WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE SINCE 1855



The Westerville City School District and the Committee to Celebrate
150 Years of Education in Westerville
Thank the following for their financial and in-kind support:

Alliance Data
Ray Dusenbury
Exel
Hometown Service Center
Kiwanis Club
Mt. Carmel Health System
Party Land
Progressive Medical
Rotary Club of Westerville
Roush Honda
Westerville Amateur Soccer Association
Westerville Education Foundation

This booklet was compiled by Dr. Jan Fedorenko, Amy Miller, and Joy Rose based on historical documents, people's recollections and memories, and information from current administrators and employees of the Westerville City School District.

©2006 Westerville City School District

336 S. Otterbein Avenue Westerville, OH 43081 614-797-5700

Printed in the United States of America

All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, or copied into or stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of the Westerville City School District.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the following people for their help in putting together this legacy of the Westerville Schools:

The Westerville Public Library, especially Beth Weinhardt

The Westerville League of Women Voters

Lynne Maslowski, for the use of her files, the photographs that she has taken over the years, and her encouragement and support of this project

Joe Meyer and the Westerville News and Public Opinion

All of the members of the Committee to Celebrate 150 years of Education in Westerville

Many memories have been shared to create this booklet. Gathering information from graduates, administrators, staff, and the Westerville Community have illuminated the rich history of the Westerville City Schools. Verbal and written communications enlightened the understanding of the growth of the school district and were essential in marking history.

As you read the document, we know that each of you have your own stories that you carry in your heart and we hope that we have created a journey for you that evokes memories of which we could not document.

We would like to thank all of you who have contributed to helping us develop a richer understanding of the life of the schools and the relationship with the community of Westerville.

Dr. Jan Fedorenko Amy Miller Joy Rose

The History of Westerville Schools League of Women Voters of Westerville Study, 1992

The League of Women Voters of Westerville voted to study the financing of the Westerville Schools at its annual meeting in May, 1991. The Education Study Committee (Betsy Guckeyson, Karen Hedden and Mary Kaul) decided to provide the members with a brief history of the school system as background for understanding its local monetary issues.

The group met in October with Ray Bertelson, Director of Planning for the Westerville Schools. During that time, he directed his remarks to the questions provided him by the National League's booklet, "Know Your Schools." He indicated that the Westerville Library has an excellent resource book written by Dr. Harold Hancock of Otterbein, called The History of Westerville, should we wish to pursue more information. [He also mentioned that the library has an original work by Thomas Jefferson--his handwritten New Testament for legislators.]

The actual Westerville School District began in 1855. However, before that there was education going on, less formalized to be sure, in homes and kitchens. The first "school" began in 1808 in a home near what is now 3C and 161, about at [former site of] K-Mart, on the Griswold farm. Mrs. Griswold taught her children and the Phelps' children. The Griswolds and the Phelps, the first settlers, arrived in 1805. The township area, established by the 1787 Northwest Ordinance, was named for a town in Connecticut, from where the Griswolds and Phelps came. In 1811, classes were held in the Phelps' new barn.

The Blendon Township Trustees created six school districts in 1826--(1) Central College, (2)Westerville, (3)an un-named area, (4)Blendon 4 Corners (3C and 161), (5)Cherry Bottoms, (6) Hempstead. Blendon Township had a one-room log schoolhouse at that time at the Pioneer Cemetery (across from what is now Bob Evans). Each district was expected to provide a school for its children.

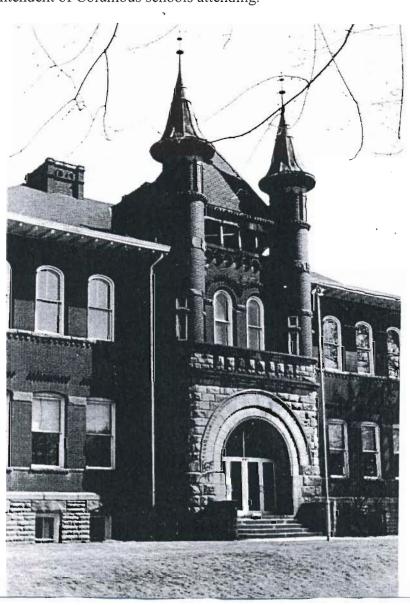
The Village of Westerville was founded in 1838 following a donation of 27 acres of land, a small portion of which was for an educational institution and the remainder for town lots to be sold for its support. The Westerville boundaries were established in 1839, with West Street on the west, Vine Street on the east, Home Street on the North and Park Street on the south.

The campus became the "Blendon Young Men's Seminary," a Methodist college-prep institution. Students there heard debates on the evils of war, intemperance and slavery. This secondary school floundered due to competition from Ohio Wesleyan and later, in 1847, evolved into "Otterbein University," open to men, women and blacks. It, as well as several churches, became the dominating presence in the area, forcing an ever-reluctant village to build sanitary water supplies and streets, and to keep its community "dry." The Westerville School District built its first school on Home Street in 1855 near where the Mann Nursing Home is now. Some controversy occurred, but was quickly quieted, when two blacks enrolled in 1859. As if predicting the times to come, that school lasted 11 years before it was outgrown.

In 1866, the district built another school near the site of Emerson--"The Union School." It contained one room (two rooms were added in 1879) that served students from Blendon Township, which had six schools by that time, and some from Sharon (Worthington) Township. High school students came there in addition to some Westerville elementary students (hence the name, "Union"). About 172 students were enrolled but actual daily attendance was much less. With those numbers of students, they had to rent out spaces elsewhere, e.g., upstairs of the now "Calico Cupboard," [as of 2006, the Old Bag of Nails restaurant] which was then the City Hall.

Until 1882, the high school course of study took two years. In 1889, it was lengthened to three years; in 1900, four years. The first high school commencement was held in 1876, the second in 1882. After that, at least one person graduated every year with the exception of 1900 when the course of study was extended to four years.

Voters defeated a bond issue in 1884. By 1892, with an enrollment of 245, including 50 students in the high school, the district put another bond issue on the ballot to build more buildings. It failed. The issue finally passed in 1896 by eight votes and 'The Vine Street School" (Emerson) was builtbut not without controversy as some people struggled to stop its construction. It had six rooms, seven teachers, and just under 300 students. There was a major dedication ceremony, with the governor and the superintendent of Columbus schools attending.



In 1908, the district added four more rooms to Emerson, as well as a drinking fountain and inside toilets. It was still serving as a high school for extended areas and was recognized as a very important one with quality athletics (especially basketball) and academics. It was a 'no frills' education, however--just reading, writing and arithmetic.

In 1921, spurred on by removal of North Central accreditation because of its poor facilities, the "Westerville Citizens for Better Schools," spearheaded a drive for a new high school on State Street. A totally secondary 7-12 building, "Westerville High School," [now Hanby Arts Magnet School] was constructed in 1923. It served Genoa and Sharon Township high school students as well as students from Central College. Genoa paid a dollar a day tuition for its students. Students came by trolley from Minerva Park.

In 1930, in a joint decision by the Board of Education and the Cornell family, it was agreed to name all of the schools after poets. After voters approved a bond issue in 1929 for an elementary school on Hiawatha, Longfellow opened in 1931. Whittier was built in 1958; Hawthorne in 1959. In 1958, the League was instrumental in encouraging the building of a new high school. However, "James Russell Lowell High School" opened in 1960 to complaints about its name. It was changed to 'Westerville High School," with the old Westerville High School then getting its name of "Hanby Junior High School," thus honoring Otterbein's most famous graduate.

During the depression, the schools benefited from government aid. They received surplus food and unemployed persons did custodial work. A garage and workshop were constructed in 1934 with labor paid for by the government. WPA funds assisted in developing land near Otterbein Avenue for an athletic field.

1954 saw the establishment of the Ohio Board of Education. In 1955, Central College petitioned to become a part of the Westerville school system.

The aftermath of WWII brought people to small towns and suburbs. Westerville was no exception. It grew at a particularity fast pace, however, during the 1960s and 1970s. Between 1964 and 1972, the average growth rate was $8\ 1/2\%$.

Huber Ridge, finished in 1964, was the first school to be named by location and development. Annehurst, in 1969, was so named for the same reasons. Walnut Springs, 1965, originally called Westerville Junior High School, was later re-named for its location at Walnut and Spring roads. Blendon Junior High School, 1969, was named for Blendon Township. [In the late sixties, classmates of two Westerville graduates and Vietnam casualties memorialized them with the garden, flagpole and plaque in front of Westerville South and with the carpeting in its auditorium.]

