

Preferred VS. Presenting

Preferred name

A name that the student prefers to be called or nickname.

Presenting Name

A change is made so that the name and/or gender of the student reflects the student's identity.

This is the masking process.



Preferred Name

- Field in Synergy that can be changed by school staff
- Maintains Preferred Name and Legal Name
- Changes Google Meet and Canvas only
- Does not require parental consent



Presenting Name

- Field edited in Synergy by the Office of School Counseling
- Masks a student's Legal Name and/or Gender
- Feeds all spaces not requiring legal name (ie. Report Cards, Class Rosters, Google Meets and Canvas). *Does not mask for all standardized testing information or state reporting.*
- Does not require parental consent, but school should discuss with student
- Confidential
- This is not a preference, it is a student's name



Considerations to Discuss

- Student desires and needs
- Discussion with family and other student identified supports
- Who 'needs to know'
- Staff must discuss practices to avoid the inadvertent disclosure of this confidential information



Counselor Steps

Meet with student to discuss what they and others will see

Consult with administrator and/or teacher, nurse, parent

When student moves to another school, share with receiving school counselor

Inquire about first name, middle name and gender

Email request to School Counseling team and administration