

# THE ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## SECTION 3

1935 to 1993

By Don Lentz

## St. Joseph Public Schools Superintendents: 1935-1993



I. E. Stutsman  
1934-1939



Tracy E. Dale  
1939-1944



George Blackwell  
1944-1969



Dr. Gerald D. Troester  
1969-1987



Dr. Randy Dewar  
1987-1992



Dr. Dan Colgan  
1992-2006

### **Chapter 3** **The Years 1935 to 1944**

The last fifty years have seen many changes in the District. It began as the Depression was waning. Immediately it was thrust into world War II with few males available. The recovery was brief as the Korean military action further confounded the District. Then came Sputnik, the defiant sixties, man on the moon and as this report ends, Excellence in Education. Throughout this time, the economy fluctuated and the city expanded its boundaries. In spite of all these negatives, the District continued to grow and is today considered a lighthouse in a statewide sea of education.

Let us go back to the beginning of that period. The year was 1935. I. E. Stutsman was the Superintendent. The other administrators are listed in Appendix A, which also lists the schools. The previous five years had seen the closing of many large schools because the buildings had just outlived their usefulness.

The year began with a landmark decision that allowed cafeteria workers to be married. Women teachers were still required to be single, never married and to have no constant male companions (Board, 1935, January 14). By March, the Board found a need to ask the voters for a \$216,000 bond election to renovate certain schools. The economy was terrible but the bonds passed and the schools were spruced up (Board, 1935, March 25). A teacher at Central High School was moved to Vice Principal. The man was George Blackwell. He didn't know it then, but he was destined to become the Superintendent of Schools. Crayons were selling for 20 cents a box and a new typewriter cost \$47.50. These interesting but obscure facts were recorded in the Board minutes (Board, 1935, June 11). I. E. Stutsman was reappointed as Superintendent with a salary of \$5000 plus \$300 car allowance (Board, 1935, June 11).

As August of 1935 approached, the Board had to make some important decisions. They first decided to raze the old Grant School. Substitutes were hired for \$4.00 per day. The average teacher's salary was \$950 per year, but a young, popular coach at Benton High School, "Pop" Springer, would be paid the outrageous salary of \$1,785 (Board, 1935, August 31).

By November, the old Douglass School site had been sold for \$10.00 per lot. A landmark decision was reached which proposed the new idea of Kindergarten be tried in selected schools for 1936-1937 (Board, 1935, November 11).

The spring of 1936 saw a study determine that the old Longfellow School was unsafe. The Krug School, adjacent to the park of the same name, was purchased for \$6,000 and students were adjusted accordingly (Board, 1936, March 9). Mr. G. M. Coleman was hired as a Social Studies teacher for \$910 per year. This man, like Mr. Blackwell, was also destined to be a prominent figure in the District (Board, 1936, February 19).

In June, the Junior College presented the novel idea of Practice Teaching for its students going into the field of education. This idea sounded good and it was tried. Reports indicated that it worked fairly well (Board, 1936, June 8). This summer also saw the old Owen School side on Pear Street sold for \$576 (Board, 1936, July 13). As 1937 rolled around, a group of parents from the South Side asked if they could be included in a Bond Election. The Benton School was getting old

and they wanted to build a new one. Besides, it was set at the top of Harvard Street hill, which was almost impossible to get to in the winter. The Board agreed and the levy passed (Board, 1937,, April 12).

Mr. I. E. Stutsman was reappointed with a \$775 per year raise (Board, 1937, February 5), the old Jackson School site was sold for \$600 (Board, 1937, April 12), and teachers were given ten days per year sick leave (Board, 1937, November 11). The District also said that if a “colored” student wanted to attend Lincoln University, the District would pay tuition fee equal to what a St. Joseph Junior College student would pay (Board, 1937, October 11). In 1938 two seemingly routine decisions ended up having far reaching effects. The old Young School property was transferred to the city. The city promptly build a new Police Station on the land, which stands today (Board, 1938, September 28). (Please remember that this was written in 1984) Gymnasiums were added to Blair, Sherwood, Hall and South Park Schools (Board, 1938, September 28). The Noyes School would be torn down and a new structure erected on the same site (Board, 1938, December 15). In the south side, the land was purchased for the new Benton High School on Fourth Street along the Parkway. Some patrons wanted it built on King Hill between Virginia and Alabama Streets. Most, however, favored the land where Hosea School sets today. The District shouldered the controversy and time proved it to be a wise decision (Board, 1938, November 21).

A student could attend Junior College for \$100 per year. The tax rate remained at the usual 1.225%. The city had a population of 81,400 and of these, 15,219 whites and 533 negroes attended school that year (District Handbook, 1938).

January of 1939 came and Superintendent Stutsman submitted his resignation (Board, 1939, January 9). Less than a month later, the secretary, Tracy E. Dale, was appointed to take his place (Board, 1939, February 3). The idea of Kindergartens had caught hold and in 1939 they were added to Sherwood, Webster, McKinley, Floyd, South Park, Lindbergh, Everett and Hall Schools. Platte-Gard, a private business college in the city, won the bid to “engross” high school diplomas for 15 cents each (Board, 1939, April 25).

The spring of 1939 also saw the consolidation of Everett Elementary School and Roosevelt Junior High. Lincoln Elementary School took on a new look. The bids were let and construction began on a new addition to Lafayette. The new Benton High School was under construction (Board, 1939, May 15) only to have a basement wall collapse on the workers (Board, 1939, July 14). Land was purchased for playgrounds at Hosea and Blair Schools (Board, 1939, May 15) and new additions were completed at Bliss, Pershing, Humboldt and Neely (Board, 1939, July 31). The big purchases in equipment for 1939 were twofold. First the District bought a new delivery truck from M. B. Roys Auto Sales for \$537 (Board, 1939, July 10). The second major purchase was for automatic coal stokes for five schools (Board, 1939, July 31).

By the fall of the year, pressure from the patrons caused Eugene Field to have a Kindergarten as well as those schools previously mentioned (Board, 1939, August 14). Radio spots promoting the junior College were purchased on KFEQ radio as were newspaper ads in the Daily News (Board, 1939, August 14). The stone wall in front of the old Longfellow School at Tenth and Felix, collapsed and had to be rebuilt (Board, 1940, January 12). This new wall stands today and surrounds the District employees’ parking lot on the southeast corner.

Two programs really began growing in the spring of 1940. One was the sports program at Junior college. Since the facility had no gym, the Y.W.C.A. was rented for \$61. The second program was the Night School at the Hillyard building (Board, 1940, February 12). In fact the choir at Junior College was sent to perform at the New York Worlds Fair (Board, 1940, March 11). Also, Jean Trowbridge, the aforementioned granddaughter of long time superintendent, Edward Neely, donated a statue of him to the school that bears his name (Board, 1940, March 11).

The new Benton High School was completed and accepted by the Board on March 11. Ten days later, the students picked up their books and walked to their new school leaving an empty landmark to wait for the wrecking crew (Board, 1940, March 11).

The District sent a request to the city, asking them if they would spread gravel on the deeply rutted mud path called Gene Field Road, particularly where it runs by the school (Board, 1940, April 8). They also asked that the streets around Lafayette be oiled (Board, 1940, June 10)

The Blair School was undergoing a remodeling program on the oldest part of the building. During the peak of this program, a disastrous fire broke out. The damage was set at \$34,396.50 (Board, 1940, May 1). A program, destined to be short lived, in Vocational Agriculture, was started at Benton, and the old Grant Site was sold to the V.F.W. (Board, 1940, May 13).

The March 27 Board Minutes carries a statement that today seems highly unusual. Students were released for one hour per week for religious services, because “religious education is so fundamental to the development of a good citizen” (Board, 1940, May 27).

The summer of 1940 saw the bell and the old Maxwell School donated to the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church (Board, 1940, June 10). Summer School was really coming into its own, but students had to pay what many citizens considered an outrageous fee of \$9.65 to attend. The Krug School added a shoe rebuilding class and Edison received a Kindergarten. The Kindergarten would be held in the basement of Westminster Presbyterian Church which I would attend just seven short years later.

An inspection at Gene Field School revealed extensive termite damage (Board, 1940, September 9). Now the District was in the process of tearing down the old Floyd School and thus had an abundance of lumber. However, the more pressing need was at Blair in order to rebuild from the fire. Today, Blair is used as the Troester Instructional Media Center for the District. At this time, “the old ornate Floyd building” still stood (Board, 1940, October 10).

A major curriculum change was made at the high school level. General Shop was added. Another major change resulted in the closing of the open-air classrooms at Neely and Hosea (Board, 1940, December 9). These rooms, the only two in the city, were opened in the late 1920’s. Anyone with a contagious disease, anywhere in the city, was bussed to one of these two locations. These rooms were southeast corner rooms chosen because the winter wind in this part of the country, characteristically comes from the northwest. The windows were removed and no heat was allowed. The reason was obvious but cruel. Not so obvious was the fact that it created more problems (colds, flu, etc.) than it solved. Even in light of this, these open-air rooms remained for

over a decade. One must wonder if the bus that brought these children there had windows. No record speaks to this.

In early 1941, with the world in a turmoil, the District created a local one. The Musser School was becoming old and it was decided it should be closed. The patrons, as expected, protested. In fact they donated four Victrolas and a Grafonola to show their interest in keeping it open (Board, 1941, February 10 and March 10). The District backed off and the school remained open. Another complaint rose from the residents living around Neely School. It seems the smoke from the stack was choking them (Board, 1941, February 10). Perhaps the war had made everyone a bit sensitive.

Routine matters did continue, however. The Water Company purchased a part of the old Maxwell School site to erect a water tower (Board, 1941, March 10). Coal was purchased from the cap Todd-Sunshine Company for \$3.70 per ton. (Board, 1941, July 31). Payroll deduction for insurance was now available to the employees (Mortgage, 1941, April 14) and the same or guaranteed automatic reemployment after they were discharged from the service (Mortgage, 1942, January 12).

When school started in the fall of 1941, the District felled pressing need to become a member of the North Central Association. The two swerve \$5 per school, so the three high schools and the Junior College joined. Today the Junior College is close but the three high schools remain as the sole members in the district (Board, 1941, September 29).

The old Jackson site was sold for \$900 (Board, 1942, February 9) and Roosevelt Junior High was closed without opposition (Board, 1942, August 10). For the first time, traveling teachers were given a stipend, \$4 per year. There were 9750 students and 392 teachers for a pupil teacher ratio of about 25:1 (Board, 1942, October 12). Three high schools moved back 1/2 hour and now ran from 8:30 to 3:30 rather than 9:00 to 4:00. To close at the year, the District automatically to a 5% Victory Tax out of each teachers salary (Board, 1942, December 14). This was compensated for the next month when teachers were given a \$8.00 per month cost of living increase (Board, 1943, January 11).

A seeming contradiction appeared in consecutive months of 1943. In January, the war being at its peak, food was ration and students were sent home for lunch whenever possible (Boarded, 1943, January 11). The very next month saw the establishment of the Federal Lunch Program. A Type A Lunch sold for seven cents and a Type B Lunch (Type A without milk and dessert) was five cents (Board, 1943, February 22).

Only to leave bands of importance to place in the summer of 1943. Ninth graders were moved from Noyes to Central Junior High and lights were erected at Noyes Field. The full saw the donation of the Hillyard Building on South Ninth Street. It was given by the family of the late Capt. Newton S.Hillyard so that a vocational school could be continued their (Board 1943, October 22). Eye down to that anyone involved could have predicted the far-reaching effects this donation would make. If resulted in the establishment of a program that was destined to be a very major an integral part of the District. .

The year 1944 started off with a “bang.” The District sued the county because the Collector

could not account for all funds collected. The suit used the term “embezzlement” and the amount due the District from this came to \$48,984.77 (Board, 1944, July 10). The District won the suit and collected.

If this wasn't exciting enough, the District, for the first time, allowed married women to be “special teachers” (Board, 1944, February 21). The reason was pure necessity. Most of the men were off to war and there were not enough single women to fill the positions.

Tracy Dale, Superintendent, resigned early in 1944, and the Business Manager, George Blackwell was appointed in his place (Board, 1944, April 10). He would retain the position for 25 years.

A new retirement system was started by the State of Missouri. It would be solely for the use of teachers. To finance it, teachers paid 4% of their first \$1600 to the fund (Board, 1944, October 11). Other events of the year saw the old Roosevelt Junior High, which was the old Central High, which was the old St. Joseph High School, razed. The land would be leased to the Naval Reserve from then to the late 1990's when it would be given back to the District and called the Ruth Houston Learning Center. (Board, 1944, February 21).

Platte-Gard was still “engrossing diplomas” for 15 cents each (Board, 1944, March 13). A 60 cent levy was put to the voters and passed (Board, 1944, March 13). Finally, the Moore School District to the south of town requested annexation. The District took the northeast section (Board, 1944, August 14). This left a smaller but still active Moore School District. It would not be annexed in its entirety for some time.

## **Chapter 4**

### **The Years 1945 to 1954**

The year of 1945 was destined to go down in history. It would see Franklin D. Roosevelt begin an unprecedented fourth term. It would also see him die in office and an area man, Harry Truman, take over. By May, the Germans would surrender and by September the Japanese would follow suit.

It would be difficult to tell the war was going on by the Board Minutes. If one looked at the personnel, one would see very few men serving as teachers, but that would be the only obvious indication. In fact, all schools would be dismissed in February for the Jack Benny Parade (Board, 1945, February 12).

Now that open air classrooms had become a thing of the past, rules had to be established for students with communicable diseases. The rules amounted to the fact that if you have a communicable disease, stay home, we'll excuse you (Board, 1945, February 12). As for building, the Ernst site was advertised (Board, 1945, December 10) and sold to Keith Bookless for \$3000 (Board, 1946, January 14). The old Garfield property was sold as well (Board, 1946, July 15).

Residents of the Rosecrans Airport area asked the Board to provide a school for their children. They were currently being bussed to the City. No action was taken on this request because it was not feasible to construct a school for so few. Besides, with the war just ending, the army base would undoubtedly be thinned out very soon. This would mean even fewer students to attend this school (Board, 1946, December 9).

In March of 1947, schools were dismissed for the Army Day Parade which wound through the downtown area (Board, 1947, March 17). The next month would see a petition from the residents of the Oak Grove District east of town request to be annexed. This was passed and students were brought into the District (Board, 1947, April 14). To close out the year, a spelling committee was formed to begin in the fall. Their purpose was to help further emphasize the importance of spelling (Board, 1947, May 12).

With regard to buildings, additions were approved for Lindbergh (Board, 1947, June 9), Everett, Hall (Board, 1947, July 14) and Webster (Board, 1947, August 11). A remodeling program was also approved for Hosea (Board, 1947, July 14).

The year of 1948 began rather slowly. Routine matters filled the minutes until May, when it was decided to upgrade the switchboard in the Superintendent's office (Board, 1948, May 8). The District also granted teachers a \$25 per month cost of living increase for the next four months (Board, 1948, May 12). When this ran out, the Board voted to continue it through February of 1949 (Board, 1948, June 16). Those organizations wanting to use school buildings for meetings saw the rates change from \$6 per hour with a three-hour minimum to a flat fee of \$30 (Board, 1948, August 9). The North Central Association membership dues were raised to \$37.50 for Junior College and \$10 for each high school (Board, 1948, September 13).