Cherrington (1972) took its name from the street commemorating the owner of the American Issue Publishing Company. [Earnest Cherrington., famous in Westerville history, came to Westerville in 1909 to produce and publish anti-saloon, anti-alcohol literature. Westerville became the national center of the Anti-Saloon League. At its height. Cherrington employed 200 people, operating his company 24 hours a day. So much literature was published and mailed during those times that Westerville became the smallest community in the nation to have a first class Post Office.]

Superintendents of Westerville Schools

1926-1940 – Reed S. Johnston

1973-1981 - Harold G. Rowe

1874-1878 – William Bartels	1940-1943 – H. M. Dixon
1878-1882 – John Clark	Feb. 1943-Aug. 1943 – O.K. Probasco
1882-1885 – D. C. Arnold	1943 - 1961 – M. Ray Morris
1885-1892 – T. M. Fouts	1961-1964 – Carroll W. Biggs
1892-1896 – E.D. Resler	1964-1973 – Harold C. McDermott
1896-1898 – J. Walton	April 1973-Aug.1973 – Arnold Carlson (Acting Superintendent)
1898-1900 – J. W. Jones	

1865-1874 – J.J. Willoughby

1900-1903 - L. A. Bennert

1903-1908 - J. P. West 1981-1985 – Tom Dickson

1909- 1918 – Lewis W.Warson

Jan.1986-March1986- Richard E. Miller
(Acting Superintendent)

1919-1920 – W.A.Kline

1920-1921 – E. L. Baxter March 1986-2000 – Ernest A. Husarik

1921-1926 – J. E. Way 2000- present – George E. Tombaugh

The year 2000 also saw a change in district leadership, as Dr. George Tombaugh became the 26th superintendent of the Westerville School District. With the loss to two operating levies, the Board of Education was forced to cut more than \$14 million from the budget in 2005. Administrative and teaching staffs were reduced and fees were increased to make up for the budget shortfall, until an operating levy was passed in the spring of 2006. The passage of the levy, the construction and/or renovation of buildings, and stable boundaries promises a bright future as the Westerville City School District celebrates 150 years of educational excellence as it serves approximately 14,000 students.



Monumental growth occurred in the early seventies. Westerville High School was on split sessions— juniors and seniors in the morning, freshmen and sophomores in the afternoon. Kindergarten classes were held in churches. A bond issue passed and Pontview opened in 1973. Returning to naming schools after authors and poets, Mark Twain and Robert Frost came on line in 1974. Growth continued to drift north. Because Westerville North High School was so named in 1975, Westerville High School on Otterbein became Westerville South High School.

In 1976, the State Board of Education gave Sharon Township's Westerville School District land to Columbus in compensation for their taking over the debt-ridden Muffin schools. At that time, the district lost 2,485 students to Columbus. Since 1942, however, the Westerville City School District has experienced only three years where there has not been an increase in enrollment It has experienced also many bond issues and operating levies passing and failing, especially since 1974 when the state changed the way voted millage is collected.

Three schools were built in 1989 to accommodate an again burgeoning school system-Wilder Elementary, McVay Elementary (McVay donated the land), and Heritage Middle School. Major renovations and additions were made to North and South High Schools.

In 1991-1992, the Westerville School District had 12390 students. In 1963, it had 4,000. It is now the tenth largest school district (out of 612 districts) in Ohio. The projections indicate that the district, which extends well into Delaware County on the North, as far south as Morse Road, as far west as 1-71 and Schrock Road, and as far east as the east side of Hoover and Little Turtle, will grow by at least 2,000 more students in ten years.

As the above history from the League of Women Voters indicates, growth in the Westerville City School District has continued. During the 1990s, creative scheduling options enabled the district to manage the growth. However, as the decade progressed, the need for more classrooms became evident. In 1988-89, Genoa Middle School was built in the northern area of the district as a 125,000 square foot facility to serve 700 students. Growth in student enrollment pushed the need for additional middle school classrooms, and an 18,000 square foot addition was completed in 2002-03 to increase capacity of the building to 900 students. Growth in the northern areas of the district continued almost unabated; and the need for additional elementary and high school facilities became evident.

Two elementary buildings – sharing the same architecture – and a third high school were opened in the fall of 2003. The high school – named Westerville Central – opened with just 800 freshmen and sophomores, as students were allowed to finish their high school careers at Westerville North and Westerville South. Alcott Elementary School opened across the street from Westerville Central; Fouse Elementary opened just north of Genoa Middle School.

WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

Elementary:

Alcott
Annehurst
Central College
Cherrington
Emerson Magnet
Fouse
Hanby
Hawthorne
Huber Ridge
Longfellow Magnet
McVay
Pointview
Robert Frost
Whittier

150

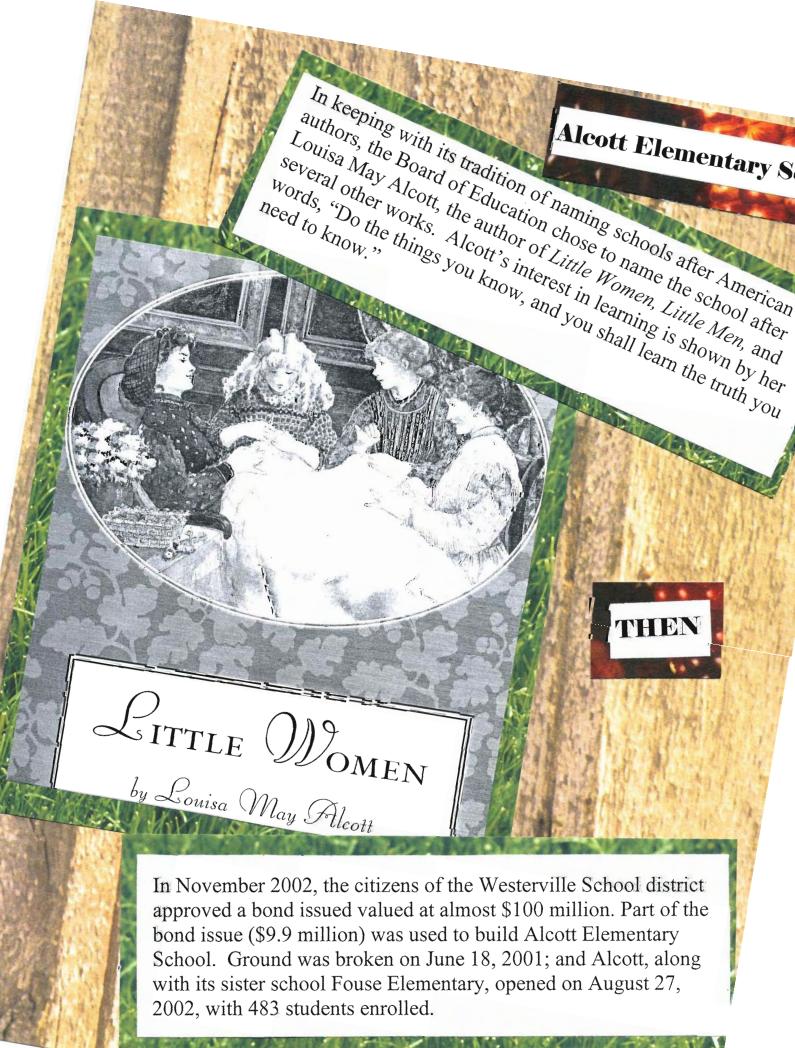
Middle:

Blendon Genoa Heritage Walnut Springs

High:

Central North South

MEARS OF EXCELLENCE





Twenty six classroom teachers, along with a teacher for art, music, and physical education greeted the inaugural group of students.

