

LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
Office of the Superintendent

**Naming of Observation Pad at Taylor Observatory  
“Charles Nieman Star Deck”**

**ISSUE**

The Board will approve naming the new observation pad at the Taylor Observatory the “Charles Nieman Star Deck.”

**BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIVITY**

On June 22, 2016 the Board took action on agenda item VI-D to accept a donation of \$100,000 from Charles Nieman’s estate.

The Board discussed the process for naming the new Observation Pad at the regular meeting of January 17, 2018.

**DISCUSSION**

FOTO has built an outdoor observation pad behind the Taylor Observatory. The project includes a hexagonal-shaped observation deck, a concrete pad for a storage shed for a soon-to-be-delivered mobile telescope, and concrete walkways connecting them both to the parking lot. The project cost an estimated \$15,000, paid for using the funds originally donated to Lake County Office of Education from FOTO.

According to Board Policy 7310, the County Board encourages community participation in the process of selecting a name for a new facility. A public hearing shall take place to give members of the public the opportunity to provide input.

**FISCAL, STAFFING, AND FACILITIES**

NA

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION**

The County Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of naming the Observation Pad at the Taylor Observatory the “Charles Nieman Star Deck.”