As 1949 began, the District determined the need to ask for a 30-cent increase in the tax levy. The election was held May 3<sup>rd</sup> and it passed, 4140 to 194 (Board, 1949, January 15). The Reserve Officers Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) asked for and was given credit for the course for the first time. The amount granted was one-half unit per year (Board, 1949, March 14).

The Chemistry Lab at Junior College was outfitted with new tables at a cost of \$1224 (Board, 1949, April 11). New Home Economics rooms were built at Lafayette and Benton (Board, 1949, September 12).

Remember the big ruckus caused when the District tried to close the Musser School a few years ago? Well, something had to be done. The only suitable term to describe the school was, "used up". The District set forth to develop a new building (Board, 1949, May 9). It would be five years before it would become a reality. Not only that, but it would be built seven blocks east and a block north and its name would be changed to Mark Twain.

The fall of 1949 would see a new rule brought forth which would change the dates a student could enter school. Even though Kindergartens were well established by now, the rule dealt only with first graders. Any student who was six years old, on or before November 2<sup>nd</sup>, could enter first grade. Any student born between November 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, could take an entrance exam, which, if passed, would allow the student to enter the first grade (Board, 1949, October 10). The year of 1950 opened the new decade with fairly routine matters. The old Douglass School site was sold for \$125, Neely was rewired and Eugene Field was put on a sewer for the first time (Board, 1950, February 20 and 1950, July 10). The big item mentioned was the District provide transportation, but only for special students, like those attending Krug. The transportation was provided by issuing a special ticket for the Everett and Neely students to ride the City bus. The District settled up with the City later.

March of 1951 saw the District taken to court as three negro youths sued the School Board for the right to attend Junior College. The battle was lost as it is still three years from the famous Brown Case which opened up integration. It is worth repeating here that the Board did pay a negro youth an amount equal to tuition at the Junior College, if the student wanted to attend an all black college (Board, 1951, March 12).

The students at Lafayette High School began the fall with a new principal. D.H. Murphy, long time principal of the school retired and Charles Thomas was chosen to replace him. History would show that Mr. Thomas would hold that position for the next twenty years (Board, 1951, April 9). Another innovation would begin in the fall of that year. For the first time, athletes traveling to out of town games would be transported at District expense in District insured vehicles. We are not told what these vehicles were, but conversations with former coaches indicate that they were not buses at this time, but were private cars with special insurance for the trip (Board, 1951, August 20).

Early winter of that year saw the Board ask for and get a 30 cent levy passed by the voters. This continued the tradition of total support by the patrons, as they had never turned

down a request for a levy increase (Board, 1951, November 12). The additional money allowed the District to become solvent enough to purchase additional property for the Humboldt School. Adjacent land was bought for the purpose of constructing a playground area (Board, 1952, January 14).

The problem in Korea was now coming to a head and inflation was starting to catch us all. One major problem was the price of food. In order to keep our lunch program solvent, it was necessary to increase the price of school lunches to 25 cents plus 5 cents for milk. The price seems very low to us today, but at that time it was a sizeable but affordable price (Board, 1952, March 10). If Korea and inflation weren't bad enough, the spring of 1952 saw one of the worst floods to hit this area in a long time. The Missouri River would cut a new channel and completely isolate the airport from the rest of the City. Even today, access to Rosecrans Field can be gained only by traveling into Kansas. It would inundate valuable farmland and prevent crops from being planted in several areas. Perhaps the worst catastrophe would be the destruction of the amusement park located on Lake Contrary, in the southwest edge of the City. This once magnificent showplace would be reduced to less than carnival status. The lady who owned the park, Mrs. Annie Ingersol, would re-open after the flood, but the major attractions such as the Old Mill and the Shoot-the-Shutes, a boat ride down a long tower into a pool, would be destroyed. The last ditch effort to re-open after the flood would be a dismal failure and after a few years, this once beautiful attraction would be leveled and turned into farmland. I have many fond memories of untold hours spent at the park. It was always where my little country grade school spent its last day of the year with a picnic and free tickets provided by "Miss Annie."

As for the School District, the "Flood of '52'" would create a problem in protecting the Floyd School. Floyd was build less than two blocks from the bank of the river and the entire board meeting of April 14<sup>th</sup> was devoted to how to protect the school. It was saved thanks to an island of sandbags.

The summer of 1952 was a busy one for the District. Hot water was added to the Hyde School for the first time. The playgrounds at Webster, Sherwood and Washington were graded and a new method using two inches of bituminous coating was applied to each. With the success of providing City bus tickets to the Neely and Everett students, the Board decided to close the small Douglass "Colored" School on the south side and provide bus tickets for those students to attend Bartlett. A petition was filed by the residents to keep the school open (Board, 1952, July 7). It was a moot point because integration loomed on the horizon and although they didn't know it then, all of the "colored" schools were soon destined to be closed.

Four short months later, the District received information of four U.S. Supreme Court decisions which would eventually result in racial integration of schools. Although none of these cases related to the St. Joseph area, they at least told the District of a trend that would have a major impact on education. The Board was in the middle of making plans to renovate the Bartlett building and this caused them to back off for a while (Board, 1952, November 10). It was, however, decided that the District needed a grade school in

the area, so plans continued but with a slightly different twist.

If it seems that 1952 was a trying year for the District, it wasn't over yet. A delegation of parents from the South Park area met with the Board just before Christmas of that year. The school was getting old and really run down. The parents wanted something done because they felt it was unsafe for their children to attend there (Board, 1952, December 8). The District would undertake a remodeling program for the school and plans would be made to build a new school for the area. Acquisition of the land would be tied up with legal technicalities for quite some time, however.

The year of 1952 finally ended and it seemed that 1953 would be much calmer, and it was. The District was finally able to put the catastrophes of 1952 behind them and get down to routine business. Improvements were made to Pershing with a two room addition (Board, 1953, January 12) and general remodeling to Sherwood, Neely, Hall, McKinley and Junior College. Humboldt was fireproofed (Board, 1953, May 11), playgrounds at Hall, Noyes and Blair were resurfaced (Board, 1953, June 1), and a three-room addition was added to Lindbergh. Students now had to be six years old by October 31<sup>st</sup> to enter the first grade, if they did not attend Kindergarten, and the idea of a test was discarded (Board, 1953, June 1 and 1953, September 14).

The District Administration was changed with the addition of G.M. "Max" Coleman being appointed as the District's first Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Coleman would hold the position through two Superintendents and last for the next 25 years. Max and his pipe would become an integral part of the District and would be responsible for hiring all of us "old-timers." Excellence in Education would be brought about by his efforts long before it became a law (Board, 1953, June 1).

The Musser School was now beyond repair and the Board accepted bids to build a new school. The new school would be located on the east end of Parkway A and would be called Mark Twain (Board, 1953, July 8). In the south end, Hosea was in the same situation. A decision was also made to build a new Hosea School on the empty land one block south of its 1953 location (Board, 1953, October 12). Plans were accepted to build a new Bartlett School on its existing site (Board, 1953, September 14).

In the far north end, the old Maxwell School site was sold. Although the school had been closed for a number of years, one room was kept open to serve as a holding room for students waiting for a bus to pick them up (Board, 1953, October 12). A bid was given to Gard University to continue "engrossing" diplomas for the District at a cost of 20 cents each (Board, 1954, January 11). A special meeting was called as the Board decided to ask for a levy election to be held on February 9, 1954. They were to ask for a 90-cent increase which they did and it passed (Board 1954, January 16 and 1954, February 10). Early April saw a tragedy occur at a neighboring school. Pickett School served the county as a Grade School and the County High School for the northern part of Buchanan County that was not included in the School District of St. Joseph. Pickett today is a part of the District. A fire broke out and completely destroyed the school. The Pickett Board asked the St. Joseph District for the right to use the old Hosea School for their elementary students and to bus the

high school students to Central until theirs could be rebuilt. Permission was granted without hesitation (Board, 1954, April 7).

On May 18, 1954, the Supreme Court of the United States rendered a decision in a case from Topeka, Kansas that would affect the entire nation. The case was called “Brown vs. Board of Education” and its result would be racial integration in schools. The School District of St. Joseph saw it coming and the very next day, met in a special session and ordered immediate integration of all St. Joseph Public Schools to begin with Summer School. Many districts across the nation did the same and integration was ordered to begin with the fall term. Because of the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting being held and our District beginning with Summer School, the School District of St. Joseph holds the distinct honor of being the first district in the nation to integrate its students (Board, 1954, May 19 and 1954, May 26). Bartlett was closed (Board, 1954, July 12) and plans were made to continue it as a neighborhood grade school (Board, 1954, August 9). The Board felt that the name should be changed and thus was renamed as Horace Mann (Board, 1955, March 21).

Teachers in the District were now required to undergo a yearly health checkup which included a chest X-ray for Tuberculosis (Board, 1954, July 12). The Board also paved the playgrounds at Humboldt, Lindbergh, Edison and Everett (Board, 1954, August 13). Hosea needed a room for a Kindergarten, so the Valley Cottage adjacent to the grounds was rented for this purpose (Board, 1954, August 13). It should be remembered that a new Hosea had just been built and was already overcrowded. This was true throughout the District as the post-war baby boom was beginning to be felt. Because of this, a Bond Election was planned for March 1, 1955 to expand sites (Board, 1954, December 17). In keeping with tradition, the election passed and additions were made to Mark Twain, Pershing, Hyde and Hall (Board, 1955, March 4).

Due east of the City was a small county district entitled Platte Valley. On August 13, 1954, patrons met with the Board to request that the School District annex their school. Permission was granted and the school, located about five miles east on Frederick, became a part of the St. Joseph District (Board, 1954, August 13).

Krug School was now getting old and beyond repair. Plans were made to move it from its north St. Joseph location to a more centralized spot. This school served the handicapped from all over the City and it was felt that a more centralized location would be an asset. The new school would be built behind and adjacent to the new Mark Twain School. It would also be named Myrtle Miller after the long-time and dedicated principal of Krug. More than that, Myrtle Miller would serve nine more years as principal of the school that bore her name. This is an honor that has never been given anyone else in the District. It is also an honor that was very well deserved because she was dedicated to the education of the handicapped (Board, 1955, March 21). Plans for the new school were completed (Board, 1955, September 14) and the new school was built at a cost of \$432,321 (Board, 1956, May 14).

Another important event had taken place in the world. Jonas Salk had perfected his polio vaccine and this dread disease was conquered. The District immediately jumped into action and provided free vaccine to all students (Board, 1955, March 21).

The decade from 1945 to 1955 was a busy one. War, inflation, floods, annexations, and the baby boom permanently changed the face of the District. The next decade would see a legal battle over property for the new South Park School. It would also see many more annexations and it would separate itself from college education. As you will see, the baby boom would begin to be felt on the secondary level and adjustments would need to be made. As this decade closes, it is important to remember that this ten years began with the end of World War I, passed through the Korean Conflict and ended with a Supreme Court decision that shook the educational realm.

## **Chapter 5**

### **The Years 1955 to 1964**

May of 1955 would see the District enter into a legal battle over a piece of land. The land referred to as the Stigers Tract consists of about six square blocks. It runs from 29<sup>th</sup> Street on the west to the area of 31<sup>st</sup> Street on the east. The land begins on the south at the Pacific Street Trafficway or Highway 36 and continues north to Duncan Street. This land was needed by the District to build a new school for the South Park students. The owner did not want to sell the property to the District, so the District entered legal action to “condemn and obtain” the Stigers Tract (Board 1955, May 25 and 1955, July 6).

The court allowed the proceedings to drag out for a period of two years until it agreed that the condemnation issued by the District to be honored (Board, 1957, May 23). It wasn't until late fall of 1957 that the District would finally have all the paperwork finished and could obtain its legal rights to the property. The cost for the land was \$25,000.

I mentioned Highway 36 as being the southern boundary of the land. This was used merely as a convenient point of reference. In actuality, the District had to sell part of this tract to the State for the construction of this highway before it had a chance to build a school on it (Board, 1961, February 6). They also sold part of this property to the Huffman Memorial Methodist Church for \$5,000 (Board, 1966, January 10). It would not be until 1971 that a new school on this property would be planned.

Now that integration had become a law, the Lincoln School was closed. The District allowed it to remain open for an extra year as a neighborhood elementary school, but with Washington and Humboldt so close, it was decided to close it (Board, 1955, July 6). Some students would even be transferred to Webster.

With the completion of the new Myrtle Miller School, the old Krug site was no longer needed. The Board decided to sell it to the City for a token sum of \$200. The City had plans to construct a new swimming pool on the site for the youth of the north end of town.

The beginning of 1956 saw a controversial issue come before the voters of the City. They wanted to change the treatment of our water from chlorine to fluorine. Medical evidence indicates that this would improve the teeth of our youth. The Board went on record as being in total support of this issue (Board, 1956, February 23). However, the issue failed and several attempts since then have also gone down in defeat. Today, our City water is still purified by the addition of chlorine gas rather than the potentially more beneficial fluorine. But this is another issue for another paper, another time.

The Bliss Junior High School was beginning to sag, so it became necessary to underpin the structure (Board, 1956, March 12). In further routine matters, principals were granted a professional leave day (Board, 1956, March 12), Pickett patrons requested and obtained an extension of one year on their request for the use of the old Hosea, and Benton's parking lot was paved (Board, 1956, September 10).

To close out the year, an addition at Noyes was planned. This area was really feeling the population explosion (Board, 1956, October 8). The old Musser School was put up for bids. When these bids were received, they were all too low and were rejected. Instead of selling it at this time, it was leased to the City for recreational purposes (Board, 1956, November 12).

Sports at Junior College were really coming into their own and so they requested that football be added to the program. Careful study and research into other Junior Colleges caused the Board to deny this request (Board, 1957, January 16).

It was now obvious that the old Douglass building was of no use to the District. All the students had been moved with integration. This coupled with the proximity of the structure to the McKinley School prompted the offering of the structure for sale. It was sold to a group wanting to turn it into a black social club. The sale was finalized for \$3000 and it became known as the Tes Trams Club (Board, 1957, July 8).

The State, not the District, would begin issuing certificates for students who did not graduate from high school but passed the General Educational Development (G.E.D.) Test (Board, 1957, October 14). Another major decision stated that students who were 16 years of age and “not passing in at least three, one-unit courses” would be put on probation for a nine-week period (Board, 1957, November 18). If their grades were not satisfactory at the end of the nine-week probationary period, they would be suspended.

In dealing with the routine building matters of 1957, the playgrounds at Field, Pershing and Neely were resurfaced, bids were accepted for an addition to Hyde (Board, 1957, October 14), the old Hosea site was sold to Vineyard Construction Co for \$4500 (Board, 1957, November 18) and the old Lincoln site was sold for \$35,535.54 (Board, 1957, December 9).

The year of 1958 began with the transferring of the old Benton site to the City for a nominal \$250 (Board, 1958, January 13). The old Musser site would finally be sold to Mr. George W. Jackson for \$4200 (Board 1958, April 15). A new science lab would be installed at Lafayette as a result of the new push in science (Board, 1958, February 10). The Navy would be given a renewed lease for the old Central/Roosevelt site (Board, 1958, May 12). Teachers would no longer be allowed to accept gifts if the transaction involved a solicitation of funds (Board, 1958, June 9). Humboldt, Floyd and the Junior College would receive new tile floors (Board, 1958, July 7).

