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Students to name old Malta H.S.

By John Kelleher - Managing Editor

DeKALB - Students will be asked to help find a name for the old Malta High School.

DeKalb Schools Superintendent Brian Ali told the school board Monday that students in kindergarten through fifth grade will be asked to suggest names for the school and write an essay defending their choice.

The Citizens Advisory Committee and the school district's leadership team will review the proposals and submit a recommendation to the school board, Ali said.

Malta High School was closed in 2000 when the old Malta School District merged with DeKalb's. Although the building was leased to Cornerstone Christian Academy for two years, people still refer to it as the old Malta High School. But the district is planning to open a partnership school there with Northern Illinois University that will emphasize innovative methods of teaching, all-day kindergarten and programs with special emphasis on fine arts and technology.

Ali said the students' essays will probably be completed in November.

The district set up several committees and subcommittees to implement some of the projects proposed for the school, which, if given final approval by the school board, will open in August 2004.

Ali and Ann Kaplan, Northern's vice president for outreach and administration, will co-chair the project. School district principals, teachers and parents will join NIU staffers on the committees and subcommittees.

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