NOW

Currently students work hard to improvement their achievement

They are reminded of

They are reminded which

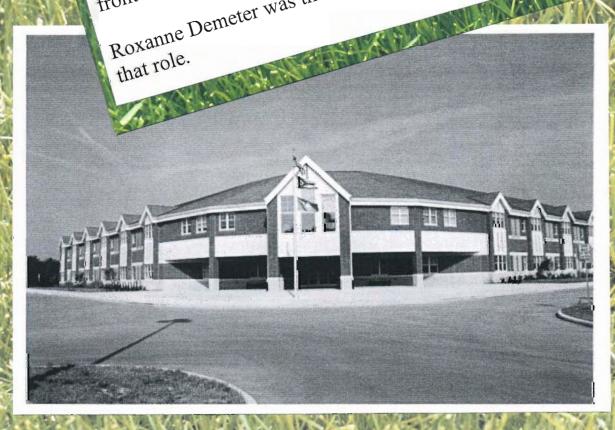
They are reminded which

They are reminded which

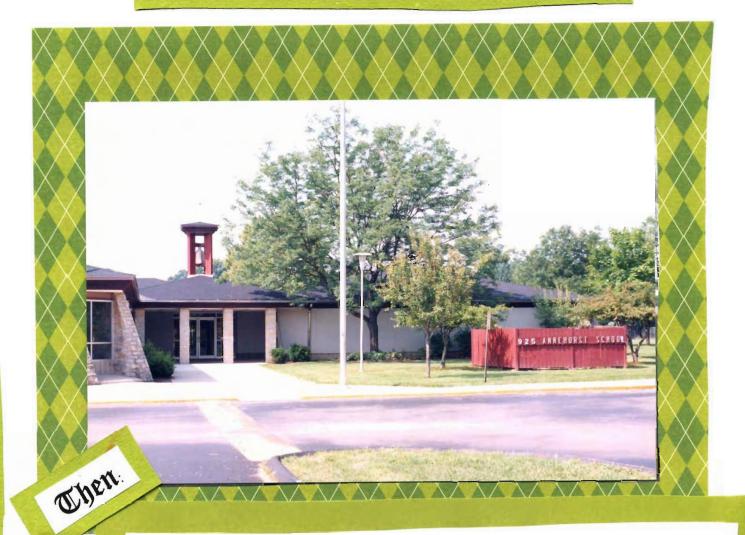
They are reminded which

They are reminded of

They are remi



Annehurst Elementary School



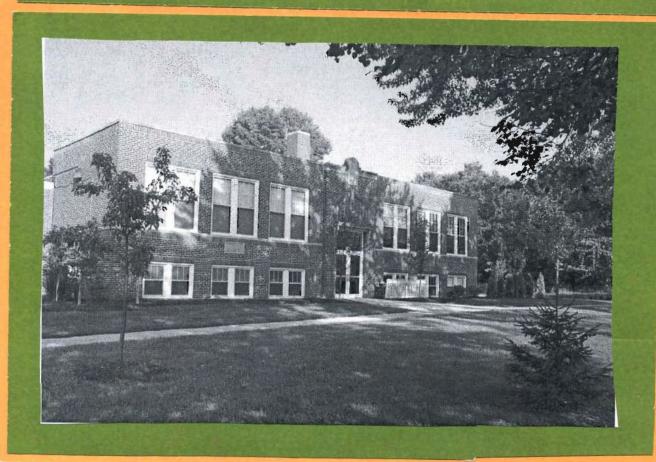
Annehurst Elementary School opened in the fall of 1970 to serve the growing community on the far west side of Westerville. The school building was the first in Westerville to be built with the open school area concept. Not only was the school structure different but some of the educational ideas used in the school were cutting edge also. In the fall of 1972 a relationship between Annehurst and the College of Education at Ohio State University was formalized to work toward implementing ideas expressed in the publication "A school for tomorrow".

Pata:

Annehurst Elementary continues to be an educational partnership among parents, students and a dedicated staff. The Annehurst Home and School Association has undertaken projects like the completely new playground installed in 1999 to make the Annehurst School experience the best it can be. Family Activity Nights are held three times a year to bring students and their parents into the school for fun educational experiences.

In the spring of 2006 Annehurst students and staff celebrated the school's diversity with a day long International Festival. Students dressed in costumes representing their native countries. Classrooms throughout the building shared information on different countries including samples of ethnic foods. A school assembly featured a mother and daughter from India dancing, Japanese music and much more.

CENTRAL COLLEGE ELEMENTARY



There is no college here, so why the name? Originally this community on Sunbury Road was called Amalthea in honor of the deceased sweetheart of an early settler. Later Squire Timothy Lee was mainly responsible for the appearance of an academy called Central College because it was approximately in the center of Ohio. While the academy lasted only two years in deference to the newly created Otterbein College, the name came to be applied to the community and has remained so even though the academy closed in the 1890's.

When

According to two gentlemen who grew up in the Central College area, Clarence (Casey) Mann and Wendell Watt the present Central College Elementary building was not the first to start educating the children there. The first was in a building across the street from the present building. It had been a Baptist church at one time. More recently it was the long time home of Harry and Dot's Bait Store. This one room school was where both men began their formal education under the guiding of a spinster lady called Miss Stonerock. Later they attended another building housing grades 3-5, another one room building. That building was torn down in 1939 so the present building was erected then. One of the men mentioned that the 8th grade graduation in 1938 had eight students. All but one of them went on to graduate from Westerville High School.

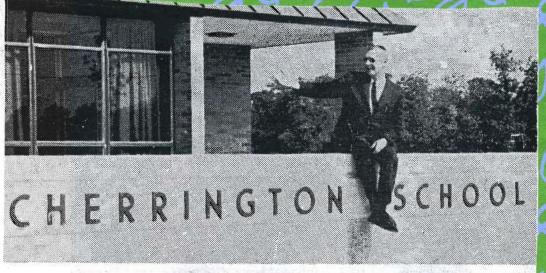
PAM

The Blendon Township owned the building and it was not a part of the Westerville School System until April 5, 1955 when the trustees surrendered control

and it became a part of the Westerville School System.

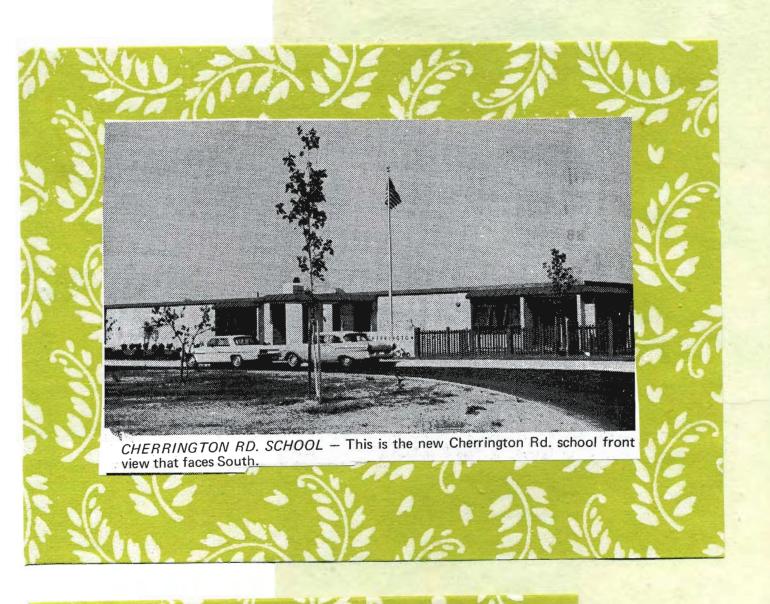
Up until 1989 the school was a traditional elementary school, but since then it has become a language arts magnet school with attendance determined by lottery. Steve Petercsak is the principal spending half of his time at Longfellow Elementary, also a magnet school.





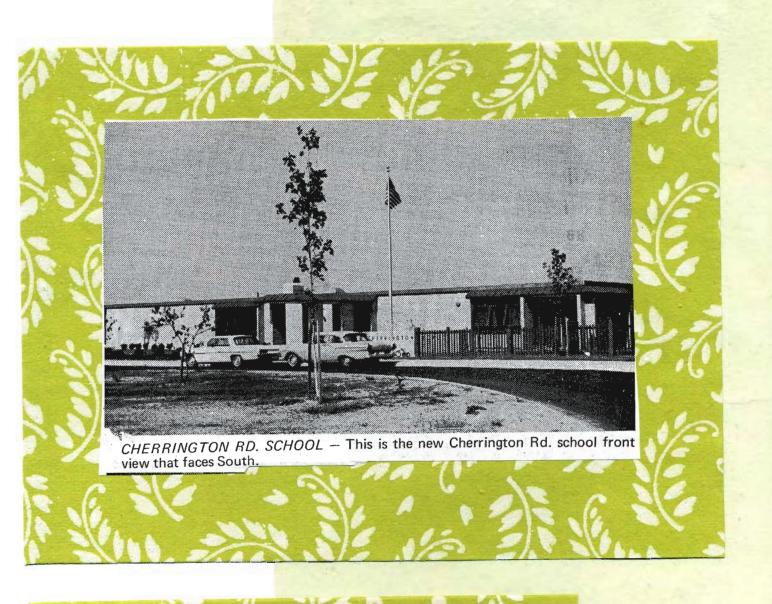
PRINCIPAL ATTRACTION — Cherrington Rd. Elementary School Principal Arthur Wright extends his hand to welcome the many residents he hopes will be in attendance at the open house this Sunday.