Mr. Edgar C. Little, Chemistry Instructor at Junior College, would be elevated to the title of Dean of Students and given a \$300 stipend for it (Board, 1958, September 8). The Board would also give teachers a \$100 cost of living increase (Board, 1958, September 8). Also the United American Building on the northeast corner of Tenth and Edmond was purchased for \$11,000. The building would be used by the Junior College as a Student Union (Board, 1959, March 9).

Annexation of outlying districts was really becoming a popular issue. The Woodbine School District, which lies between the present Belt Highway and I-29, and from Messanie to Gene Field Road, asked and was granted annexation. The area east of the airport, called the French Bottoms area was also granted annexation (Board, 1959, April 13).

September saw the District ask the voters for a \$2,800,000 bond election to add new classrooms. The election took place on October 9<sup>th</sup> and the bonds passed (Board, 1959, July 13 and 1959, October 12). A major purchase as the result of this gave new land to Central along Charles Street (Board, 1959, October 12) and bids were let for a new addition to the school (Board, 1959, December 14).

The Pickett area once again requested that the District annex their school. The Board voted to delay action on their request for an “indefinite period” (Board 1959, December 14). Two months later, the patrons tried again. This time the decision was “not to agree to plan for annexation for at least one year” (Board, 1960, February 8). Two months later, the Country Club area placed their request before the Board to be annexed (Board, 1960, April 1). This was also denied and the reason given was that this area was not in Buchanan County and annexation would create a tax problem.

The remainder of 1960 was not quite so controversial. Fire sprinklers were added to McKinley and South Park (Board, 1960, May 9), a new Chemistry Lab was constructed at Benton (Board, 1960, June 13), Hall got new plumbing, heating and electrical work (Board, 1960, June 13) and Blair received a new addition (Board, 1960, July 11). All of this was a result of the Bond Election money.

The winter of 1960-1961 saw the District engage in real estate transactions. Land was purchased for a new school site east of Karnes Road and the Belt (Board, 1960, November 14), the old Woodbine site was sold, property at 425 Dolman was purchased for a new parking lot for Lafayette (Board, 1961, February 6) and the Hosea Annex (Valley Cottage) was sold for \$30,000 (Board, 1961, March 13).

Because of the rapidly growing enrollment, additions were planned for Hosea (Board, 1961, September 11) and Everett (Board, 1961, October 9). The next year would see two rooms added to Field, a new gym planned for Benton (Board, 1962, June 4) and new additions at Hall and Lindbergh (Board, 1962, November 12).

A year had now passed and Pickett residents once again applied for annexation. The Board once again denied their request. The area was considered too large and the cost of bussing prohibitive. The patrons this time had an alternate plan. If the District would annex everything south as far as Pettis Road, then they had an agreement that the Faucett District would take everything else. This passed and the struggle for them appeared to be at an end (Board, 1961, October 9). For those of you who are unfamiliar with the area, Pettis Road is located due west of a line where South 169 Highway crosses I-29.



It sounded like the battle was finally over; however, Faucett declined as it didn't want to come that far north. So, once again, in February of 1963, the Pickett patrons requested annexation. The Board studied it and finally agreed to annex the entire district (Board, 1963, March 18). Now it had to be put to the voters of the area (Board, 1963, August 12). Needless to say it passed and the District was officially annexed on July 1, 1964.

Meanwhile, the Spring Garden District, the Lake Station RIII District and the Moore No. 24 District, also requested annexation (Board, 1964, July 1). The action was tabled and the final results will appear in Chapter 6.

While all this annexation talk was going on, other business had to be conducted. Gard University was once again given the contract to "engross" diplomas, but now for 30 cents each (Board, 1962, January 8). Relating to teachers, they were given the opportunity to purchase a Tax Sheltered Annuity through payroll deduction via the District (Board, 1962, June 4). Students were given the opportunity to take a TB test provided by the District if the parents gave permission (Board, 1963, August 12).

The buildings did not go unnoticed during this time either. Pershing was given a new addition. There was also a house and property bought at 3400 Beck Road. The house was demolished and this land would later hold the new Hawthorne School (Board, 1963, May 20). It was also time to begin leveling the Stigers Tract to make it ready for construction of the new school which would eventually be known as Parkway (Board, 1963, May 20). The School District would sell its land located on the northeast corner of Tenth and Felix to the City for the construction of a Senior Citizens Center. The County Court requested that the District provide another teacher for the Boys Home (Board, 1963, September 9). The home was getting full and the situation dictated this need. The request was granted. The new gym at Benton was completed and dedicated in honor of the long time coach of the school, P.B. "Pop" Springer (Board, 1963, November 11).

Another new purchase was the old Whitaker Building on South Ninth Street. It was to be remodeled and turned into the School District Maintenance Shop (Board, 1963, November 11).

By now it was obvious that the City needed a four-year college. The need was present, as was the interest. The Board resolved to help establish such a school (Board, 1963, October 14). Northwest Missouri State University submitted a proposal to the District. If the District would continue its support of the first two years, then Northwest would establish years three and four (Board, 1963, December 9). This did not exactly fit into the scheme of things. Our District wanted to separate itself from higher education and have the entire county form its own college district (Board, 1964, April 13). This idea was put to the voters and passed (Board, 1965, February 8). The old Junior College would cease to exist and the state was destined to form a four-year state college in the City. The results of this effort can be found in Chapter 6.

It seemed that there was no trouble getting recognition for athletic prowess, nor had there ever been. But what about academic achievement? The District laid formal plans to recognize high achievers by Board action and publicity with the area media (Board, 1964, March 9).

This decade closed with two buses being sold for \$250 and \$400. More importantly, a plan was put into operation which would develop the concept of School Stop Signs. These signs would be used during the hours when elementary students would be going to and coming from school. The unique design would allow these signs to be folded in half on permanent poles to be opened when needed. This concept is still in use today because of its success (Board, 1964, November 9).

## **Chapter 6**

### **The Years of 1965 to 1974**

Across the nation, rebellion at the colleges was the big item. Mass demonstrations were staged by students to show their dissatisfaction. In St. Joseph the climate was considerably calmer. Schools went on as normal and the attitude of rebellion was not felt here.

The year of 1965 started off with annexation requests. If a person was to take the Pickett annexation as a model, they would expect a long hard battle ahead. Such was not the case. The three districts requesting annexation were all at the edge of the city and some of their districts were already within the city limits.

On the southwest edge of the city, the Lake Station RIII District asked to be annexed. Due south of town was the Moore No. 24 District. They also requested annexation. Another district, Spring Garden, which was located along South 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, was the third to request annexation. The District granted all three requests (Board 1965, February 8 and 1965, March 25).

Students within the District were starting to be very picky and were going to whatever school they pleased because the existing transfer policy was so lenient. The District set to work and developed a much more stringent transfer policy (Board, 1965, May 27).

Now that the school stop signs had proven their worth, the Board established, in conjunction with the Police Department, the School Boy Patrol Program. This provided guards where crossing the street could be dangerous. Many schools had developed this program on their own. Now it would be official and sponsored by the District (Board, 1965, September 13).

The building program made strides with additions to Lake Contrary and Skaith (Board, 1965, September 13). As mentioned before, a new school in the northeast was needed and plans were made to build a new one along Beck Road. The name would be Hawthorne. Now that Spring Garden was in the District, a new school was needed here also. A new one was planned about one-half mile south of the current one on South 22<sup>nd</sup> Street (Board, 1965, December 13).

A name change was also in order. The St. Joseph Technical School would be called Hillyard Technical School (Board, 1966, June 13). Another action on the secondary level saw the new addition to Lafayette air-conditioned and a new recreational complex planned (Board, 1966, October 10). This would provide for a football field and track to be located a block north of the school's front door.

In a quick fix effort to alleviate overcrowding, two trailers, referred to as Portable Classroom Units, were purchased by the District to be placed where needed (Board, 1966, September 12). But just as they were adding these, a new problem arose down on Fourth Street. An old school along the river, Floyd, had a problem. Two new highways were

being planned. One was to be called I-229 or the West Belt. This would not be built for many years but the State would begin purchasing land and tearing down houses. This would eliminate a large portion of the homes that fed the school. This highway would come in from the southeast.

I mentioned two highways. The second one would be called Spur 759. It would run from Highway 36 to the southwest and terminate in the Stock Yards. Not only would it take out even more homes, but the highway would literally run right by the front door of the school. This was impetus enough to cause the District to close the school. The students would be divided between Neely and McKinley with the majority going to McKinley. The District would continue to use it for several years as its Bookroom, Audio Visual Headquarters and R.O.T.C. Headquarters (Board, 1966, October 10).

To close out the year of 1966, a building addition was planned for Lindbergh (Board, 1966, December 19). The bids were accepted and the new Hawthorne and Spring Garden Schools were well on their way (Board, 1966, September 12 and 1966, November 21).

As 1967 opened, a new modern accounting system provided by the Burroughs Company was purchased so that the District could develop an Alphanumeric Accounting System (Board, 1967, January 9). Teachers were given a new salary schedule to start in the fall of the year. A teacher with a Bachelor's Degree could start at \$5400 and earn up to \$7300 after 18 years of service. Those with Master's Degrees would start at \$5900 and could go as high as \$7900. No other steps or provisions were given (Board, 1967, February 23). The teachers had more and better coming the next year.

This time the Board provided breaks for teachers working toward advanced degrees. There was now a salary schedule for Bachelor's, Bachelor's plus 16 hours, Master's, Master's plus 16 hours and Master's plus 32 hours. Not only that, but the increments were raised to \$205 for each year of service (Board, 1968, February 12).

Buildings, particularly at the secondary level, were enlarged. This was because the post-war baby boom was now stretching the high school facilities to their fullest. Benton and Lafayette both saw additions planned that would increase their classroom space (Board, 1968, April 8). A new facility, similar to the one at Lafayette for football and track, was planned for Benton (Board, 1967, March 10). The District was concerned over the safety of students at the new Spring Garden, so they requested the city install a traffic signal on the very busy 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. Unfortunately the city never did agree to do so (Board, 1967, December 11).

A new program was started that would prove to be very successful. It would be held nights at various locations to help the adults of the community. It was called Adult Basic Education (Board, 1967, December 11).

Remember the Stigers Tract that caused such a headache? Remember also the new highways planned by the State that closed Floyd? Well, a continuation of this highway plan would establish a new Highway 36 that would cut right through the middle of the city in the approximate vicinity of Pacific Street. This meant that after fighting so hard to obtain the Stigers Tract, the District would now have to sell part of it to the State for this highway. The price was \$10,000 (Board, 1967, July 10 and 1967, August 17).

Teachers were excited about their salaries but the District wasn't through yet. Coaches were now going to be paid according to an established schedule. Prior to this, they were paid, but the amount varied from school to school. The head football coach at a school would receive an \$800 stipend and the head basketball coach would receive a \$600 stipend. The discrepancy showed the relative importance of the two sports to the District and in no way reflected the comparative length of the season (Board, 1968, April 22).

A major change was in the offing. Mr. George Blackwell would retire effective September 1, 1968. This means that the District would have to begin a search for a new superintendent (Board, 1968, May 27). After two months of discussion by the Board, they decided to hire Croft Consulting Services to find them two candidates for the position. The two Assistant Superintendents, Max Coleman and Hubert Campbell, were not interested in moving up (Board, 1968, July 8). The next two in line were Milton Day and Jerre Cooper; they had just recently been appointed to the positions of Director of Secondary Education and Director of Elementary Education, respectively (Board, 1968, May 13). The Board felt that it had to look outside the District for a candidate. They called the Principals together to inform them of the procedure they would use to select a new Superintendent (Board, 1968, August 12).

A special Executive Session was held by the Board on a Sunday evening to develop a Screening Committee for the selection process. This meeting was held at the Pony Express Motel (Board, 1968, October 6). The two candidates submitted by the Croft firm were interviewed and on November 29, 1968, the position was awarded to Dr. Gerald D. Troester (Board, 1968, November 29). As I write this paper, the year of 1985 is waning and Dr. Troester is still the Superintendent of Schools. This is an unusual length of service for a large district Superintendent today. The trend is to spend three to five years and then move on. There are many reasons why he has enjoyed such longevity, but the years alone should indicate the abilities and dedication of this man. An interesting sidelight to this story was that Mr. Blackwell's desk and chair was sold to the M.S.T.A. for \$100 (Board, 1968, August 28).

Now that a new Superintendent has been chosen, let's back up to the other events of 1968. The District was beginning to see the need for their own school busses. The City Bus Routes were not lending themselves to use by all the city schools. Only a very few schools had the busses come closer than a block away. We were also entering an era that would see law suits against school districts become popular. Because of these, the Board decided to establish six routes with new busses at a cost of \$145.08 per day (Board, 1968, June 24). With regard to buildings, 12 playgrounds were paved this summer (Board, 1968,

July 8) and the old Spring Garden Building was sold to the Seventh Day Adventist Church for \$10,500 (Board, 1968, August 12).

The Bliss Junior High School was becoming old and the District undertook an extensive study to determine the safety of the old building (Board, 1968, October 17). They found that plans needed to be made before long to replace or restore it. The use of the old Floyd building was given to the E.O.C. (Board, 1968, October 17). The final note of 1968 was that the Moore District voted 53 to 1 to be annexed (Board, 1968, November 25).

The New Year of 1969 saw the District ask the voters for a 40-cent increase in the Levy (Board, 1969, February 24). The election was held on April Fools Day but this would not be a bad omen as it would pass.

The rest of the year was devoted to buildings. Pershing would be renovated (Board, 1969, June 23), the old Kirschner structure would revert to the City (Board, 1969, June 9), the Moore School would be sold (Board, 1969, September 8), new property would be purchased at Neely (Board, 1969, October 13) and the old Student Union at the Junior College would be sold (Board, 1969, October 13). The year closed with a new idea of having Parent-Teacher Conferences in the elementary schools and N.W.M.S.C. establishing a Graduate Center in the City (Board, 1969, November 10 and 1969, December 8).

The year 1970 opened with serious discussions by the Board on a new Missouri law. The law defined Tenure for Teachers. This would result in major changes in the evaluation and contracting of teachers (Board, 1970, February 23). Another new program was Special Education. The District gave two teachers \$600 so that they could return to school for training in the field (Board 1970, April 27). On the elementary level a new course of study for music was developed (Board, 1970, April 13) and the boundaries for Eugene Field and Hawthorne were changed (Board, 1970, April 27).

In the northeast end of the City was a Catholic Parochial High School known as Christian Brothers. The Diocese had just merged this all-boys high school with the all-girls high school known as the Convent of the Sacred Heart. The new coed high school would be called Bishop LeBlond and would serve the entire city. Now that the Christian Brothers building was empty, the District purchased it for \$210,000 (Board, 1971, January 7). The reason was that the District was getting ready to develop the Middle School plan and this structure would be perfect for this use.

