

John W. Dugan

John W. Dugan was a member of the Herculaneum School Board of Education when the high school held its first graduation ceremony in 1919. Mr. Dugan would continue to serve as a member of the Board of Education well into the 1930's.

Mr. Dugan was a well-known business owner in Herculaneum, operating an automobile dealership, a lumber yard, a coal business, and a funeral home. He also served as Deputy Sheriff of Jefferson County and was appointed judge of the Jefferson County Court, 2nd District. Mr. Dugan was also involved in many civic organizations. He was a charter member of the Herculaneum Lions Club, a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows Lodge #793, and the Order of the Red Men – White Crow Tribe #199. He was also a member of the United Methodist Church of Herculaneum where he held several leadership positions.

Mr. Dugan served on the Herculaneum School Board for 25 years and was instrumental in the 1919 and 1924 expansions at the current high school location. He was also involved in the construction of the first home economics building. In 1935, he was hired to supervise the construction of the Herculaneum Athletic Facility by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The current football stadium, stone bleachers, and retaining walls were all constructed under his supervision.

In 1962, the football stadium was named in honor of John W. Dugan. The stone bleachers are a storied tradition to this day at Herculaneum High School and Mr. Dugan's legacy lives on every Friday night.