Cherrington Elementary School (originally known as Cherrington Road School) was dedicated on September 29, 1968 at 2 pm. The school was named after Ernest Cherrington who was a prominent leader in the Anti-Saloon League located in Westerville. The chairman of the dedication ceremony was Edgar Phillips, Jr., Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Council to the Board of Education. Miss Zora Youman, a secretary with 34 years of service, cut the ribbon. The flag presentation and pledge were led by the Cherrington Sixth Grade students, Jack Beard, Alan Krantz, Pam Higgins, and Kim Brown, while the invocation was delivered by Rev. Richard Ellsworth of Central College Presbyterian Church. Superintendent Harold C. McDermott and Principal Arthur Wright delivered remarks.



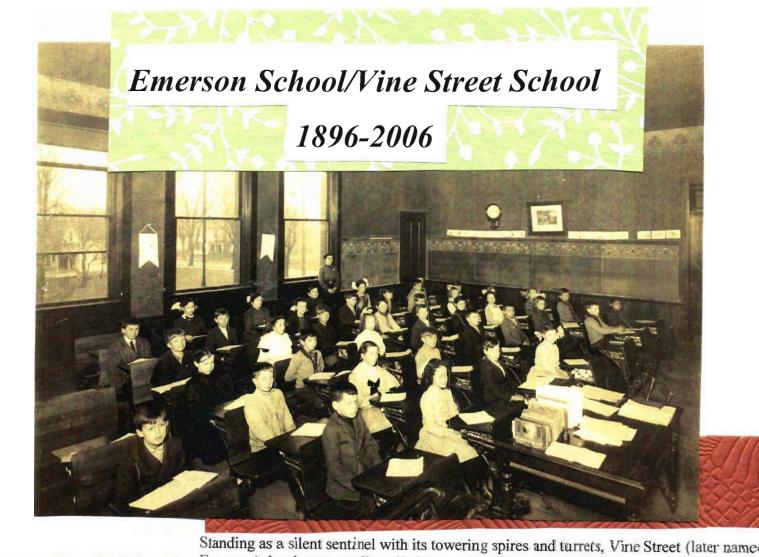
During the inaugural year, Cherrington's enrollment was 436, with an average class size of 33. The building housed 11 classrooms, grades kindergarten through six. The school's boundaries were all areas east of Walnut Street, and areas east including Pawnee, Catawaba, Ottawa, Catawba, Potawatomi, Electric, Cherrington, and Allview.

Cherrington's first Wing Ding (fun fair) made \$950. The Wing Ding continues to be a very popular activity at Cherrington each year. It is believed that Miami or Shawnee tribes lived upon the land where Cherrington Elementary was built. Many arrow heads were apparently found while digging the foundation for the school. An addition to the east side of the building was undertaken in 1969, adding 9 additional rooms and a gymnasium.



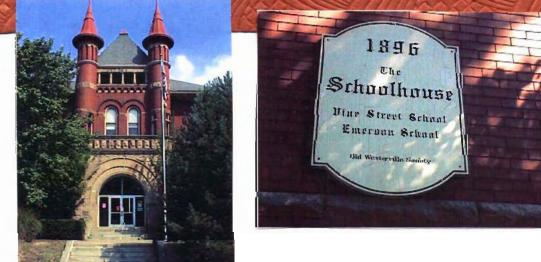
During the inaugural year, Cherrington's enrollment was 436, with an average class size of 33. The building housed 11 classrooms, grades kindergarten through six. The school's boundaries were all areas east of Walnut Street, and areas east including Pawnee, Catawaba, Ottawa, Catawba, Potawatomi, Electric, Cherrington, and Allview.

Cherrington's first Wing Ding (fun fair) made \$950. The Wing Ding continues to be a very popular activity at Cherrington each year. It is believed that Miami or Shawnee tribes lived upon the land where Cherrington Elementary was built. Many arrow heads were apparently found while digging the foundation for the school. An addition to the east side of the building was undertaken in 1969, adding 9 additional rooms and a gymnasium.

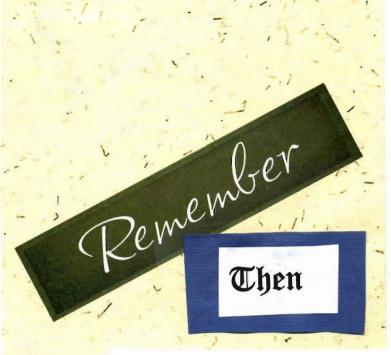


When Emerson was new, everyone marveled at the large, double room on the north side of the hall. Indeed, this was an engineering feat for a school in the 1890s. These two rooms are unique in that they can be used as an auditorium or separated into two classrooms simply by raising or lowering the three wooden doors between the rooms. The doors are attached to counterweights in the attic. When pushed into the attic, the counterweights hold the doors in place. Close your eyes and imagine children of the 1890s sitting quietly in the auditorium as they listen to speakers during chapel.

Emerson) has been proudly called "my school" by thousands of boys and girls for over 100 years.



Built in 1896 in the Romanesque style, it was designed by well-known architect Frank Packard. Resembling a castle many people referred to it as the "Temple of Learning. A Baroque style arch over the four wooden front doors features a young boy on one side and a young girl on the other. These cherubic children have been called the eternal children of the Vine Street School.

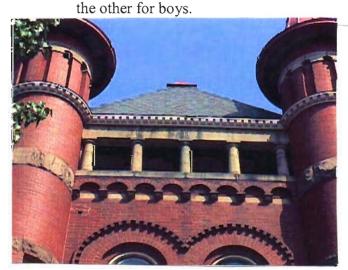




Emerson was the only school building in Westerville for many years and all the children in town, from the first grade through high school, attended school here. When Emerson opened, children either walked, rode horses, or drove buggies. Children who rode horses had to find a place to keep the horses while they were in school. Many of the homes near the school had barns where the students rented space to stable their horses. If you rode a horse to school you had to eat your lunch then feed and water your horse. High school students who lived very far away rode their horses to school on Monday, stayed in town all week, and rode home on Friday. A few years after the school opened someone came up with the idea of a kid wagon - a long wagon pulled by horses that would pick up children and bring them to school. It has been said that when the children left the building to go home, the principal played lively march music on the Victrola and the children marched in line out of the building.

When children needed to use the restroom, they had to go outside, walk down a long wooden plank to the back fence of the playground and use one of the two small unheated, dark, wooden, outdoor toilets there. Children had to go outside and pump their drinking water and washing water from a well in the back yard. Boys usually did this by filling buckets with water and carrying them into the school.