On January 11, 1971, J.T. "Tom" McClain was appointed Supervisor of Maintenance for the District. An ironic event would be discussed at the same meeting. It seems that Mr. McClain's first task would be at Benton High School. The roof to the gymnasium built just eight years earlier, had just collapsed (Board, 1971, January 11). I was teaching at Benton at this time and recall the event quite well. We had just had a heavy snow when the weather turned quite cold. The gym was unusual in that the walls were in a circular shape and the roof was a dome. It was built along the lines of a Geodesic Dome only out of wood, not glass. It was beautiful inside. The snow and contraction from the cold were apparently more than the struts could bear. A little after 1:00 in the afternoon, I

was right in the middle of a Physics class when the building trembled as if a small earthquake had hit us. I looked out of my classroom door and down the hall and noticed what appeared to be the absence of the gym. Fortunately, it gave a loud cracking noise several minutes before the collapse, and the gym was cleared.

I have often thought about this. About 30 minutes after the collapse, I was scheduled to be in the gym, rehearsing a group for the winter Queen Coronation. The Band would have been playing and the crack would not have been heard. The contractor who built the roof was later sued for \$325,000 (Board, 1971, April 12) but they would only collect \$175,000 in the settlement (Board, 1973, May 31). A new roof was built, but along more conventional lines. The original walls were still good and the staff still jokes about the square peg (roof) on a round hole (walls).

The Middle School program was now in full swing. The fall of 1972 would see them open. The old C.B. building would be remodeled (Board, 1971, March 8) and would be called Bode Middle School (Board, 1971, June 28) after the benefactor to the City, George Bode. Mainstreaming of the Myrtle Miller students left that new building empty and it would be turned into a Middle School for the Bliss-Miller area (Board, 1971, June 14). Its name would be Truman Middle School (Board, 1971, June 28). In the south end, the new Spring Garden School or the Hyde School would be converted to a Middle School. Spring Garden was selected and the name was retained (Board, 1971, June 28). The north end had no convenient structure for a Middle School and so one had to be built. It would be called Robidoux Middle School (Board, 1971, June 28). The center of town would see the Horace Mann building converted into a Middle School. It would cost the District \$644,130 to remodel Bode (Board, 1971, September 13), \$745,918 to change Spring Garden and expand Hyde to take Spring Garden's students (Boards, 1972, February 15) and \$888,128 to alter Myrtle Miller into Truman (Board, 1972, March 24). The new Robidoux would cost \$1,334,065 (Board, 1972, August 16) and would be built by Lawhon Construction Co.

In addition to all the new Middle Schools, the new South Park School on the infamous Stigers Tract was finally planned. It would be called Parkway (Board, 1971, June 28) and it would cost \$782,900 to build (Board, 1971, November 8).

In the north central end of town, the enrollment of the Washington School was decreasing and the District decided that with Humboldt so close, it would close the school (Board, 1973, January 8). It would not abandon the building. Delays in the construction of the Robidoux building would see the Middle School program for the north end of town begin for a couple of years at the Washington structure.

In dealing with miscellaneous events of 1973, the Board established a program for teachers that would allow them to take a sabbatical leave (Board, 1973, May 14). The Gene Field School was damaged extensively by fire and needed to be rebuilt (Board, 1973, June 16). The final note was that a new organization, the S.J.E.A., affiliated with the N.E.A., requested (Board, 1973, October 8) and was denied (Board, 1973, October 22) official recognition by the District.

As 1974 rolled around, the District asked for and received a 54-cent increase in the levy (Board, 1974, February 5). Teachers were given a 7% increase in salary (Board, 1974, March 11) and were provided with paid medical insurance (Board, 1974, March 11). On the financial end, the old Bliss was sold for \$15,010 (Board, 1974, March 25) but the rebuilding of Gene Field would cost \$392,435 (Board, 1974, May 13).

The personnel changes saw long-time Assistant Superintendent of Business, Hubert Campbell, retire (Board, 1974, June 17) and be replaced by Don Trout (Board, 1974, July 8). Charles Cummings was appointed Director of Special Education (Board, 1974, May 13). Dan Colgan was appointed as Dr. Troester's Administrative Assistant (Board, 1974, August 23). Finally, Jim Coleman was appointed as Director of Health, Physical Education and Safety (Board, 1974, September 9).

The local television station, KQTV, would, as a community service, begin broadcasting a program featuring the District, called School Days. This would have Don Ransom as its Master of Ceremonies and is still seen today (Board, 1974, September 9). The Robidoux structure and the Lafayette Field were finally accepted (Board, 1974, September 23). To close out this year, teacher's salaries were raised so that teachers would earn from \$8000 to \$14,000 and principals from \$13,750 to \$22,250.

In closing out this chapter and decade, one should remember that it started out in the rebellious 60's under George Blackwell. It ended in the 70's under Dr. Gerald Troester. The Middle School Program was established and two near disasters were averted. Times and personnel changed as did the overall structure of the District. New levy increases were asked for and passed and Special Education students were mainstreamed. All of this brought the District even closer to what is now called Excellence in Education, both in time and structure. In the final decade, we will see this approach continue and at last be named and made a law.



## **Chapter 7**

### **The Years 1975 to 1984**

The final decade observed in this paper began with two big building issues. The final bill was in for the reconstruction of the Gene Field School following the disastrous fire. It was around \$7000 more than expected. The total came to \$399,677.58 (Board, 1975, March 10). The second issue really created quite an uproar. Because of enrollment, the Board decided to close the Noyes School (Board, 1975, February 10). The general opinion of the populace has been that when the District makes up its mind to close a school, that is it and nothing can change their mind. This school is proof of the opposite. Patrons presented their side of the story, the District listened, and the school remained open.

At the Hillyard Vocational School, the Building Trades Class' curriculum was put into actual use. They purchased a lot at 2934 Kimbrough Lane. The idea was for them to build their own house, sell it, and use the profits to purchase another lot and repeat. This took the students out of the classroom and gave them hands-on experience. This was the whole idea behind the school and it proved very successful (Board, 1975, February 10).

The District once again renewed their lease with the Navy for the old Central High School property. This is the land behind the Everett School (Board, 1975, May 12). Students were still transferring around the District and the Board had to tighten even more their rules regarding this (Board, 1975, June 9). The S.J.E.A. once again approached the Board. This time to ask the Board for payroll deduction for membership dues. Since the Board decided earlier that as in other districts, it would recognize only the organization that contained the majority of members, it would deny this request (Board, 1975, June 23).

A grievance procedure was established to provide official guidelines for employees having a problem (Board, 1975, July 14). At about the same time, the District adopted the Management By Objective (M.B.O.) concept and set forth to put it into use (Board, 1975, July 28).

As school started, the District did something unusual. They rolled back the tax levy 40 cents from \$4.22 to \$3.82. This surprised and pleased the citizens (Board, 1975, July 28). A teacher exchange program was set up with Missouri Western College which saw Jerry Ascherman teach at Central and Jim Crenshaw teach at the College (Board, 1975, September 8). Our other area college, Northwest Missouri State, had a Graduate Center established at Lafayette High School in the evenings. They reported that 142 St. Joseph teachers were enrolled this year (Board, 1975, September 8).

In the south end of town, the McKinley School was really showing its age. The District decided it would be better for all concerned if they closed it. As in the closing of any neighborhood school, there was some opposition but most patrons of the area realized the antiquity of the building, and it was closed (Board, 1975, November 10). The Board would then redistrict all the elementary districts in the city. The McKinley students would be divided between the other south side schools (Board, 1975, December 22). Another

major change would see the Sherwood students put into the Truman Middle School District rather than the Bode District (Board, 1976, January 12).

Our Bicentennial year saw the District establish an Advisory Council. This would give teachers, administrators and patrons input into decisions. The program was quite successful and continues today (Board, 1976, January 12). The year also saw a possible food poisoning take place at Lafayette over some chicken served for lunch. Many students and a few teachers did get sick but no one was seriously hurt. It seemed to trace to some canned chicken distributed by the government (Board, 1976, January 26). On the lighter side, the three city high schools presented their annual plays. Benton produced "Annie Get Your Gun," at Central it was "The King and I," and at Lafayette the play was "George M." (Board, 1976, February 9). All three were well done and quite successful.

Both the Federal and the State Governments had a big impact on the District in 1976. The Federal Government had recently presented the Title IX plan for funding, and on the State level, advisement's were sent to the District in order for them to maintain their AAA rating (Board, 1976, February 23 and 1976, March 8). The five items the District had to work on were as follows:

1. Have more Middle School Teachers with 30+ graduate hours.
2. Establish elementary librarians.
3. Establish elementary counselors.
4. Increase the time spent on art at the elementary level.
5. Reduce the number of students in a P.E. class to less than 45, at all levels.

They immediately set to work on this, accomplished it, and maintained their AAA rating. The same month that the state issued this requirement, they also cut their funding to the District by 3% (Board, 1976, March 8).

In routine matters of the year, high school records were microfilmed for the first time (Board, 1976, March 22), Central High School underwent its North Central Evaluation, teachers' salaries ranged from \$8000 to \$15,390 (Board, 1976, April 12), computer facilities at First National Bank were contracted for high school grade reporting and scheduling (Board, 1976, April 26) and a required course in Practical Business was started at Lafayette which would soon spread to the other two city high schools (Board, 1976, May 10). The DeKalb RIV School District requested annexation but the distance was too large and the request was denied (Board, 1976, May 10). A program for the Gifted and talented student was established for grades K-12 (Board, 1976, May 24). The already working program of Science Investigations would be put under its auspices. Saturday Detention for High School Students was initiated (Board, 1976, September 13). If a student missed two days of school or less, he or she was granted exemption from semester exams (Board, 1976, September 13) a policy which lasted until 1984. Finally, the District, with cooperation of the Sheriff's Office, established the Junior Deputy Program (Board, 1976, November 8).

The year of 1977 began with the energy crunch which was felt nation-wide. Locally, gas service was cut off to many large customers, one of which was our District. They had to resort to burning oil to warm the buildings (Board, 1977, January 10).

I suppose the major event was the retirement of G. Max Coleman (Board, 1977, June 13). For many people this man was the District for 25 years. It would be odd not to see him in the Main Office. He would be replaced by Roy Cozad (Board, 1977, June 22).

Teacher's salaries were raised to the \$8100 - \$16,632 range (Board, 1977, June 22). Nick Erganian was appointed as the Director of Community Education (Board, 1977, August 1). The Washington School building and property were sold for \$10,500 (Board, 1977, September 26). An arson fire was set off in the Assistant Principal's office at Central (Board, 1977, September 26). And finally, to end the year, the Morningside Addition along Pear Street was redistricted to the Benton area at the parents' request (Board, 1977, November 14).

Less than a year after his appointment, Roy Cozad resigned for a better offer (Board, 1978, February 14). John Stolt was hired to replace him (Board, 1978, April 14). The students were now required to have twenty units of credit before they would be allowed to graduate from high school (Board, 1978, March 27).

With regard to personnel in 1978, a policy was established called R.I.F. The enrollments were declining as the post-war baby boom had now passed. It was obvious that we had to cut back on teachers. Fortunately most of the problem was taken care of by attrition. However, a plan did need to be developed when this was not possible. The District called it Retention In Force at this time (Board, 1978, April 25). Today it is better known as Reduction In Force or more commonly "riffing." The difficulty comes from the fact that if a school loses 25 students, this is one class. On the elementary level, the problem can be resolved by just cutting back a first grade teacher. But on the Middle and Secondary level, this means cutting back one class. One class is one-fifth of a teacher in each discipline. To cut a teacher, you overload another class. This was a difficult problem never before faced by our District.

In other personnel matters, a plan was established to relieve the load of night work on the high school assistant principals. A teacher would be hired for 40 nights of supervisory duty at Benton and Lafayette (Board, 1978, March 8). Further personnel changes would see Richard Miller appointed as the Supervisor of Fine Arts (Board, 1978, May 30) and Tim Fleming as Director of Community Education (Board, 1978, June 26).

Three events dealt with physical facilities. Trampolines were removed from all buildings because of their danger (Board, 1978, September 11), Horace Mann Middle School was closed because of small enrollment and the students divided between Truman and Bode, and hazardous walking conditions at Pershing caused the District to bus students who lived less than a mile from the School (Board, 1978, November 15).

In 1979, the District transferred Horace Mann to the City for \$166,000 for use as a Community Center (Board, 1979, January 29). Floyd and McKinley were also sold to the City but for a nominal fee of \$10 each (Board, 1979, February 23). As a return gesture, the City sold Noyes Field to the District but the amount was not listed (Board, 1979, February 23).

A bond election was passed which provided money to start construction of a new Hillyard Vocational School at 36<sup>th</sup> and Faraon Streets (Board, 1979, June 11). The old building was just getting too small for the “14 local and area high schools that bus students to the school for three hours a day” (Gazette, 1985, December 26).

The District made plans to restore the Main Office. This is located on the upper floors of the Library Building at Tenth and Felix Streets (Board, 1979, July 9). Many citizens felt that the District didn't have the right to remodel city property. A note here would remind everyone that the building was constructed around the turn of the century (See Chapter 2) with District funds and that the District lets the City use the main floor for a Library.

The year also saw a title change for the Business Manager, Don Trout. He would now be called the Assistant Superintendent for Business (Board, 1979, June 25). Mark Hargens would be appointed to the newly created position of Director of Pupil Personnel. The year ended with the Board developing a policy to encourage the use of a Foreign Exchange Program for students (Board, 1979, September 24).

Two major issues began the year of 1980. After almost a decade of work, the S.J.E.A. was granted payroll deduction for its membership dues (Board, 1980, January 28). The second item was a first for the District. The levy election of April 1 was defeated (Board, 1980, April 7).

The Audio Visual Center was now known as the Instructional Media Center (I.M.C.) and Jerry Chambers was appointed Supervisor replacing Earl Auxier (Board, 1980, May 22). The new trend was Instructional Television and the first bids were opened for television equipment (Board, 1980, April 21). Bids were also opened for the new Hillyard Vocational-Technical School and the amount of \$5,073,200 was accepted and awarded to the Lawhon Construction Company (Board, 1980, June 12).

Teachers became the focus of the Board's attention for the balance of 1980. They were given a new salary schedule ranging from \$10,500 to \$21,840 (Board, 1980, June 23). The District also adopted a Self-Insurance Program (Board, 1980, August 21). This was done to help defray the cost of providing employees with Medical Insurance. If a teacher was already insured under their spouse's policy, the District would invest the money in an annuity for them.

Only four events were notable during 1981. The first saw Bill McLaughlin, Chemistry Teacher at Central, recognized as Science Teacher of the Year for Missouri (Board, 1981, April 27). This was just the first of many honors to be given him. The second saw the top of the teachers' salary raised to \$23,806. The base would remain the same at \$10,500 (Board, 1981, May 27). The third event saw the District support a one-cent sales tax for Missouri that would be given to schools. The fourth and final event was that Mark Hargens would be placed in charge of all Title IX money and programs (Board, 1981, October 17).

The District found a solution to the Noyes School problem. If they were to close the much older schools of Sherwood and Blair, they could move students to Noyes and make it viable to keep open. The Sherwood students were divided between Noyes and Mark Twain.

