

# Woodstock



*Woodstock Grade School*



*Woodstock High School*

The one room schools around Woodstock consolidated in may of 1877. the district became known as Woodstock Special School District. contracts were let for a new school building. The building was used until 1915, when it became necessary for them to construct a larger school. The first school had a large bell purchased for \$500 from a foundry in Cincinnati, Ohio. The early schools were concerned with cost as is evident from the frequent purchases of corn cobs. The cost of a wagon load of corn cobs in the late 1880's was twenty cents. The students were employed to build fires on cold winter mornings, and to keep the stoves filled with cobs. There were altercations with adults in 1885. One attempt at a court case by a parent was thrown out and the lawyer fee was \$5.00. The school boards in the early years met every ten days or sooner if necessary. The superintendent had to submit bids for their positions and were required as part of their duties to collect tuition from students.

A teacher in 1904 had her pay increased from \$54 to \$60 per month because of her transition from second to first grade. The early 1900's saw an increase in text books. The newly revised McGuffey's reader was increased to twelve cents. The school board meetings were generally held in the bank and, on occasion, in the superintendents' home.

One regulation by the school board in 1905 was that student who forgot to hitch their horse to the hitching post of got loose head to police the school grounds with a shovel.

The land needed to build the new school was purchased from two sisters for \$300.

The school board in February of 1910, established the price of 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for students to attend commencement. the school board by unanimous vote, on March 24, 1910, accepted the payment of a cow in lieu of \$50 for tuition. The cow, owned by W.S. Chatfield, was then sold to Joe Black for \$47.50. The school board established a salary of \$25 annually to keep the outhouses clean, because they felt it unbecoming to use dirty toilets at public meetings. The ticket sale for commencement brought \$52.10 and board voted to pay the difference of \$36.10. The board purchased 80 tons of coal at \$2.60 a ton with the provisions that the coal be weighed long ton weight and that it be placed in the coal bins, thoroughly soaked.

The school board received a letter from the Champaign county Commissioners on September 7, 1914, signed by O.E. Eley. This letter stated that the Board of Education representing Woodstock district had been illegally elected and commissioners appointed five board members in accordance with section 1710 of the general code of Ohio.

A resolution was passed February 8, 1915, to place a levy on the ballot March 5, 1915, for the purpose of building a new school. The estimated cost was \$27,000.00. The issue passed 180 to 41. This vote included all the precincts. The board was pleased with the balloting and permitted an expenditure of \$2.00 each for the 1915 graduates to purchase invitation cards.

The school board on July 3, 1915 rented the school grounds for a carnival for \$2.00. The board decided that there were insufficient funds for operation of the new school and in October asked for 1.5 million for five years. The issue passed in November by a vote of 167 to 66. The school board then decided to purchase from the Tallmadge Hardware company bronze instead of galvanized butts at a cost of \$166. A coach and rocking chair for the restrooms were also purchased. It was also discovered that a barrel of floor oil was purchased for \$7.80 for the purpose of oiling the new floors of the school. The practice of oiling floors continued until the mid 1960's when the state forbid it due to the danger of fire.

Created by Andrea B.