In the early years, boys and girls did not get to play games together as we do today. There was a tall wooden fence down the middle of the playground - one side for girls and





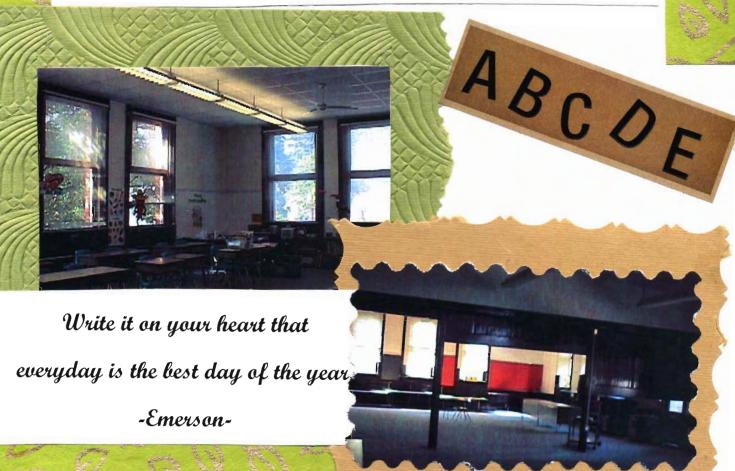
Emerson World Languages and Cultures

Row

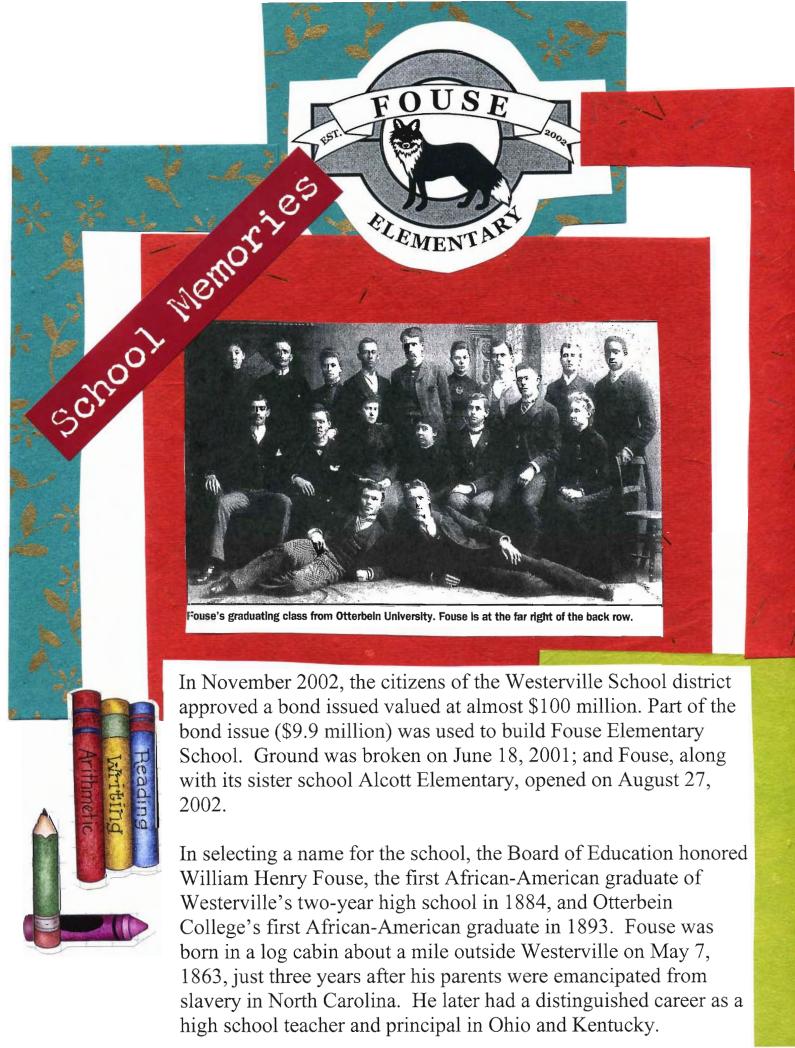
New to Emerson in 2002-2003 is the World Languages and Cultures Enhancement initiative. Still a magnet school its focus has change to a degree. America's future depends on its ability to reach out to the world and embrace the best contributions of all its people. International education promotes knowledge and understanding of other countries including their language, history, geography, arts, political, and economics systems. It will greatly enhance students' abilities to function successfully in a multicultural economically interdependent world. All students must have a strong command of reading, writing, and mathematics, and teachers and administrators are assisting the students in developing good character. They must also be able to acquire an understanding of the world and its people. A goal is to position the students to understand their connection with international issues and cultures and global ideas. Students take Spanish each year in order to meet these goals.

As we consider the history of Emerson (Vine Street) School we realize our oldest building, 110 years, is truly a composite of education in Westerville. From one school housing all of our students, we now have three high schools, four middle schools (junior high schools), and sixteen elementary schools, four of them are magnet schools. We reflect on the education that so many Westerville children have received at Emerson. From a school with no electricity or running water to the same school equipped with the latest in technology, we must appreciate the past, to prepare for the future through the innovative techniques and technologies used in our Westerville schools today. Through all the years Emerson, with its towering spires and turrets, stands as a silent sentinel ever

guarding the freedom that provides each of our Westerville children a free and appropriate education.



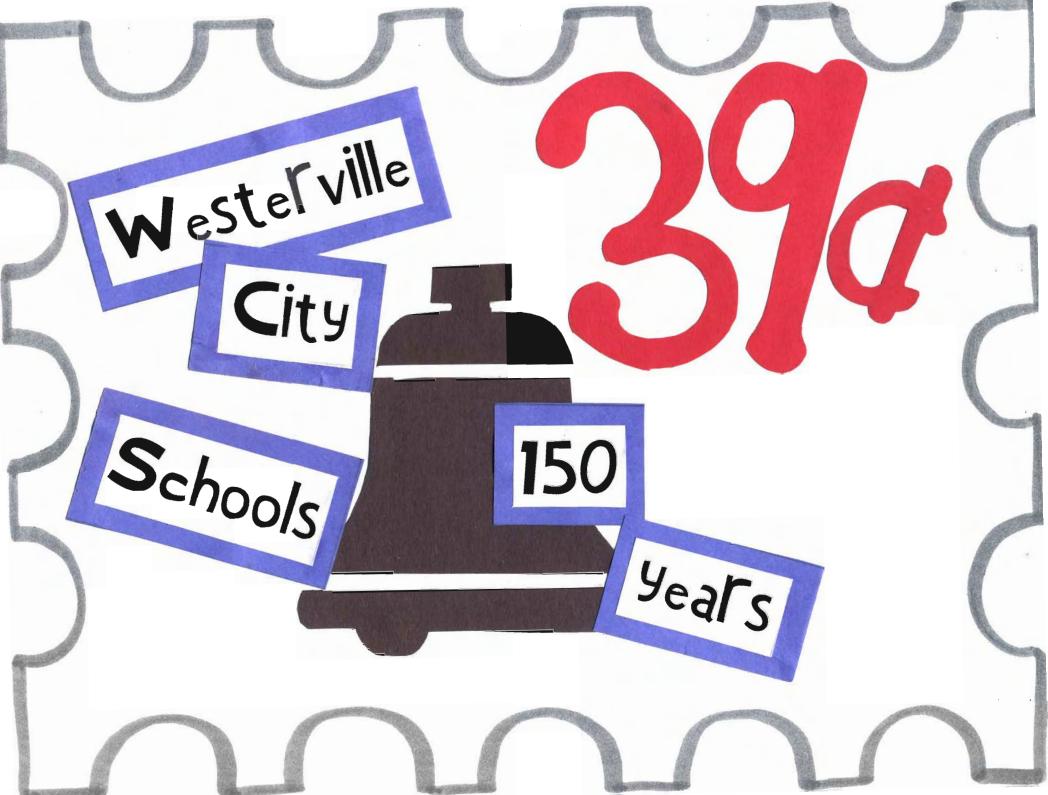






The first student body at Fouse Elementary voted the fox as the building mascot and selected red, black, and tan as the school colors. The school opened with a student body of 480; in 2005 the student enrollment was 625. Thirty one teachers staffed the 22 classrooms during the opening year. The building also includes a gymnasium/cafeteria and media center. Mrs. Marlis Bryns served as the school's first PTA president.

Mrs. Karen McClellan was the inaugural principal, and she continues in that role. She believes that having Mr. Fouse as the school's namesake helps inspire students to realize that they can become anything they want to be.





Hanby Arts Magnet School



to 4.25; fai ly good co good dress canners and of western age from \$2 Awaiting y drike a goo

COX-JON

You

•

sed for a Wri

Hanby Magnet School has one of the most storied histories of all the Westerville schools.

The building began as Westerville Junior Senior High School, built in 1922-1923 after the North Central Association withdrew accreditation from the Westerville School District because of the inadequate facilities at the Vine Street School (presently Emerson Magnet School) which had served the district in grades 1 through 12 from 1886 until 1923.

Voters approved a levy and F. F. Glass of Columbus was hired to draw up plans. The people of Westerville wanted the new school to be a very visible part of the heart of the town. Plans included an assembly hall seating 700 with a stage which could be used in an emergency for additional seating. Construction began in July 1922 and it was an exciting time for residents. Visitors often dropped in to look at the new high school. The building and equipment for the new school cost \$165,069.00.

