

ADVERTISEMENT



KILGORE COLLEGE
SPRING 2 REGISTRATION GOING ON NOW
GET STARTED →

Parents, citizens to request renaming Robert E. Lee High School in school board meeting

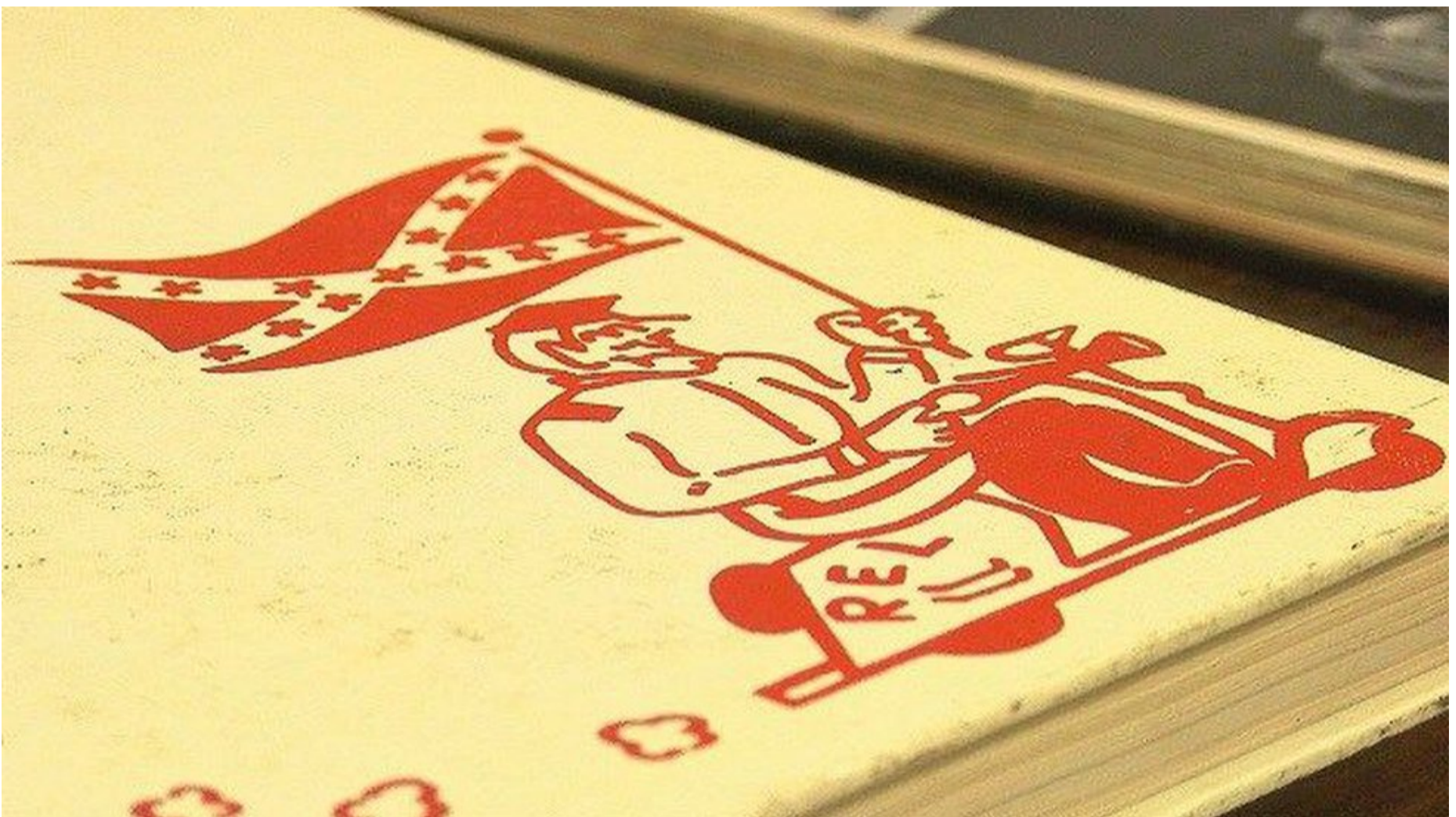


Updated: Aug. 17, 2017 at 9:24 PM CDT





(Source: KLTV Staff)



(Source: KLTV Staff)

TYLER, TX (KLTV) - A group of parents and citizens is calling for the renaming of one East Texas high school.

The events in Charlottesville, Virginia have prompted a push to change the name of Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler.

"Going through old Robert E. Lee High School yearbooks and seeing Confederate flags and Confederate cannons, and seeing people waving them," said DG Montalvo, Minister of Social Justice.

Mike Warner entered the school as a junior in 1958. He was a part of the first graduating class in 1959.

"They waved the Confederate flag, they played Dixie. It was a different time with a different understanding, or lack thereof," Warner said.

But as society has progressed, Michael Tolbert said the school's name needs to change.

"I believe the majority of people realize that honoring the Confederacy that took up arms against the United States, that committed an act of treason against the United States, is just wrong," parent Michael Tolbert.

DG Montalvo said now is an opportune time for the district to take action.

"Use social pressure to apply to the problem that exists in Tyler, Texas, in regards to the underlying racism that keeps Tyler divided," Montalvo said.

Warner said the school's name isn't a real problem.

"People need to choose their battles where there is really hurt, where there is real reason for concern," Warner said.

For some parents, history is reason enough.

"To have my child in school learning history and to see a glorified image of someone who wanted to keep people as property because of the color of their skin is just wrong," Tolbert said.

Tyler ISD released this statement Thursday addressing the issue:

ADVERTISEMENT

The Tyler ISD administration and Board of Trustees continuously stay aware of national concerns and their impact locally. If an issue appropriately rises for Board consideration, collaboration between the Tyler ISD Board of Trustees and various leaders throughout Tyler, TX will occur, with logistical assistance from Tyler ISD administration, while in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Tyler ISD policy, and Board operating practices.

Monday's regularly scheduled August board meeting agenda will be posted Friday morning, August 18. The District will have no further comment at this time.

The Tyler ISD School Board meets on Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Some parents and community members are set to attend and make comments on the possible renaming of the high school.

Copyright 2017 [KLTU](#). All rights reserved.

Taboola Feed

Introducing the NEW Perfect Jumpsuit by SPANX®

Meet our FIRST-EVER Perfect Jumpsuit designed with smoothing fabric and hidden core shaping. Plus, no dry cleaning needed..

Spanx | Sponsored

What if WW1 had never happened? Game simulates historical scenarios

This game takes you back to a crucial moment in US history.

Historical Strategy Game | Sponsored

Play Now

These 2 Vegetables Will Kill Your Belly And Arm Fat Overnight!

Health & Welfare | Sponsored

Government to pay Camp Lejeune victims \$21 billion

Veterans, their surviving family members, and civilians who lived or worked at Camp Lejeune can claim compensation from the government for injuries and wrongful death.

Camp Lejeune Claims | Sponsored

Sign Up

The Top Pure Electric SUVs Of 2023 Have Been Revealed, Compare Now

Top EV SUVs | Sponsored

Learn More

Netflix Cancels Another Rounds Of Great Shows

bonvoyaged.com | Sponsored

Learn More