Blair was divided between Mark Twain, Pickett and Parkway. The staff was reduced from 28 to 22 (Board, 1982, July 11).

The new Hillyard building was complete and the Board would hold its meetings there while the Main Office was being renovated (Board, 1982, April 26). A new salary schedule for the teachers was adopted. The range would now be \$12,000 to \$25,082 (Board, 1982, May 10). Teachers were no longer required to get a yearly medical exam. The threat of tuberculosis was waning (Board, 1982, June 14).

The District also adopted the idea of service pins for teachers who had been in the District 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 years (Board, 1982, June 28). Gary Graves was appointed Math Coordinator for the District and Tim Rooney was hired as Management Accountant (Board, 1982, July 12). Two new programs were established. The first was a pilot program in reading (Board, 1982, July 12) and the second was a College Prep Program in the high schools (Board, 1982, June 28).

Sherwood was razed for \$19,500 and the lots were sold (Board, 1982, June 28). The Helen Davis State School requested the District take over operation of the facility. It was turned down (Board, 1982, October 11). The I.M.C. was moved from Mark Twain to the now abandoned Blair building (Board, 1982, October 11). Finally, the big item in the State was the Legislature's Proposition C. This would funnel money into the districts throughout Missouri. The Board went on record as being for it (Board, 1982, September 13).

The year of 1983 was filled with personnel matters. The Board began meeting at the new I.M.C. building (Board, 1983, January 24) and one of its first matters of business was to appoint Bill McLaughlin as Coordinator of Science (Board, 1983, February 28). Dan Colgan had recently obtained his doctoral degree and was moved from Administrative Assistant to Assistant Superintendent for Personnel in order to lighten the load of Dr. John Stolt, who could now concentrate on curriculum matters (Board, 1983, March 16). Don Ransom, Principal at Hall and Master of Ceremonies for the "School Days" Show on KQTV, Channel 2, was appointed to replace Dr. Colgan as Administrative Assistant (Board, 1983, April 11).

The personnel changes were not over yet. Don Trout retired as Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs and Dr. Don Kelly was appointed as his replacement (Board, 1983, May 17). Dr. John Stolt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction resigned (Board, 1983, August 25) and was replaced by Dr. Howard Harmsen, Principal at Parkway (Board, 1984, March 19). The final personnel changes saw Susan Hurst appointed the Coordinator of Foreign Languages and Doris Grunwald promoted to the position of Coordinator of Home Economics (Board, 1983, October 31).

The summer of 1983 listed two major events. The hours for all personnel were reduced to four days a week with the same 40 hours per week. This would be continued each summer (Board, 1983, April 25). The other event was discussed at some length as the Board now returned to their renovated Conference Room in the Main Office. It was the 'Nation At Risk' Report. One entire meeting was devoted to this topic (Board, 1983, June 27).

The final year in this chapter is 1984. It opened with the District combining Baccalaureate and Commencement. The attendance at Baccalaureate services had been declining. At the same meeting, the District presented to the voters a plan to transfer 30 cents from the Debt Service levy to the Operational Levy. The election would be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and the issue passed (Board, 1984, January 9 and 1984, April 3).

A flu epidemic struck the schools causing an absentee rate of 11% (Board, 1984, February 3). Two curricular changes were in order. One involved a differentiated program of study for high schoolers that would result in different diplomas being issued (Board, 1984, August 14). The second would be the offering of optional seventh period classes for those students who were interested in picking up an extra class and willing to stay the extra hour (Board, 1984, December 10).

In-school suspension was now in vogue. This meant that students who were discipline problems would still be in school but isolated from their peers. On the other side of the coin, the Superintendent's Scholars Program was established to recognize top students (Board, 1984, February 29). The new sport coming in was soccer. The District explored the possibility of establishing the program in the schools (Board, 1984, October 22). Today it is offered on an intramural basis. Curriculum Guides were written for each discipline. This was begun under Dr. Stolt and continued by Dr. Harmsen. To close out the year, asbestos was found at most of the schools and a containment program was instituted (Board, 1984, October 22).

## Chapter 8

### The Years 1985 to 1993

1985 began with a very controversial item. The Board decided it was necessary to close the Everett School since the number of children in the downtown area was declining sharply. This led to considerable unrest among the neighborhood patrons and eventually was taken to court by them (Board, 1985, January 14). Judge Frank Connett Jr. was on the bench during this trial and decided that the District was justified in its attempts to close the school (Board, 1985, May 28). The next meeting saw the Board decide to assimilate the Everett students into surrounding schools. This necessitated the changing of the boundaries of Humboldt, Lindbergh, Webster, Edison, Hall and Neely. A public hearing was held to listen to the populace speak out both for and against the closing (Board, 1985, January 21). Proposition C was now in place and the Board was forced to roll back the levy \$.87 in order to adjust for the increased money received. A new idea was tried at Central and Benton. Actually it was an old idea revisited. They tried two classes at Central in Computer Programming and Photography and Computer Science at Benton in a seventh period framework. The Board also held a study session to update Performance Based Teacher Evaluations or PBTE (Board, 1985, January 28).

On the heels of the Everett closing, rumors ran rampant about the District building a new school on the Arrowhead Drive property. The Board made a public statement dispelling these rumors, and as you will see later, tried to sell the property. The public also began to request a soccer program be installed. This was put off due to a lack of funds. The program would cost \$19,050 to establish, coupled with yearly expenditures and little or no income from gate receipts (Board, 1985, February 11 and 25).

Since the District owned the entire south end of the block on which Everett School sets, adjustments had to be made to other tenants. The Naval Reserve sets on district property so the Board voted to lease it to them at the nominal fee of \$1.00 per year (Board, 1985, March 11). They also purchased a mini bus with lift for \$28,525. Lafayette decided to get on the bandwagon and put its entire school on a seven period day (Board, 1985, March 25).

April saw the Board put up the South Park, Horace Mann, Sherwood and Arrowhead properties for sale (Board, 1985, April 22). The bids were opened at the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting but the Board felt they were all too low and rejected them. This same Spring saw the District begin screening one and two year olds and implementing a stipend to teachers for having their masters in the field they teach. The District also decided to require a semester of Geography in the ninth grade which would alternate with a semester of Oral Communications (Board, 1985, June 11).

Over the summer, decisions were made such as the setting of tuition at \$2,250, raising lunch to \$1.00, allowing payroll deductions for the Teachers Credit Union, establishing Activities Coordinators at the high schools and most important, students could now wear shorts during September and May (Board, 1985, July 8 and August 19).

At the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, Dennis Weiser resigned from the Board. Letters of intent were received and on September 27<sup>th</sup>, Bob Fay was voted by the Board to replace Mr. Weiser. November saw the Board set a levy election for February 4<sup>th</sup> to ask the voters for \$.96 (Board, 1985, November 11). This was soundly defeated (Board, 1986, February 10).

The State of Missouri voted to allow districts to establish career ladders as a teacher incentive for pay. Because the District lacked funds it was tabled until later (Board, 1986, February 24). They did not know that it would be the 1993-94 school year before this program would become a reality.

The Avenue City School District requested that the district provide buses for their students wishing to attend city high schools. The Board agreed on a limited basis (Board, 1986, March 24). In April, the district tried once again to sell the properties of South Park, Horace Mann and Sherwood. This time there were no bids received (Board, 1986, April 14). What about the Arrowhead property? If the district should establish a soccer program, this would make a good field to use and it is today. School board elections saw Byron (Bud) Baker and Dr. Larry Jones re-elected and Maggie Lux elected.

In May, the BEST test was given to 893 eighth graders. The results showed a slight drop in Reading and Government and a slight 2% increase in Math (Board, 1986, May 12). The summer of 1986 had the Board making some tough decisions. They had to trim \$600,000 from the budget due to the failed levy election. Proposition C forced a rollback to \$2.14, discussions had to be held regarding the deterrents to chemical abuse but Project Graduation proved a big success in keeping seniors safe (Board, 1986, May 27, June 10 and August 19).

The October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting saw the District once again go to the voters to ask for the \$.96 levy increase. This time they decided to try to become more organized and informative and held many study sessions for it (Board, 1986, October thru January meetings). A major decision was made at the October 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. Smoking was banned from board meetings.

At the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board stated that if the levy failed, they would eliminate all extra-curricular activities, eliminate kindergarten and eliminate summer school. Whether this was a scare tactic or not, it didn't work. The levy failed a second time that only lost by about 800 votes. However, the District made the statement and was now under obligation to live up to it. This caused the formation of a group of citizens calling themselves "The Rainbow Coalition." At the February 9, 1987 board meeting, 26 people addressed the Board, and at the conclusion of the meeting, the Board decided to seek an \$.83 levy in April. This worked and the levy passed 12,960 yes to 11,891 no. This information was accepted at the April 13, 1987 meeting. The Board then adjourned into executive session where they were faced with the unfortunate task of accepting the resignation of long time superintendent, Dr. Gerald Troester. After 19 years at the helm, he accepted a job in the suburban St. Louis area (Board, 1987, Executive Session, April 13).



The opponents to the levy have circulated a petition and after obtaining the necessary number of signatures have requested that the State audit the school district. The audit showed that everything was in order (Board, 1987, May 11). A sad note was reflected next month with the sudden passing of Susan Hapek, Principal of Eugene Field Elementary School. A memorial computer room will be built in her honor at the school through donations (Board, 1987, June 8).

With the search for a new superintendent concluded, the Board names Dr. Randy Dewar to head the District. Many people were involved in interviews for this selection (Board, 1987, August 13). The Board minutes for the next several years' shows a lot of review and updating of policies to make them fit current times.

Soccer is finally approved as a high school sport to be played interscholastically in the fall (Board, 1987, December 15). The winter was spent dealing with routine items, but in March, a decision was made to rename the Instructional Media Center housed in the old Blair building, to be the Troester Media Center. The District also obtained low interest loans through the Missouri School Boards Association to install new windows in some of our older schools (Board, 1988, March 14).

April saw a 6.5% increase in teachers salaries, Lou Lucas and Dr. Robert Paolillo elected to the Board and an Early Childhood Development program established at Edison (Board, 1988, April 7, 11 and 25). In May, the Board tries once again to sell Everett, Horace Mann and South Park (Board, 1988, May 9). A position of the Director of Staff Development was approved and Mr. Mike Lucas was hired to fill the post (Board, 1988, May 23).

Finally, partial success, the Everett building was sold to the Area Ministers for Christ for \$30,000. It will be opened as the St. Joseph Christian School (Board, 1988, June 27). Horace Mann will be taken by the city for use as a community center. The summer of 1988 will show the District supporting a State Amendment 4, which will change the voting from a 2/3 majority to 4/7. It will pass (Board, 1988, June 11).

A major decision was made at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. The District will now guarantee its graduates to be fully trained in the basic skills. The Sherwood land was sold to Vineyard Construction Co. However, stay with us, this story is not over (Board, 1989, February 13). Two major decisions were made at the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. A District Mission Statement was adopted and smoking was banned in all school buildings. April saw the adoption of early retirement incentives. The longer you work, the higher your pay, thus the incentives (Board, 1989, April 10).

A very controversial proposal failed to pass the Board. It was proposed that girls swimming and pom-poms be eliminated and girls softball installed (Board, 1989, June 12). November saw the approval of an addition added to Hawthorne School since it is located in an area of rapid population growth (Board, 1989, November 13). Again the winter was spent dealing with routine matters.

Spring saw the Board hold a special hearing at Lafayette High School. Residents of the north end had petitioned the Board to have the Eugene Field elementary attendance area added to the Robidoux, Lafayette areas. The discussion at times was heated, but the Board voted to leave it optional to people in that area as to where they continued their education (Board, 1990, March 1).

Bill Tarpley was elected and Dr. Jane Frick was re-elected to the Board (Board, 1990, April 9). Dr. Vince Paolillo was appointed as Director of Secondary Education, a post left vacant for several years (Board, 1990, May 14). The summer of 1990 saw plans made for the establishment of an alternative school (Board, 1990, July 9) and the breakfast program expanded (Board, 1990, August 13).

Remember the Sherwood property? Well, since the sale to Vineyard Construction Co., the residents have petitioned the Board to reconsider since it would be for low rent housing. The Board does reconsider and sells it to the neighborhood for \$1001 (Board, 1990, October 8).

The Hawthorne School was renamed in honor of long time assistant superintendent, G. Max Coleman (Board, 1990, November 12). Now the budget crunch is on. A few years ago the District had to slash \$600,000 from its budget. Now they are faced with \$2,500,000. This was done, the District survived and things look promising today with the advent of a new Foundation Formula from the State.

The Board minutes end with February of 1991. Since that time, the District has seen Dr. Howard Harmsen retire with his position left open indefinitely. Many other directors and coordinators have retired and their position dissolved in order to save money. The middle of 1992 saw Dr. Randy Dewar resign to accept a job in a bigger district in Oklahoma.

Who will replace him? The Board has recognized that promotion from within the ranks is a wise decision. It recognized that a very capable man was already in the District and had been here all his life. So this product of our own district was promoted to the job of superintendent of schools. The man is Dr. Dan Colgan. This has proven to be an extremely popular move and one that has brought new life to the District.

This report will close at this point. It has covered the 58 years that have passed since 1935. Why this period of time? The original report was the last 50 years that ended in 1985. The District has requested that I update this to the present or 1993. The facts given here are the important, non-routine ones that caught my eye as I gleaned the minutes of nearly 1400 meetings. If something was left out that another would consider important, I apologize. It would have been physically impossible to mention each and every issue. If you deem information missing, you are invited to do what I did, read all the minutes of the Board. They are located in the Business Office at Tenth and Felix and are open for public inspection during business hours.

## **Chapter 9**

### **The Lake Contrary Schools**

As I began my research, necessity determined that I contact a great many people. As word got out of what I was doing, the Buchanan County Historical Society got in touch with me. They were in the process of writing Volume II of The Buchanan County History. It should be in print by the time this paper is read. Much of my paper, and Chapter 8 in its entirety, will appear in this book. At the same time, I was asked to write a history of the Lake Contrary School District, since this is the area where I was reared. Since this is now a part of the St. Joseph School District, I am including it in this paper. My apologies to other outlying districts that are now a part of the St. Joseph School District. It was not intended to slight them but time did not permit me to research all of them. They are, however, included in the Buchanan County History book under separate authors.

Today there stands one school, Lake Contrary, in an area where once five schools existed. This was a matter of necessity as the lake once was considerably larger than it is today. Many families surrounded this large ox-bow lake and since crossing it was very difficult and of course traveling around it covered many miles with a horse, small schools were needed to serve the area. These schools went by the names of Lake Station, Weis, Shepherd, Hyde and Kirschner. I will discuss them in chronological order.

Lake Station was the first to be born. It was situated on a dirt road known then as the Southwest Trail or later the Oklahoma Trail. The road took you across the Contrary Creek, southeast almost to the bluffs. The road was and is called the Lake Station Road. Its name was changed when the railroad came through the area and a small depot was constructed at the south end of this road.

A small one-room log cabin stood on this road probably as early as the 1850's. When this building became too small, it was moved to the Sparks property and used as a barn, just south of the school. A new one-room frame structure was built. It too was outgrown and a new two-room brick structure with two small wooden outer structures labeled "Boys" and "Girls" was built. The brick building is still there but unfortunately in a very sad state of disrepair.

