



February 15, 2024

Dear Manhasset School Community,

As you know, Part 123 of the New York State Education Department Commissioner's Regulations requires us to develop a process to change our teams' name. We are committed to involving our school community in this endeavor to select a team name that will inspire passion and pride throughout the district. Our objective is to create a team name that encapsulates Manhasset's distinctive character, culture, traditions, and history and symbolizes our strive toward excellence while projecting a positive image for the Manhasset Public Schools. Our new teams' name should be one all community members can proudly associate with. Toward that end, last summer we solicited suggestions from the entire Manhasset community, formed a committee to review the results, and are now ready to poll our Secondary School students to further narrow down the list of top contenders. Once we have reviewed the student results, we will present the top options to the broader Manhasset school community to solicit their input.

The student poll opened today for Secondary School students, through Google Forms, and will close on Friday, February 16 at 11:59 pm. Students in the Secondary School are asked to rank their preference for the top three team names from the list below. Students can also provide their own suggestions for a team name as one of their top three choices.

Eagles:

- Large, powerful bird of prey
- National symbol of the United States of America
- Typically represents strength, courage, and freedom

Hawks:

- Medium sized bird of prey
- Typically represents clarity, protection, and inner wisdom

No Mascot- Manhasset or "Set":

- No specific team name
- "Set" is a typical nickname used by our athletic teams

Mariners:

- Another name for a sailor

- One who safely navigates a direction of a ship

Mavericks:

- Wild, untamed animal, typically horse or cattle
- An independent or unconventional person
- One who operates free of constraints

Mustangs:

- A free-roaming horse
- Also referred to as a wild horse

Ospreys:

- A type of hawk (also known as a Seahawk), typically a fish-eating bird of prey
- Generally lives near a body of water

Tigers:

- The largest living cat species
- An apex predator

When selecting a new team name, Part 123 of the New York State Education Department Commissioner's Regulations requires us to eliminate any vestige of the previous team's name. Therefore, the M-Feather logo for the school must be eliminated, even if the team name becomes a particular bird of prey from the options above (Eagle, Hawk, or Osprey).

Importantly, regardless of the team name selected, we plan to continue to use the Manhasset "M" as our logo and our school colors of blue and orange will remain.

After the February break, the Team Name Committee will meet to review the results of the student poll. Based on those results, the committee will then develop the new list of potential team names to submit to the broader Manhasset community. It is our hope through this process, we will select a new team name that will represent Manhasset for years to come.

Thank you again for your active participation and valued input into this process.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gaurav Passi

Superintendent of Schools