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Remember the Titans

How could you? It's a brand-new nickname for Antelope High School

By: Nathan Donato-Weinstein, The Press-Tribune
Wednesday, March 14, 2007 10:08 AM PDT

It's official: another member is about to join the menagerie of mascots in the Roseville Joint Union High School District.



Students at under-construction Antelope High School will be known as Titans, after the district's Board of Trustees gave its OK last week, said Ron Severson, executive director of curriculum and instruction.

Months of discussion on the subject, involving an adults-only steering committee as well as input from future students, led the group to recommend the moniker to the board, Severson said.

He added that adults initially favored another handle: The Stampede. But when queried on the matter, students balked.

"The steering committee initially fell in love with Antelope Stampede, but when we went out to meet with kids and tried to sell that, we were sort of astonished at how they didn't want it," Severson said. "By the third time, it was clear that Titans was the spirit of the place."

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When it opens, the school will join a cadre of sports and university Titans. In addition to the NFL's Tennessee Titans, CSU Fullerton; the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh; Indiana University, South Bend; and the University of Detroit all take the nickname.

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So, what's the reason for the titanic popularity of Titans?

"They're Greek warriors - prolific, dynamic, powerful guys that wear cool helmets and stuff," Severson answered. "We had warriors and pirates and jets and lots of other things that were on the table, and none of them captured the imagination of kids like this."

The mascot is a small but important part of creating the school's identity, Severson said. But it's not the only one. Other important milestones include choosing school colors. District trustees were presented with two options on that end at their March 6 meeting - black, white and red; or red, white and silver - and are expected to make a decision soon.

Antelope High School, located at Elverta Road and Palmerson Drive, will be the district's fifth comprehensive high school when completed in fall 2008. The school is being constructed with help from 2004's Measure J, a \$79 million bond measure that included \$30 million for a school in Antelope, and is about 40 percent finished, said district Facilities Director Chris Grimes.

"It's exciting, the school's really starting to take shape," Severson said. "You can tell this is really going to happen now. You can drive out there and see this is going to be a cool lookin' school."

A graphic design for the mascot is in currently the works, he added.

High school mascot roll call
 n Roseville: Tigers
 n Oakmont: Vikings
 n Woodcreek: Timberwolves
 n Granite Bay: Grizzlies
 n Antelope: Titans

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