Legend has it that while Jesse James was single-handedly fighting a battle with the Union Army, he hid in the school overnight. As they approached the building, Jesse fled out the back door and into the corn patch that was tasseled and higher than his head. The Union soldiers fired at him and of course, he returned their fire running back through the tall corn toward them. The evening sun blinded them and as they saw the tassels of corn moving, they thought that they were the decorations on army hats and that Jesse had the southern army with him. They fled in haste.

During the last 70 years, a depot, post office, glue factory, feed mill and scale house, saw mill, country store, saloon and canning factory have all existed on Lake Station Road. One earlier name for the area was Harbo Station, but that name lasted for only a short time.

The school got its money from Box Suppers, Spelling Bees, Debates, Chili Suppers and Carnivals. After one such community meeting at the school, the Allen family started home. When they crossed the tracks, their team stalled and they were all killed by an oncoming train. This was

only the first of many such disasters that occurred on this very dangerous crossing which was recently closed by the county.

The Weis School first appears on a map of 1877. It was located on the northernmost point of the lake. The river began cutting toward the lake so the school had to be moved. All indications point to this occurring in 1926. Mrs. Beulah Stewart, once a teacher at the school, said that when they were moving the building, the machinery broke down, and the school could not be turned around. A door had to be cut in the back of the building so that it could be used for the front. Mrs. Marie Jones was a teacher at the old Weis School. She states that the children played hopscotch on the sidewalk that was in the gardens of the once famous Lotus Club. She goes on to say that in 1943 the school had 18 pupils. It was closed around 1951, and a bus was purchased to transport the area students to Shepherd School.

Another school that started in a log building was the just-mentioned Shepherd School. It was located about one-fourth mile south of where the building is today. It began sometime just prior to 1870. The bayou of the lake flooded so often that it was necessary to relocate. A one-room structure was built. Soon after, a sawmill was moved into the area. This attracted families and as many as 60 children were crowded into the small building with one teacher. In 1939 the building was remodeled to accommodate two teachers. The building is now a private residence and is located about one mile due west of the old amusement park.

The Hyde School also sat on the bank of the Lower Lake. Due to flooding it was moved to higher ground. This school is not to be confused with the present Hyde School in Hyde Park. This school was in the area just north of the old Horseshoe Lake by Bankers Crossing on Highway 59 south of the city. All that remains today is the little knoll on which the school was located.

One of the residents, Mr. Wheeler, stated that "Lady Schoolmarms" were at a premium at this school. The boys all came from the farm and farmed more than they attended school. Because of this, some were 21 years old before they finished the eighth grade. Those refined school teachers just couldn't take it. Besides, a man would make \$50 a month for teaching and a woman \$25.

Edith Schaffer Greer taught here about 1910. She rode the street car as far as Kirschner and then walked to the Clyde Miles home, on dirt road, carrying her suitcase. Her feet were covered with gumbo. She lived at the Miles home, as did all the other teachers.

About 3:00 P.M. each day, some who didn't like to study too well would ask for permission to leave the room. The teacher would tell one or two other boys to go along and get the wood for the next day. This was much better than reciting lessons and one less job for the teacher. Such was life in the old Muskrat Slough area where the Hyde School stood. In 1945 the Hyde School burned, and a new building was erected. It, like many other small school building, has since been abandoned.

Mr. Clyde Bally recalled that there were two small stores in what we know as Kirschner's Addition. Folks stopped by on their way home and bought a nickel's worth of steak for supper. Some went by the packing house and bought a gunny sack full of ham hocks. Then they went to the country store to lay in a supply of food.

About 1910, a group known as the Kirschner Improvement Club became instrumental in providing a modern, four-room, two-story building. Dr. Peter Kirschner, Mayor of St. Joseph, donated the land. One picture revealed a 1915 date on the front of the building. This building was destroyed by fire in 1934. A boardwalk ran from the school to the main road where water stood under the walk the year around. Oddly enough, the building burned on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of 1934. Records do not show the month and there were two fires in that year. A new building was soon constructed. It too had four rooms, but all on one floor. It stands today. This was the Kirschner School.

Around 1947, this area consolidated into one district and just prior to 1960, grades one and two were at Lake Station, grades three and four at Shepherd, and grades five through eight were at Kirschner. Weis and Hyde were not in use. Christmas of 1960 saw these three schools closed and all students moved into the new Lake Contrary School where they are today (Nellie Mae King, Personal Communication, October 12, 1985).

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# **Appendix 3A**

**Personnel of the District**

**1935-1993**



1935-1936

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney  
Chief Engineer

I. E. Stutsman  
T. E. Dale  
George Richmond  
Alva Lindsay  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Lindbergh  
Childrens Home  
Eugene Field  
Everett  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Pershing  
Longfellow  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neely  
Noyes  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Edison  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
C. C. Damel  
F. E. Vandersloot  
Calla Varner  
A. L. Dailey  
Clarence Carpenter  
W. L. Daffron  
Annie Wells  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Kittie Smith  
Theresa Capp  
Ada Eib  
Mary Moore  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Alvina Schmitz  
Minnie Nelson  
Reuby Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Francis O. Ritchie  
Mamie E. Miles  
E. G. Creek  
Cecil Crawford  
Mabel White  
A. M. Rennison  
Frances Burris  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
C. C. Damel  
Anna Venable  
Nathaniel Casey

The School Year began Sept. 9, 1935 and ended May 29, 1936  
Population of the District – 13,809 whites and 544 Negroes

1936-1937

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney  
Chief Engineer

I. E. Stutsman  
T. E. Dale  
George Richmond  
Alva Lindsay  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Lindbergh  
Childrens Home  
Eugene Field  
Everett  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Pershing  
Longfellow  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neely  
Noyes  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Edison  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
C. C. Damel  
F. E. Vandersloot  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
R. V. Bloomfield  
W. L. Daffron  
Annie Wells  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Kittie Smith  
Theresa Capp  
Ada Eib  
Mary Moore  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Minnie Nelson  
Reuby Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Francis O. Ritchie  
Mamie E. Miles  
E. G. Creek  
Cecil Crawford  
Mabel White  
A. M. Rennison  
Frances Burris  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
C. C. Damel  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 8, 1936 and ended June 1, 1937  
Population of the District – 13,809 whites and 544 Negroes

1937-1938

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney  
Chief Engineer

I. E. Stutsman  
T. E. Dale  
George Richmond  
Alva Lindsay  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Lindbergh  
Childrens Home  
Eugene Field  
Everett  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Pershing  
Longfellow  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neely  
Noyes  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Edison  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
C. C. Damel  
F. E. Vandersloot  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
R. V. Bloomfield  
W. L. Daffron  
Annie Wells  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Kittie Smith  
Theresa Capp  
Ada Eib  
Mary Moore  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Minnie Nelson  
Reuby Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Francis O. Ritchie  
Mamie E. Miles  
E. G. Creek  
Cecil Crawford  
Mabel White  
Raymond Roberts  
Frances Burris  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
C. C. Damel  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 13, 1937 and ended June 3, 1938  
Population of the District – 15,219 whites and 533 Negroes

1938-1939

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney  
Chief Engineer

I. E. Stutsman  
T. E. Dale  
George Richmond  
Alva Lindsay  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Lindbergh  
Childrens Home  
Eugene Field  
Everett  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Pershing  
Longfellow  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neely  
Noyes  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Edison  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
C. C. Damel  
F. E. Vandersloot  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
R. V. Bloomfield  
W. L. Daffron  
Annie Wells  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Kittie Smith  
Theresa Capp  
Ada Eib  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Minnie Nelson  
Reuby Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Francis O. Ritchie  
Mamie E. Miles  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Mabel White  
Raymond Roberts  
Frances Burris  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
C. C. Damel  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 12, 1938 and ended June 2, 1939  
Population of the District – 15,219 whites and 533 Negroes

1939-1940

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney

T. E. Dale  
George Blackwell  
George Richmond  
Alva Lindsay

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
Pershing  
Longfellow  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Walter Cogdill  
W. L. Daffron  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Ethel Farthing  
Kittie Smith  
Frances Burris  
Ada Eib  
Theresa Capp  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Minnie Nelson  
Myrtle Miller  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Reuby Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Francis O. Ritchie  
Mamie E. Miles  
Agnes Patterson  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Mabel White  
Raymond Roberts  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
Walter Cogdell  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 11, 1939 and ended May 31, 1940  
Population of the District – 15,219 whites and 533 Negroes

1940-1941

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney

T. E. Dale  
James W. Evans  
George Blackwell  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Walter Cogdill  
W. L. Daffron  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Ethel Farthing  
Kittie Smith  
Frances Burris  
R. V. Bloomfield  
G. M. Coleman  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Theresa Capp  
Myrtle Miller  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Reuby Moore  
Mamie E. Miles  
Agnes Patterson  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
G. M. Coleman  
Mabel White  
Raymond Roberts  
Margaret Quirk  
Gertrude DeVorss  
Walter Cogdell  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 9, 1940 and ended May 30, 1941  
Population of the District – 15,219 whites and 533 Negroes

1941-1942

Superintendent  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Attorney

T. E. Dale  
James W. Evans  
George Blackwell  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Roosevelt Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Walter Cogdill  
W. L. Daffron  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Ethel Farthing  
Kittie Smith  
Frances Burris  
R. V. Bloomfield  
G. M. Coleman  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Emma Mumm  
Gladys Lomax  
Theresa Capp  
Myrtle Miller  
Abbie C. Barnes  
Reuby Moore  
Ethel Farthing  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
G. M. Coleman  
Mabel White  
A. M. Rennison  
Raymond Roberts  
Raymond Roberts  
Walter Cogdell  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 8, 1941 and ended May 29, 1942  
Population of the District – 15,219 whites and 533 Negroes

1942-1943

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Attorney

T. E. Dale  
George Blackwell  
Paul M. Lowry

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Noyes Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Walter Cogdill  
W. L. Daffron  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Cecil Crawford  
Ethel Farthing  
Kittie Smith  
Frances Burris  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Louis Boyle  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Maurine O'Malley  
Myrtle Miller  
G. M. Coleman  
Reuby Moore  
Ethel Farthing  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
A. M. Rennison  
Raymond Roberts  
Raymond Roberts  
Walter Cogdell  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 7, 1942 and ended May 28, 1943  
Population of the District – 14,533 whites and 561 Negroes



1943-1944

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

T. E. Dale  
George Blackwell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Walter Cogdill  
W. L. Daffron  
Calla Varner  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Kittie Smith  
Frances Burris  
Ethel Farthing  
Hazel Dobbs  
Marie Nolan  
May Peterman  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Maurine O'Malley  
Myrtle Miller  
G. M. Coleman  
Victor Coy  
Ethel Farthing  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
G. M. Coleman  
Dorothy Osborn  
A. M. Rennison  
Raymond Roberts  
Raymond Roberts  
Walter Cogdell  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 6, 1943 and ended May 26, 1944  
Population of the District – 14,861 whites and 593 Negroes

1944-1945

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Alene Neely  
Charles Thomas  
Ethel Farthing  
Elizabeth McFarland  
Lloyd Glenn  
May Peterman  
Hubert Campbell  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Raymond Roberts  
Victor Coy  
Ethel Farthing  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Dorothy Osborn  
A. M. Rennison  
Josephine Lautenbach  
Raymond Roberts  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept. 4, 1944 and ended May 25, 1945  
Population of the District – 14,861 whites and 593 Negroes

1945-1946

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Alene Neely  
Charles Thomas  
Ethel Farthing  
Lloyd Glenn  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
Hubert Campbell  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Ethel Farthing  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Dorothy Osborn  
A. M. Rennison  
Garnett Parman  
Raymond Roberts  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Venable  
Goler Collins

The School Year began Sept.10, 1945 and ended May 31, 1946  
Population of the District – 15,724 whites and 623 Negroes

1946-1947

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Holmes  
Albert W. Calvin

The School Year began Sept 9, 1946 and ended May 30, 1947  
Population of the District – 17,396 whites and 773 Negroes

1947-1948

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Holmes  
Richard W. Warren

The School Year began Sept 5, 1947 and ended May 28, 1948  
Population of the District – 17,711 whites and 848 Negroes

1948-1949

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 7, 1948 and ended June 3, 1949  
Population of the District – 19,017 whites and 854 Negroes

1949-1950

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 6, 1949 and ended June 2, 1950  
Population of the District – 19,461 whites and 855 Negroes

1950-1951

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
A. C. Shropshire  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
D. H. Murphy  
Charles Thomas  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Victor Coy  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
A. C. Shropshire  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 5, 1950 and ended May 30, 1951  
Population of the District – 19,461 whites and 855 Negroes



1951-1952

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Edward A. Scott  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Partman  
Clifford Howard  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
Edward A. Scott  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 4, 1951 and ended May 30, 1952  
Population of the District – 16,783 whites and 562 Negroes

1952-1953

Superintendent  
Business Manager  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
??????  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Elizabeth Broom  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Parman  
Clifford Howard  
Doyle Panigot  
Agnes Patterson  
A. M. Rennison  
Cecil Crawford  
Celia Sutherland  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 8, 1952 and ended June 3, 1953  
Population of the District – 16,040 whites and 526 Negroes

1953-1954

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett Colored High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Musser  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster  
Bartlett Colored Elementary  
Douglas Colored Elementary  
Lincoln Colored Elementary

Nelle Blum  
Douglas Amos  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dorothy Osborn  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
Garnett Parman  
Clifford Howard  
Doyle Panigot  
Gladys Lomax  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey  
Douglas Amos  
Anna Holmes  
William Y. Washington

The School Year began Sept 8, 1953 and ended June 4, 1954  
Population of the District – 17,737 whites and 616 Negroes

1954-1955

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Bartlett High School  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Douglas  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lincoln  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Nelle Blum  
Douglas Amos  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Anna Holmes  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
William Y. Washington  
Garnett Parman  
Clifford Howard  
Reuby Moore  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 7, 1954 and ended June 3, 1955

Population of the District – 18,386 Students

Now that Brown vs. Board of Ed in Topeka has ended segregation, you will not see a separate listing for Negroes.