Until 1960, the high school on State Street served all junior and senior high school students in the town. In 1960 the building on Otterbein Avenue was established as the high school, first called Lowell High School, and Later Westerville High School (now Westerville South High School. On My 23, 1960, the school on State Street was renamed Hanby Junior High School after Westerville resident, Otterbein graduate and faculty and famous composer. Later, after the construction of two junior high schools, Hanby became an elementary school. In 1984-1986 it housed 497 students in the 5th, 6th and 7th grades. The school continued to be a part of the Westerville school system, as a sixth grade school, then as district offices,

Row

t has

he density with the

and later for enrollment overflow.

Strictly good to choice western 1200

o 1400 lb.
cood 1000
common by
feeders
37.75 to 4.2
trictly goo
25. good
165: cannoulk of we
strange fi
Await

In 2002, Hanby School became Hanby Arts Magnet School for grades 1-5 and also houses the district Able and Talented programs. During renovations on the building, Hanby Arts Magnet School was moved to Westerville Central High School and was housed there for 2002-2003, the year Central High School had opened. The building re-opened on State Street in the fall of 2004, continuing its tradition and legacy of providing varied services to students in an uptown setting.

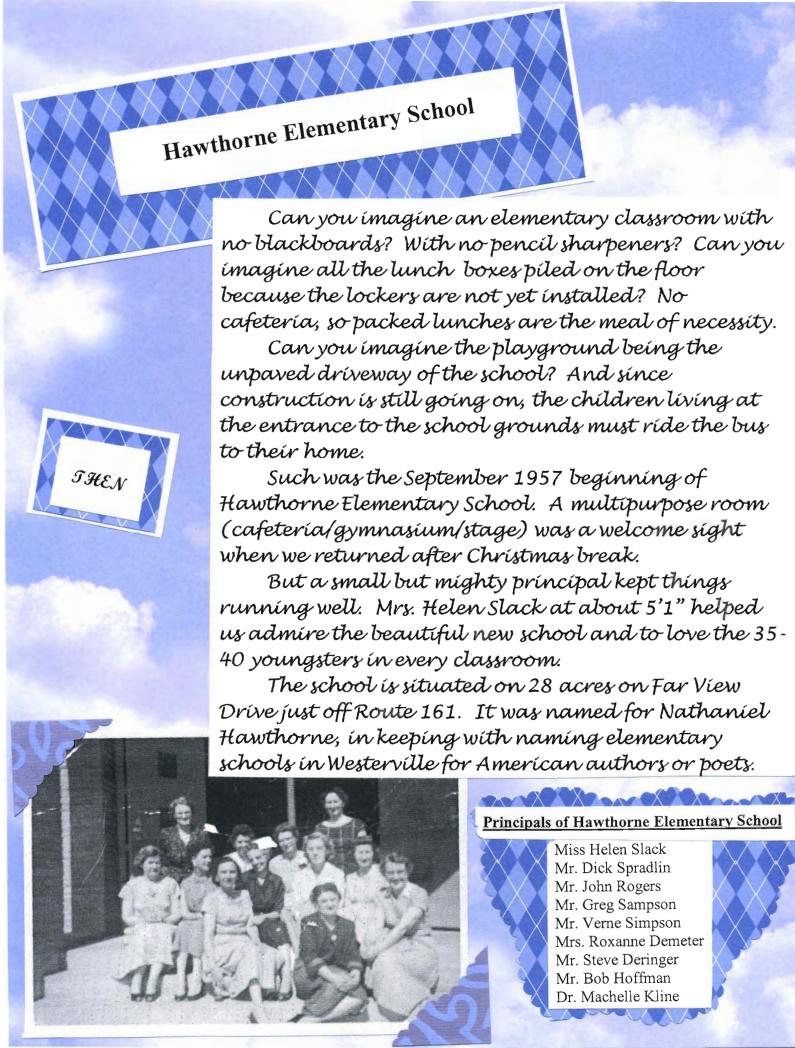
COX recephone

e Used f

ou strike

The Arts Magnet School program utilizes an arts integration approach to teaching and learning and makes connections between traditional methods of teaching by incorporating the arts in all areas of the curriculum. Students are provided extensive exposure to artistic performances, artists in residencies and collaborative learning between the arts classes and general classrooms.

\$ 50, 5







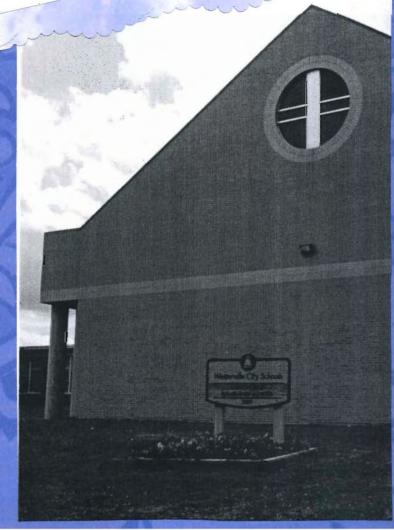
An addition to the building in 1968 made it 12 rooms lager. Today it is a K-5 school with a diverse rooms lager. Today it is a k-5 school

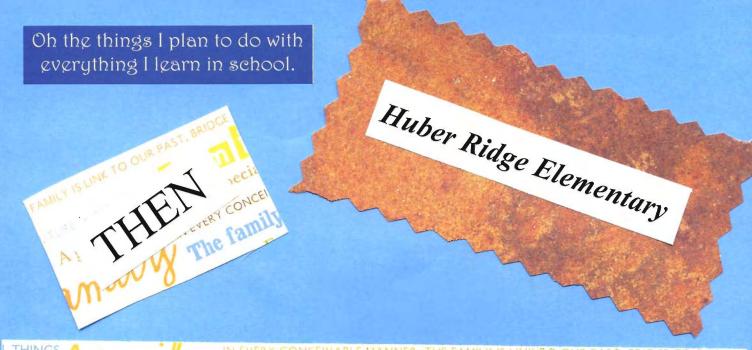
The current principal

of Hawthorne

Elementary is

Dr. Machelle Kline.





THINGS family in EVERY CONCEIVABLE MANNER, THE FAMILY IS LINK TO OUR PAST, BRIDGE TO OUR FUT
The family is one of nature's masterpieces. - GEORGE SANTAY

an i

eth

is c

LEX H

Oth

eir ch

FAM

LY

The

es, es

thin

<mark>ILIES A</mark> Y IS LIN

. A

NGE

X HAL

NGE A

RGE S

LE MAI

FA

PAST

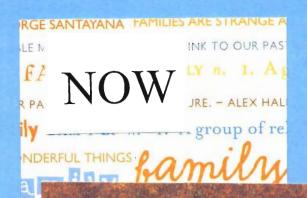
V F

The upstart of the Huber Ridge Elementary School is quite unique. Huber Ridge set up instruction for students in three houses on Cairo Road that were donated to the district. Classes were taught in the living room and bedrooms of the homes. The builder of the subdivision provided the use of the new houses at no cost to the district. A part time principal, Stanley Bahorek, ran the school with no secretary, phones, lunch room (well, possibly a kitchen), library or playground. A phone was finally installed later that first year. A grand total of \$50 was the allotted budget for both kindergarten rooms so used crayons were donated to the school and scrap wood to be sanded into blocks. Now that's ingenuity!

The "new" Huber Ridge Elementary school was finished and opened in 1964 with Jack "Chip" Geckeler as principal. The land was donated by the Huber Development Company, hence the name "Huber Ridge." The word "Huber" is thought to have come from the suburb of Dayton called Huber Heights. The original building had 12 rooms with an additional 6 classrooms being added in 1967.

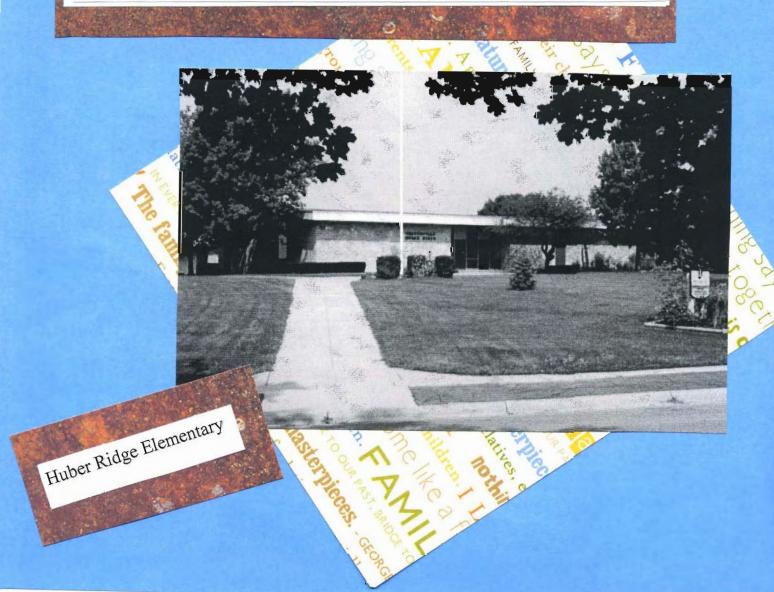
In 1985, Huber Ridge Elementary school had the largest enrollment of any elementary school in the system, with 721 students. Also, in 1985, a fitness trail was donated in memory of physical education teacher, Jim Reese.

