracks. Naming of these facilities, whether new or old, will require that a recommendation be made to the superintendent.

Recommendations may be received from interested individuals in a similar manner outlined in the Board’s policy. The superintendent will determine the appropriateness of the recommendation and shall inform the Board of Education of his recommendation. With the Board’s informal approval, the superintendent shall authorize the naming.

Once a decision is reached by the Board of Education to seek a new name for a school or name a new school facility, this procedure shall be followed:

1. Any interested individual or interested group(s), including an advisory council(s) for the respective school, may submit a letter to the Superintendent giving the name(s) which they prefer for the facility and the reason for the preference.
2. The Superintendent shall review all requests and will make a recommendation to the Board of Education for naming the school or facility.
3. The Board of Education shall review the Superintendent’s request and approve or disapprove the recommendation.

Adopted: June 5, 2014

Replaces Board Policy 535

**RESOLUTION OF
THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECOGNIZING WILLIAM EUGENE “GENE” McCLURE AND NAMING THE
ERWIN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STADIUM PRESS BOX IN HIS HONOR**

WHEREAS, the Buncombe County Board of Education and Clyde A. Erwin High School wishes to recognize the many years of service and community support provided by William Eugene “Gene” McClure; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure, is a native of the Addie community in Jackson County, with a B.S in Mathematics and a M.A. in Education from Western Carolina University and an Academic Year Institute Certificate for Science and Mathematics from UNC – Chapel Hill, and a proud army veteran; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure had a distinguished 30-year career in education with 28 of those years spent at Clyde A. Erwin High School; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure was a distinguished math and business educator whose efforts have had a positive impact on the lives of many of his former students; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure was a strong supporter and volunteer in the Clyde A. Erwin High School athletic programs; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure volunteered his time as scorekeeper and statistician, keeping the men’s and women’s varsity basketball scorebook for 51 years, varsity football for 45 years, varsity baseball team for 23 years and women’s softball for 5 years; and

WHEREAS, Gene McClure was recognized by the Mountain Amateur Athletic Club in 2018 with the MOOG/Gene Ochsenreiter Award for Lifetime Achievement.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Buncombe County Board of Education and Clyde A. Erwin High School, that the Erwin High School football press box shall be named the William Eugene “Gene” McClure press box in recognition of his many contributions and years of service to Clyde A. Erwin High School and the Erwin community.

Buncombe County Board of Education

Ann B. Franklin
Madam Chair

Rob Jackson, Ed. D.
Superintendent