1955-1956

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Douglas  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Krug  
Lincoln  
Lindbergh  
McKinley  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Nelle Blum  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Anna Holmes  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Myrtle Miller  
William Y. Washington  
Garnett Parman  
Clifford Howard  
Reuby Moore  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 6, 1955 and ended June 1, 1956  
Population of the District – 18,572 Students

1956-1957

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Douglas  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lincoln  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Nelle Blum  
W. L. Daffron  
Marion Gibbins  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Anna Holmes  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
William Y. Washington  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Agnes Patterson  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 4, 1956 and ended May 31, 1957  
Population of the District – 17,041 Students

1957-1958

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lincoln  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
W. L. Daffron  
George Markley  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Anna Holmes  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 3, 1957 and ended May 28, 1958  
Population of the District – 17,631 Students

1958-1959

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
Lowell K. Bowen  
George Markley  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 2, 1958 and ended May 29, 1959  
Population of the District – 18,359 Students



1959-1960

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
Lowell K. Bowen  
George Markley  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 8, 1959 and ended June 3, 1960  
Population of the District – 19,114 Students

1960-1961

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Victor Coy  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Edward Evans  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 6, 1960 and ended June 6, 1961  
Population of the District – 19,907 Students

1961-1962

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Gladys Lomax  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Earl Auxier  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Ruth Huston  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 5, 1961 and ended June 7, 1962  
Population of the District – 20,107 Students

1962-1963

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
George Miller

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Marion Gibbins  
Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Ethel Farthing  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Douglas Amos  
Reuby Moore  
Ruth Huston  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Earl Auxier  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Leo Houser  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 4, 1962 and ended June 6, 1963  
Population of the District – 20,491 Students

1963-1964

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Administrative Asst.  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
R. V. Bloomfield  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Edgar Little  
Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Agatha Copman  
W. P. Green  
Delores Gex  
Reuby Moore  
Ruth Huston  
Opal Moore  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
A. M. Rennison  
Elizabeth Broom  
Robert Skaith  
Abby Lawson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Leo Houser  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 3, 1963 and ended June 3, 1964  
Population of the District – 20,883 Students

1964-1965

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Junior College  
Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Sherwood  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Edgar Little  
Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Robert Neely  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Ruth Huston  
W. P. Green  
Delores Gex  
Reuby Moore  
Robert Skaith  
Doyle Farmer  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Leo Houser  
Elizabeth Broom  
Robert Blair  
Mercedes Gibson  
Lloyd Glenn  
Daniel Heckman  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 8, 1964 and ended June 4, 1965  
Population of the District – 21,667 Students

1965-1966

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Marie Clingan  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Ruth Huston  
W. P. Green  
Delores Gex  
Leo Houser  
Lloyd Glenn  
Doyle Farmer  
Charles Kelley  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Clifford Howard  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Ernest Hill  
Elizabeth Broom  
Robert Blair  
Francis Skaith  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Charles Akard  
Daniel Heckman  
Jane Downey

The School Year began Sept 7, 1965 and ended June 3, 1966  
Population of the District – 23,535 Students

1966-1967

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Floyd  
Hall  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Dollye Panigot  
Irene Troyer  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Dorothy Cronkite  
Marie Nolan  
Ruth Huston  
W. P. Green  
Delores Gex  
Leo Houser  
Lloyd Glenn  
Doyle Farmer  
Charles Kelley  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Robert Blair  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Glen Smith  
Elizabeth Broom  
Oscar Kirschner  
Francis Skaith  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Charles Akard  
Daniel Heckman  
Robert Skaith

The School Year began Sept 6, 1966 and ended June 2, 1967  
Population of the District – 24,610 Students



1967-1968

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Charles Kelley  
Dollye Panigot  
Irene Troyer  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Gerry Smith  
Ruth Huston  
Delores Gex  
W. P. Green  
Robert Skaith  
Leo Houser  
Charles Akard  
Opal Yates  
Robert McCartney  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Robert Blair  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Glen Smith  
Elizabeth Broom  
Oscar Kirschner  
Lloyd Glenn  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Gary Bell  
Daniel Heckman  
Bill Tarpley

The School Year began Sept 5, 1967 and ended June 6, 1968  
Population of the District – 24,542 Students

1968-1969

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

George Blackwell  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Spring Garden  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
Dollye Panigot  
Irene Troyer  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Gerry Smith  
Ruth Huston  
Delores Gex  
W. P. Green  
Bill Tarpley  
Leo Houser  
Charles Akard  
Opal Yates  
Robert McCartney  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Robert Blair  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Glen Smith  
Elizabeth Broom  
Oscar Kirschner  
Lloyd Glenn  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Gary Bell  
Doyle Farmer  
Howard Harmsen  
Robert Skaith

The School Year began Sept 3, 1968 and ended June 5, 1969  
Population of the District – 25,241 Students

1969-1970

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.

Dr. G. D. Troester  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Spring Garden  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
Dollye Panigot  
Irene Troyer  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Gerry Smith  
Ruth Huston  
Delores Gex  
W. P. Green  
Bill Tarpley  
Leo Houser  
Charles Akard  
Opal Yates  
Robert McCartney  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Robert Blair  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Glen Smith  
Elizabeth Broom  
Oscar Kirschner  
Lloyd Glenn  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Gary Bell  
Doyle Farmer  
Howard Harmsen  
Robert Skaith

The School Year began Sept 2, 1969 and ended June 3, 1970  
Population of the District – 25,241 Students

1970-1971

Superintendent  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed

Dr. G. D. Troester  
G. M. Coleman  
Hubert Campbell  
Cecil Weaver  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bliss Junior High School  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Horace Mann  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
McKinley  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Neip  
Neely  
Noyes  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
South Park  
Spring Garden  
Washington  
Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
Frank Baker  
Charles W. Thomas  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
Lila Albertson  
Irene Troyer  
Earl Auxier  
J. Everett Bishop  
Gerry Smith  
Ruth Huston  
Delores Gex  
W. P. Green  
Bill Tarpley  
Leo Houser  
Charles Akard  
Opal Yates  
Robert McCartney  
Garnett Parman  
Dorothy Osborne  
Robert Blair  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Myrtle E. Miller  
Glen Smith  
Robert Skaith  
Oscar Kirschner  
Gary Bell  
Mercedes Gibson  
Helen Turner  
Howard Harmsen  
Doyle Farmer  
Geneve Brown  
Arbie German

The School Year began Aug 31, 1970 and ended June 3, 1971  
Population of the District – 25,424 Students

1971-1972

Superintendent  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Dir. Title IV Projects  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Dir. Fed. Prog. & Pupil Personnel  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 G. M. Coleman  
 Hubert Campbell  
 Cecil Weaver  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Dan Colgan  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Blakley  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Robert Stinson  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bliss Junior High School  
 Horace Mann Junior High School  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Childrens Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 McKinley  
 Myrtle E. Miller  
 Neip  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 South Park  
 Spring Garden  
 Washington  
 Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
 Frank Baker  
 Don Trout  
 Ray Baker  
 Sam Carneal  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Irene Troyer  
 Robert Blair  
 J. Everett Bishop  
 Gerry Smith  
 Ruth Huston  
 Delores Gex  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Houser  
 Charles Akard  
 Opal Yates  
 Robert McCartney  
 Garnett Parman  
 Dorothy Osborne  
 Donald Parker  
 Oren W. Miller  
 Oren W. Miller  
 Glen Smith  
 Robert Skaith  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Gary Bell  
 Mercedes Gibson  
 Helen Turner  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Geneve Brown  
 Arbie German

The School Year began Aug 30, 1971 and ended June 2, 1972  
 Population of the District – 25,156 Students

1972-1973

Superintendent  
 Adm Assistant  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Dir. Title IV Projects  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Dir. Fed. Prog. & Pupil Personnel  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 G. L. Markley  
 G. M. Coleman  
 Hubert Campbell  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Dan Colgan  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Oren Miller  
 Leo Blakley  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Robert Stinson  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals\

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bliss Middle School  
 Bode Middle School  
 Horace Mann Middle School  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Childrens Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 McKinley  
 Myrtle E. Miller  
 Neip  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Spring Garden  
 Washington  
 Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
 Frank Baker  
 Don Trout  
 Ray Baker  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Sam Carneal  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Irene Troyer  
 Robert Blair  
 Vincent Paolillo  
 Gerry Smith  
 Ruth Huston  
 Delores Gex  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Houser  
 Charles Akard  
 Opal Yates  
 Robert McCartney  
 Garnett Parman  
 Dorothy Osborne  
 Donald Parker  
 Oren W. Miller  
 Oren W. Miller  
 Glen Smith  
 Robert Skaith  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Gary Bell  
 Mercedes Gibson  
 Helen Turner  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert Skaith  
 Geneve Brown

The School Year began Aug 28, 1972 and ended May 31, 1973 Population of the District – 24,700 Students

1973-1974

Superintendent  
 Adm Assistant  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Dir. Title IV Projects  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Dir. Fed. Prog. & Pupil Personnel  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 G. L. Markley  
 G. M. Coleman  
 Hubert Campbell  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Dan Colgan  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Oren Miller  
 Leo Blakley  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Robert Stinson  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals\

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Horace Mann Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Childrens Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 McKinley  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
 Frank Baker  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Sam Carneal  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Irene Troyer  
 Robert Blair  
 Vincent Paolillo  
 Gerry Smith  
 Ruth Huston  
 Delores Gex  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Houser  
 Charles Akard  
 Opal Yates  
 Don Ransom  
 Garnett Parman  
 Dorothy Osborne  
 Donald Parker  
 Glen Smith  
 Robert Skaith  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Robert Skaith  
 Helen Turner  
 Geneve Brown

The School Year began Sept 4, 1973 and ended June 4, 1974 Population of the District – 23,893 Students

1974-1975

Superintendent  
 Adm Assistant  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 G. M. Coleman  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 James Coleman  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Charles Cummings  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals\

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Horace Mann Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Boys Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 McKinley  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
 Frank Baker  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Sam Carneal  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Winifred Paddleford  
 Robert Blair  
 Vincent Paolillo  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Delores Gex  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Houser  
 Charles Akard  
 Opal Yates  
 Rex Geary  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Dorothy Osborne  
 Donald Parker  
 Glen Smith  
 Robert Skaith  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Robert Skaith  
 Helen Turner  
 Geneve Brown

The School Year began Sept 3, 1974 and ended June 5, 1975  
 Population of the District – 23,271 Students



1975-1976

Superintendent  
 Adm Assistant  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 G. M. Coleman  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 James Coleman  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Charles Cummings  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Horace Mann Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Boys Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 McKinley  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Lowell K. Bowen  
 Frank Baker  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Leo Blakley  
 Sam Carneal  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Winifred Paddleford  
 Robert Blair  
 Vincent Paolillo  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Delores Gex  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Leo Houser  
 Charles Akard  
 Opal Yates  
 Rex Geary  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Donald Parker  
 Glen Smith  
 Robert Skaith  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Robert Skaith  
 Helen Turner  
 Geneve Brown

The School Year began Sept 2, 1975 and ended May 28, 1976  
 Population of the District – 22,464 Students

1976-1977

Superintendent  
Adm Assistant  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Supv Health & PE  
Dir Voc Tech  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Language Arts  
Supv. Music  
Psych. Examiner  
Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Dan Colgan  
G. M. Coleman  
Don Trout  
James T. McClain  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day  
James Coleman  
Lynn McHarg  
Charles Cummings  
Jean Jones  
Marvin Gench  
Mark Hargens  
Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Horace Mann Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Boys Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
Webster

Carl Chatfield  
Frank Baker  
Arend Thedinga  
Basil Hoehn  
Leo Blakley  
Sam Carneal  
Gary Bell  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
Lila Albertson  
Leo Blakley  
Robert Blair  
Vincent Paolillo  
Gerry Smith  
Don Ransom  
Delores Gex  
Lynn McHarg  
Leo Houser  
Charles Akard  
Opal Yates  
Rex Geary  
Dorothy Snook  
Oscar Kirschner  
Glen Smith  
Robert Skaith  
Howard Harmsen  
Doyle Farmer  
Robert McCartney  
Donald Parker  
Helen Turner  
Geneve Brown

The School Year began Aug 30, 1976 and ended June 1, 1977  
Population of the District – 21,852 Students

1977-1978

Superintendent  
 Dir Adm Services  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 Roy Cozad  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Robert Alcorn  
 Lynn McHarg  
 Charles Cummings  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Mark Hargens  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Horace Mann Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Boys Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Carl Chatfield  
 Frank Baker  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Leo Blakley  
 Sam Carneal  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Leo Blakley  
 Robert Blair  
 Vincent Paolillo  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Donald Parker  
 Jim Cornett  
 Rex Geary  
 Charles Akard  
 Joyce Johnson  
 Walter Hanabury  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Glen Smith  
 Helen Richards  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Elizabeth Hunt  
 Helen Turner  
 Geneve Brown

The School Year began Aug 29, 1977 and ended June 1, 1978  
 Population of the District – 21,852 Students

1978-1979

Superintendent  
 Dir Adm Services  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Supv Health & PE  
 Dir Voc Tech  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Language Arts  
 Supv. Music  
 Psych. Examiner  
 Supv. Audio Visual

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 John Stolt  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Robert Alcorn  
 Jim Cornett  
 Charles Cummings  
 Jean Jones  
 Marvin Gench  
 Beverly Folks  
 Earl Auxier

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Horace Mann Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Boys Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Carl Chatfield  
 Frank Baker  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Robert E. Lee  
 Vince Paolillo  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Robert E. Lee  
 Robert Blair  
 Leo Blakley  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Donald Parker  
 Jim Cornett  
 Rex Geary  
 Charles Akard  
 Joyce Johnson  
 Walter Hanabury  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Glen Smith  
 Helen Richards  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Helen Richards  
 Helen Turner  
 Elizabeth Hunt

The School Year began Aug 28, 1978 and ended May 31, 1979  
 Population of the District – 20,936 Students

1979-1980

Superintendent  
 Dir Adm Services  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Audio Visual  
 Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 John Stolt  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Charles Cummings  
 Earl Auxier  
 Mark Hargens

By 1979 the main office lists many Supervisors, Directors and Coordinators. Only the main ones will be mentioned from here on. E.g. 1979 has 23 listed.