C FAMILIES ARE STRANGE AND WONDERFUL THINGS FAM·I·LY n. I. A group of relatives, especially pa

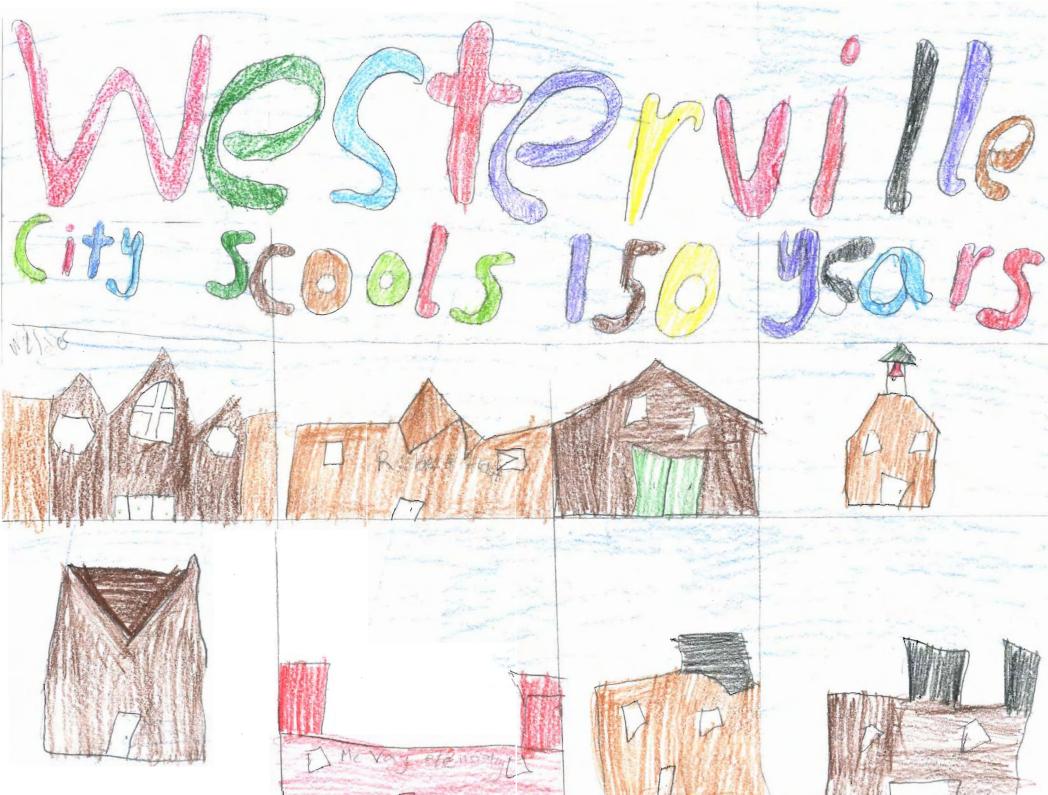




Currently, Huber Ridge has an enrollment of approximately 520 students with a building size of 27 classrooms. Huber Ridge continues the tradition of engaging families with their "evening celebrations" and annual spring picnics. Each year, Huber Ridge offers a different theme that brings families to the school for evening events. The Annual Spring Picnic continues to be a hit with families with music from DJ's and the auctioning off of teachers' baked goods. During the spring of 2006, a 50 foot flag waved while families were entertained by bagpipe players. Barbara Wallace is currently the principal of Huber Ridge Elementary School.





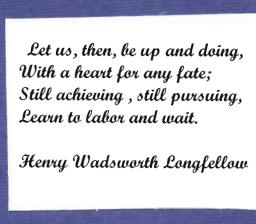




In 1930 Westerville contained only two schools, a

Junior and Senior High School on State Street (today called
Hanby Elementary School) and the Vine Street School (today
called Emerson) for elementary students. The elementary
school was so crowded that another school was needed. A bond
issue for \$125,000 was passed. Lots along Hiawatha Avenue
and part of the Cornell farm back of these were purchased as
a site for the new school. It opened on February 2, 1931.
It was Westerville's first fireproof school built of brick and
concrete. Children from the elementary school on Vine Street
walked with their books into the new school. The school was
named after the poet, Longfellow, who wrote a famous poem about
Hiawatha. The school contains six rooms and a multi-purpose
room. Today a room in the basement is fixed up as a media
center.

During the year students engage in the Right to Read program, enjoy an old-fashioned ice cream social, and have a Christmas program. The school has been awarded an Educational Excellence Award and Children's Safety Award.



WHEN

The Opening of Longfellow School

Many older Westerville residents remember February 2, 1931 as the most memorable day in their early school years. That was the day Longfellow School opened. One hundred and eighty students at the overcrowded Vine Street School (Emerson) were marched down to the new building on Hiawatha Street. They left behind classmates they had been in school with from their first day of school in the first grade. It was exciting to be going to a new school, but sad to be leaving friends at their old school.

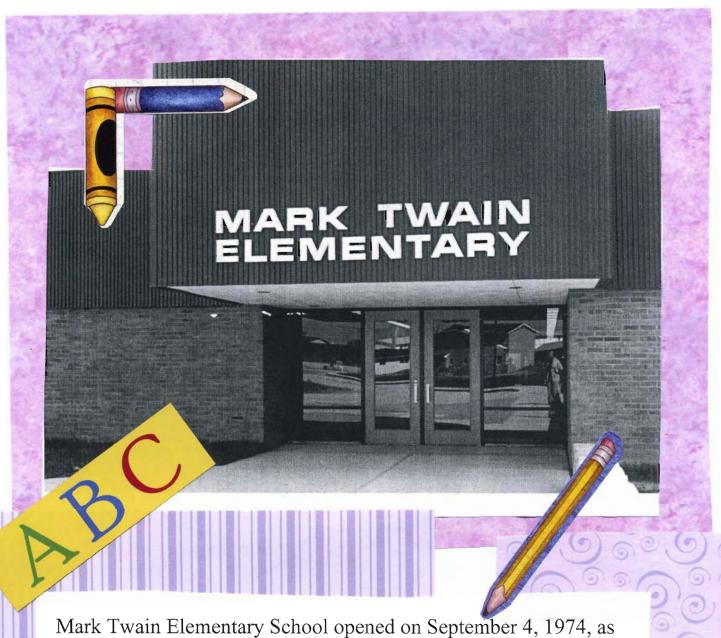
By 1930 Westerville had a population of 2, 885 and the school district had grown to 20 square miles. A new school was needed. The important decision of where to locate the new school had to be made. It was decided that it should be somewhere in the southwest section of Westerville so that no student would have to walk more than one-half mile to school. Six lots on Hiawatha were purchased. The street name Hiawatha was important in the naming of the new school. It was decided that the school should be named after Henry Wadsworth Longfellow since he wrote the famous poem about Hiawatha. This began a Westerville City Schools tradition of naming schools after famous poets and authors. The new school building is Georgian Colonial architecture. While not large, the building had an important safety feature. It was built to be fireproof.

The students from the south end of Westerville were joined by students from the Worthington Children's Home at the new school. The Worthington Children's Home students were bussed daily for many years to Westerville to attend school. Longfellow when it opened had 6 teachers and the 6th grade teacher was also the principal.