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Boys Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Carl Chatfield  
 Bill Tarpley  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Vince Paolillo  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 Robert E. Lee  
 Robert Blair  
 Leo Blakley  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Donald Parker  
 Jim Cornett  
 Rex Geary  
 Charles Akard  
 Joyce Johnson  
 Walter Hanabury  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Glen Smith  
 Helen Richards  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Helen Richards  
 Helen Turner  
 Elizabeth Hunt

The School Year began Aug 23 1979 and ended May 23, 1980  
 Population of the District – 20,340 Students

1980-1981

Superintendent  
 Dir Adm Services  
 Asst. Supt. Instruction  
 Asst. Supt. Business  
 Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
 Dir Elementary Ed.  
 Dir Secondary Ed  
 Dir Special Ed.  
 Supv. Audio Visual  
 Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
 Dan Colgan  
 John Stolt  
 Don Trout  
 James T. McClain  
 Jerre Cooper  
 Milton Day  
 Charles Cummings  
 Jerry Chambers  
 Mark Hargens

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
 Central High School  
 Lafayette High School  
 Bode Middle  
 Robidoux Middle  
 Spring Garden Middle  
 Truman Middle  
 Bessie Ellison  
 Blair  
 Buchanan County Childrens Home  
 Edison  
 Everett  
 Field  
 Hall  
 Hawthorne  
 Hillyard  
 Hosea  
 Humboldt  
 Hyde  
 Lake Contrary  
 Lindbergh  
 Mark Twain  
 Neely  
 Noyes  
 Parkway  
 Pershing  
 Pickett  
 Sherwood  
 Skaith  
 Webster

Carl Chatfield  
 Bill Tarpley  
 Arend Thedinga  
 Basil Hoehn  
 Vince Paolillo  
 Gary Bell  
 Ray Baker  
 Daniel Heckman  
 Lila Albertson  
 James Akard  
 Rex Geary  
 Leo Blakley  
 Gerry Smith  
 Don Ransom  
 Donald Parker  
 Jim Cornett  
 Robert E. Lee  
 Charles Akard  
 Joyce Johnson  
 Walter Hanabury  
 Dorothy Snook  
 Oscar Kirschner  
 Glen Smith  
 Helen Richards  
 Howard Harmsen  
 Doyle Farmer  
 Robert McCartney  
 Helen Richards  
 Elizabeth Hunt  
 Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 27, 1980 and ended June 3, 1981  
 Population of the District – 19,518 Students

1981-1982

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Dan Colgan  
John Stolt  
Don Trout  
James T. McClain  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Blair  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Sherwood  
Skaith  
Webster

Carl Chatfield  
Bill Tarpley  
Arend Thedinga  
Basil Hoehn  
Vince Paolillo  
Gary Bell  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
Lila Albertson  
James Akard  
Rex Geary  
Leo Blakley  
Gerry Smith  
Don Ransom  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Robert E. Lee  
Susan Paul  
Joyce Johnson  
Oscar Kirschner  
Dorothy Snook  
Helen Richards  
Glen Smith  
Walter Hanabury  
Howard Harmsen  
Doyle Farmer  
Robert McCartney  
Walter Hanabury  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 26, 1981 and ended May 28, 1982  
Population of the District – 18,776 Students

1982-1983

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Dan Colgan  
John Stolt  
Don Trout  
James T. McClain  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Robert Mejia  
Bill Tarpley  
Arend Thedinga  
Basil Hoehn  
Vince Paolillo  
Gary Bell  
Ray Baker  
Daniel Heckman  
James Akard  
Rex Geary  
Leo Blakley  
Gerry Smith  
Don Ransom  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Robert E. Lee  
Susan Paul  
Joyce Johnson  
Oscar Kirschner  
Robert McCartney  
Helen Richards  
Dorothy Snook  
Walter Hanabury  
Howard Harmsen  
Doyle Farmer  
Lila Albertson  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 25, 1982 and ended June 1, 1983  
Population of the District – 18,172 Students



1983-1984

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Trout  
James T. McClain  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Robert Mejia  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Basil Hoehn  
Vince Paolillo  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Susan Paul  
Nancy Mooney  
Leo Blakley  
Susan Paul  
Marietta McLaughlin  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Michael Schooley  
Joyce Johnson  
Oscar Kirschner  
Robert McCartney  
Helen Richards  
Dorothy Snook  
Nancy Murphy  
Daniel Heckman  
Doyle Farmer  
Walter Hanabury  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 26, 1983 and ended June 1, 1984  
Population of the District – 18,172 Students

1984-1985

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Trout  
James T. McClain  
Jerre Cooper  
Milton Day  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Everett  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Robert Mejia  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Dan Moppin  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Susan Paul  
Nancy Mooney  
Leo Blakley  
Susan Paul  
Marietta McLaughlin  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Michael Schooley  
Joyce Johnson  
Oscar Kirschner  
Robert McCartney  
Helen Richards  
Dorothy Snook  
Nancy Murphy  
Daniel Heckman  
Doyle Farmer  
Walter Hanabury  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 27, 1984 and ended June 3, 1985  
Population of the District – 18,172 Students

1985-1986

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Asst. Supt. Instruction  
Asst. Supt. Business  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
James T. McClain  
Dee Peach  
Milton Day  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens

Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Susan Hapak  
Nancy Mooney  
Susan Hapak  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Michael Schooley  
Joyce Johnson  
Robert McCartney  
Ann Gerhardt  
Helen Richards  
Doyle Farmer  
Nancy Murphy  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta McLaughlin  
Walter Hanabury  
Elizabeth Hunt  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Sept 3, 1985 and ended May 31, 1986  
Population of the District – 12,370 Students

1986-1987

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Dr. G. D. Troester  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Susan Hapak  
Nancy Mooney  
Susan Hapak  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Joyce Johnson  
Robert McCartney  
Ann Gerhardt  
Helen Richards  
Doyle Farmer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta McLaughlin  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Sept 2, 1986 and ended June 4, 1987  
Population of the District – 12,360 Students

1987-1988

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Randy L. Dewar  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Michael Flowers  
Nancy Mooney  
Michael Flowers  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Joyce Johnson  
Robert McCartney  
Ann Gerhardt  
Helen Richards  
Doyle Farmer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta McLaughlin  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Robert Blair

The School Year began Aug 26, 1987 and ended May 26, 1988  
Population of the District – 12,258 Students

1988-1989

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Randy L. Dewar  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Michael Flowers  
Nancy Mooney  
Michael Flowers  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Joyce Johnson  
Robert McCartney  
Ann Gerhardt  
Barbara Harpst  
Doyle Farmer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta Singer  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Jan Marriott

The School Year began Sept. 6, 1988 and ended June 2, 1989  
Population of the District – 12,118 Students

1989-1990

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Randy L. Dewar  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
  
Charles Cummings  
Jerry Chambers  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Bill Tarpley  
Wallace Prawl  
Vince Paolillo  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Michael Flowers  
Nancy Mooney  
Michael Flowers  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Kevin Tedlock  
Kay Medsker  
Ann Gerhardt  
Barbara Harpst  
Sue Meyer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta Singer  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Jan Marriott

The School Year began Sept. 5, 1989 and ended June 2, 1990  
Population of the District – 12,043 Students

1990-1991

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Randy L. Dewar  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
Vince Paolillo  
Charles Cummings  
Mike Lucas  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Sam Carneal  
Wallace Prawl  
Don Lentz  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Michael Flowers  
Nancy Mooney  
Michael Flowers  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Kevin Tedlock  
Kay Medsker  
Ann Gerhardt  
Barbara Harpst  
Sue Meyer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Daniel Heckman  
Marietta Singer  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Jan Marriott

The School Year began Aug. 29, 1990 and ended May 30, 1991  
Population of the District – 12,061 Students



1991-1992

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Randy L. Dewar  
Don Ransom  
Howard Harmsen  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
Vince Paolillo  
Charles Cummings  
Mike Lucas  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Sam Carneal  
Wallace Prawl  
Don Lentz  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Ken Quick  
Howard Harmsen  
Michael Flowers  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Kevin Tedlock  
Kay Medsker  
Ann Weston  
Barbara Silvius  
Sue Meyer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Lynn Smith  
Marietta Singer  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Jan Marriott

The School Year began Aug. 27, 1991 and ended May 29, 1992  
Population of the District – 12,061 Students

1992-1993

Superintendent  
Dir Adm Services  
Assoc. Supt. Instruction  
Assoc. Supt. Business  
Assoc. Supt. Personnel  
Supv. Maint. & Oper.  
Dir Elementary Ed.  
Dir Secondary Ed  
Dir Special Ed.  
Supv. Audio Visual  
Dir. of Pupil Personnel  
Dir. Data Processing

Dan L Colgan  
Don Ransom  
  
Don Kelly  
Dan L. Colgan  
James T. McClain  
Norma Harland  
Vince Paolillo  
Charles Cummings  
Mike Lucas  
Mark Hargens  
Nassar Memarian

#### Buildings & Principals

Benton High School  
Central High School  
Lafayette High School  
Bode Middle  
Robidoux Middle  
Spring Garden Middle  
Truman Middle  
Bessie Ellison  
Buchanan County Childrens Home  
Edison  
Field  
Hall  
Hawthorne  
Hillyard  
Hosea  
Humboldt  
Hyde  
Lake Contrary  
Lindbergh  
Mark Twain  
Neely  
Noyes  
Parkway  
Pershing  
Pickett  
Skaith  
Webster

Lamar Hicks  
Sam Carneal  
Wallace Prawl  
Don Lentz  
Ken Quick  
Bob Clemens  
Rex Geary  
Gerry Smith  
Ken Quick  
Kay Medsker  
Jo Deshon  
Leo Blakley  
Donald Parker  
Jim Cornett  
Don Weston  
Nancy Murphy  
Michael Flowers  
Tom Noeth  
Kevin Tedlock  
Barbara Silvius  
Sue Meyer  
Mary Ann Sadler  
Lynn Smith  
Ann Weston  
Walter Hanabury  
Molly Kelly  
Jan Marriott

The School Year began Aug. 26, 1992 and ended May 28, 1993  
Population of the District – 12,115 Students

# **Appendix 3B**

**Members of the Board of Education**

**1935-1993**

## Members of the Board of Education

1935-1936

President	John W. Patt
Vice President	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	D.E. Curtin
Member	Dr. H.W. Carle
Member	G.D. Berry
Member	Mrs. True Davis

1936-1937

President	G.D. Berry
Vice President	Mrs. True Davis
Member	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	John W. Patt
Member	Dr. H.W. Carle
Member	E.F. Garvey

1937-1938

President	G.D. Berry
Vice President	Mrs. True Davis
Member	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	John W. Patt
Member	Dr. H.W. Carle
Member	E.F. Garvey

1938-1939

President	Dr. H.W. Carle
Vice President	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	John W. Patt
Member	G.D. Berry
Member	E.F. Garvey

1939-1940

President	Dr. H.W. Carle
Vice President	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	David W. Hopkins
Member	G.D. Berry
Member	E.F. Garvey

Members of the Board of Education

1940-1941

President	Mrs. True Davis
Vice President	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	G.D. Berry
Member	Dr. H.W. Carle
Member	David W. Hopkins

1941-1942

President	Mrs. True Davis
Vice President	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. Clifford B. Adams
Member	David W. Hopkins
Member	Dr. H.W. Carle
Member	Fairleigh Enright

1942-1943

President	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Vice President	David W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	Fairleigh Enright
Member	Harry Herschman
Member	E.F. Garvey

1943-1944

President	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Vice President	David W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Harry Herschman

1944-1945

President	E.F. Garvey
Vice President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	Harry Herschman
Member	David W. Hopkins

Members of the Board of Education

1945-1946

President	E.F. Garvey
Vice President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Member	Mrs. True Davis
Member	Harry Herschman
Member	David W. Hopkins

1946-1947

President	D.W. Hopkins
Vice President	Harry Herschman
Member	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey

1947-1948

President	D.W. Hopkins
Vice President	Harry Herschman
Member	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1948-1949

President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Mrs. Clifford Adams
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Harry Herschman
Member	David W. Hopkins

1949-1950

President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Harry Herschman
Member	David W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth

Members of the Board of Education

1950-1951

President	H.C. Herschman
Vice President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	D. W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1951-1952

President	H.C. Herschman
Vice President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	D. W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1952-1953

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	E.F. Garvey
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	H.C. Herschman
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth

1953-1954

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	E.F. Garvey
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	H.C. Herschman
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth

1954-1955

President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Vice President	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	H.C. Herschman
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

Members of the Board of Education

1955-1956

President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Vice President	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1956-1957

President	E.F. Garvey
Vice President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1957-1958

President	E.F. Garvey
Vice President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1958-1959

President	D.W. Hopkins
Vice President	Dwight L. Dannen
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper

1959-1960

President	D.W. Hopkins
Vice President	Dwight L. Dannen
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper



Members of the Board of Education

1960-1961

President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	D.W. Hopkins

1961-1962

President	W. Fairleigh Enright
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	D.W. Hopkins

1962-1963

President	Dwight Dannen
Vice President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright

1963-1964

President	Dwight Dannen
Vice President	Mrs. John Wyeth
Member	E.F. Garvey
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright

1964-1965

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	E.F. Garvey
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

Members of the Board of Education

1965-1966

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	Dwight Dannen
Member	D.W. Hopkins
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White
Member	Richard W. Snooks

1966-1967

President	David W. Hopkins
Vice President	Dr. Thomas W. White
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	W. Fairleigh Enright
Member	Dwight L. Dannen
Member	Robert F. Keatley

1967-1968

President	Dr. Thomas W. White
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Dwight Dannen
Member	Wm. H. Guenther Jr.
Member	Robert F. Keatley
Member	James E. Robertson

1968-1969

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	Robert F. Keatley
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White
Member	James W. Roberts
Member	James E. Robertson
Member	James C. Watson

1969-1970

President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Vice President	Robert F. Keatley
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White
Member	J. W. Roberts
Member	James E. Robertson
Member	James C. Watson

Members of the Board of Education

1970-1971

President	Robert F. Keatley
Vice President	James C. Watson
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	J. W. Roberts
Member	James E. Robertson
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

1971-1972

President	Robert F. Keatley
Vice President	James C. Watson
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	J. W. Roberts
Member	James E. Robertson
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

1972-1973

President	James C. Watson
Vice President	James E. Robertson
Member	Roger A. Grunwald
Member	Robert F. Keatley
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

1973-1974

President	James C. Watson
Vice President	James E. Robertson
Member	Roger A. Grunwald
Member	Robert F. Keatley
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

1974-1975

President	James E. Robertson
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Waldo Y. Burger
Member	Roger A. Grunwald
Member	James C. Watson
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

Members of the Board of Education

1975-1976

President	James E. Robertson
Vice President	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Waldo Y. Burger
Member	Roger A. Grunwald
Member	James C. Watson
Member	Dr. Thomas W. White

1976-1977

President	Roger A. Grunwald
Vice President	Waldo Y. Burger
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Mrs. Lee Powell Jr
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	James C. Watson

1977-1978

President	Roger A. Grunwald
Vice President	Waldo Y. Burger
Member	Mrs. Paul Knepper
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	James C. Watson

1978-1979

President	Waldo Y. Burger
Vice President	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	Roger A. Grunwald
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	James C. Watson
Member	Dennis Weiser

1979-1980

President	Waldo Y. Burger
Vice President	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Bette Tolbert
Member	James C. Watson
Member	Dennis Weiser

Members of the Board of Education

1980-1981

President	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Vice-President	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Bette Tolbert
Member	Dennis Weiser

1981-1982

President	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Vice-President	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Bette Tolbert
Member	Dennis Weiser

1982-1983

President	Dennis Weiser
Vice-President	Mrs. Bette Tolbert
Member	Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr

1983-1984

President	Dennis Weiser
Vice-President	Mrs. Bette Tolbert
Member	Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr

1984-1985

President	Dr. Larry Jones
Vice-President	Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	Dennis Weiser

Members of the Board of Education

1985-1986

President	Dr. Larry Jones
Vice-President	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr
Member	Mr. Robert Fay

1986-1987

President	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Vice-President	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr

1987-1988

President	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Vice-President	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Member	Mrs. Jan Powell
Member	Mrs. Ronald Reed Jr

1988-1989

President	Dr. Jane Frick
Vice-President	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Member	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Lou Lucas
Member	Dr. Robert Paolillo

1989-1990

President	Dr. Jane Frick
Vice-President	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Member	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Larry Jones
Member	Mrs. Lou Lucas
Member	Dr. Robert Paolillo

Members of the Board of Education

1990-1991

President	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Vice-President	Dr. Robert Paolillo
Member	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Mr. Bill Tarpley
Member	Mr. Sonny Younger

1991-1992

President	Mrs. Maggie Lux
Vice-President	Dr. Robert Paolillo
Member	Mr. Byron (Bud) Baker
Member	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Mr. Bill Tarpley
Member	Mr. Ed Murphy

1992-1993

President	Mr. Ed Murphy
Vice-President	Mr. Bill Tarpley
Member	Dr. Jane Frick
Member	Dr. Robert Paolillo
Member	Mr. David Mejia
Member	Mr. Larry Morrow