Ritt

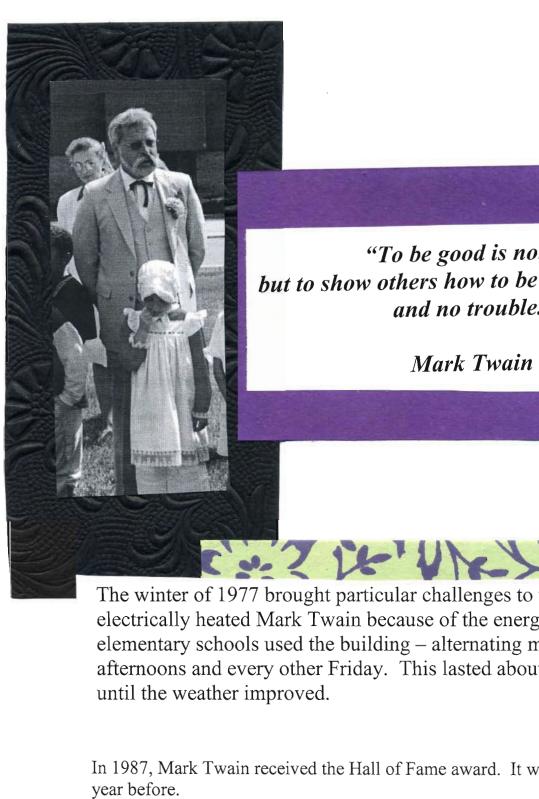
Longfellow Today

Longfellow is still an elementary building but is now part of the Westerville Elementary Magnet School Program. This program is designed for students in grades 1-5, who have a particular interest and desire to experience education through a focused curriculum in a small school setting. Longfellow's focus is mathematics and science. Currently there are 129 students attending Longfellow with 5 teachers and a half time principal who shares duties as principal of Central College Magnet School. Structurally the building has remained the same on the outside since it was built. Several years ago there was a major renovation to the interior of the building which included an entire new heating and cooling system, electrical rewiring and renovation of the restrooms. Even with these changes the building maintains the same look that it had when it was first opened in 1931.



Mark Twain Elementary School opened on September 4, 1974, as an "open-concept" building, in which space was not divided into separate rooms. Teachers met the challenge of overcrowding and noise throughout the 1970s; and in 1980 walls were added to form pods that held three classrooms each. For several years, portable units were used to handle the expanding student population. At one point, nearly 800 students were enrolled.

A Student Council was formed the first year the school was in operation. Students chose the Cougar as the school mascot; selected red, white, and blue as the school colors; picked the name "The Mark Twain Steamer" for the school newspaper; and designed a school logo depicting Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) and his accomplishments.



"To be good is noble; but to show others how to be good is nobler and no trouble."

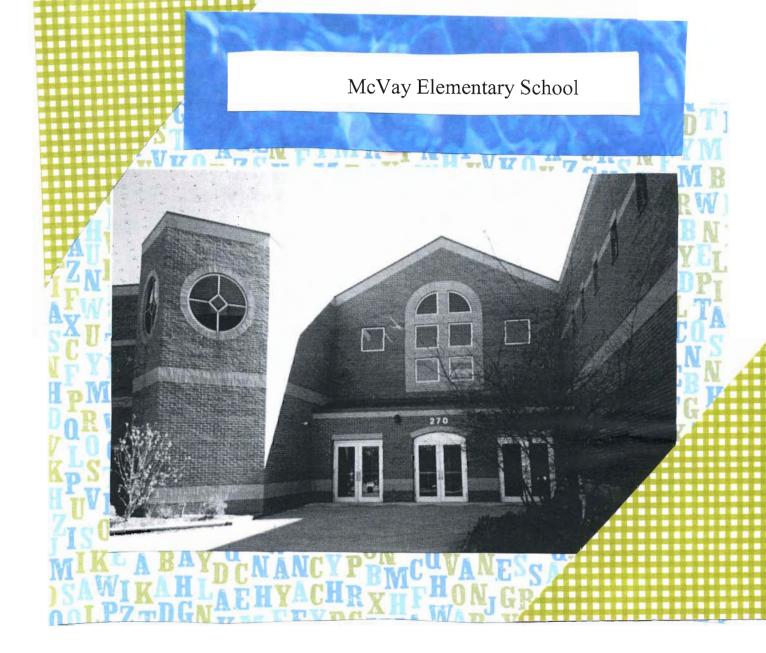
Mark Twain

The winter of 1977 brought particular challenges to the all electrically heated Mark Twain because of the energy crisis. Four elementary schools used the building – alternating mornings and afternoons and every other Friday. This lasted about 6 weeks – until the weather improved.

In 1987, Mark Twain received the Hall of Fame award. It was runner-up the

Principals at Mark Twain have included Bill Vorlicky, Paula Sisson, Jacque Nevels, Chip Geckler, Vern Simpson, Marcia Muelenberg, Pat Holcomb, Susan Briggs, and current principal Scott Ebbrecht.

In 2002, the building was remodeled with the addition of four classrooms and permanent walls were added to create separate classrooms.



McVay Elementary School has the distinction of being named for those who donated the land for the school. Maurice and Dorothy McVay donated the 15.8 acre site to the Westerville Board of Education 1978. The wooded site was said to be one of the finest school sites in the state of Ohio, at the time. Mr. McVay died in 1986. Mrs. McVay lived until 2002, seeing the school educate thousands of Westerville students.

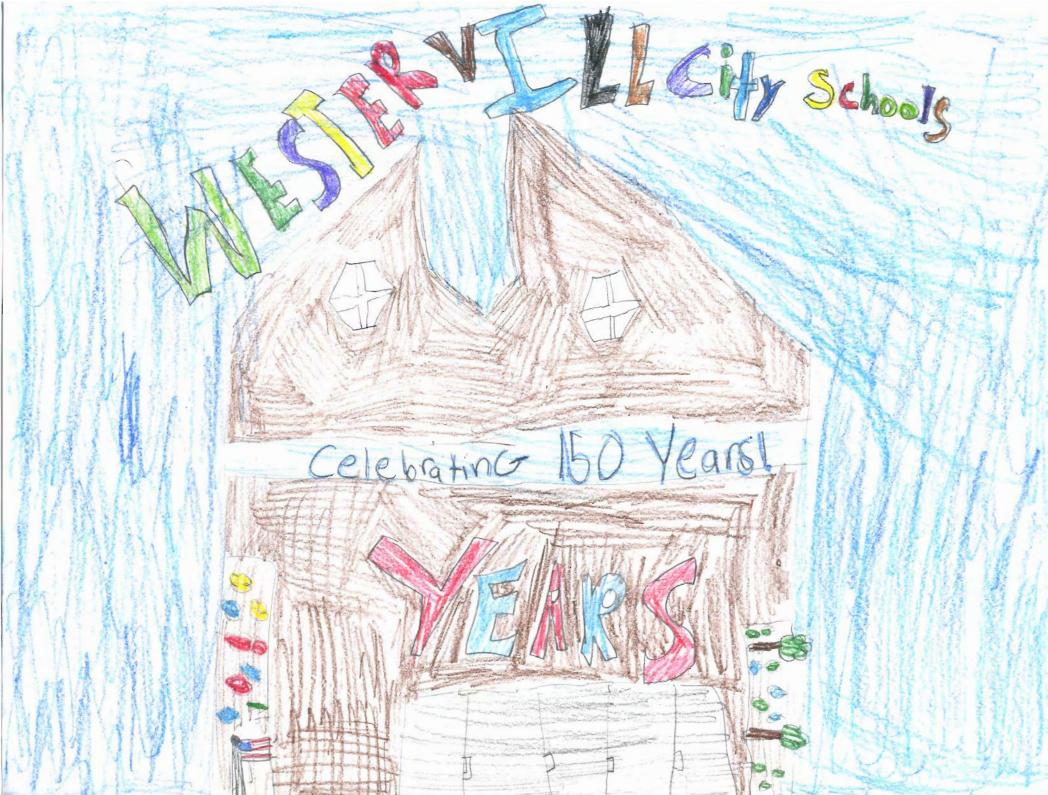
McVay Elementary, located at 270 S. Hempstead Road, opened in 1989 with an enrollment of 544 students in grades K-5. Also located on the site is the Knox-Metzger Log Cabin, which was moved in 1980 from its original site at 119 Cleveland Avenue. William H. Fouse, the first African-American graduate of Westerville Schools, lived in the log cabin as a child.

The cabin is still used to study frontier life and for special events.

Principals at McVay have included Steve Deringer, Diane Conley, Machelle Kline, and Phil Roe.



ESTICHETS B buther ting roll Etootsie Polly 13 Musika Heers

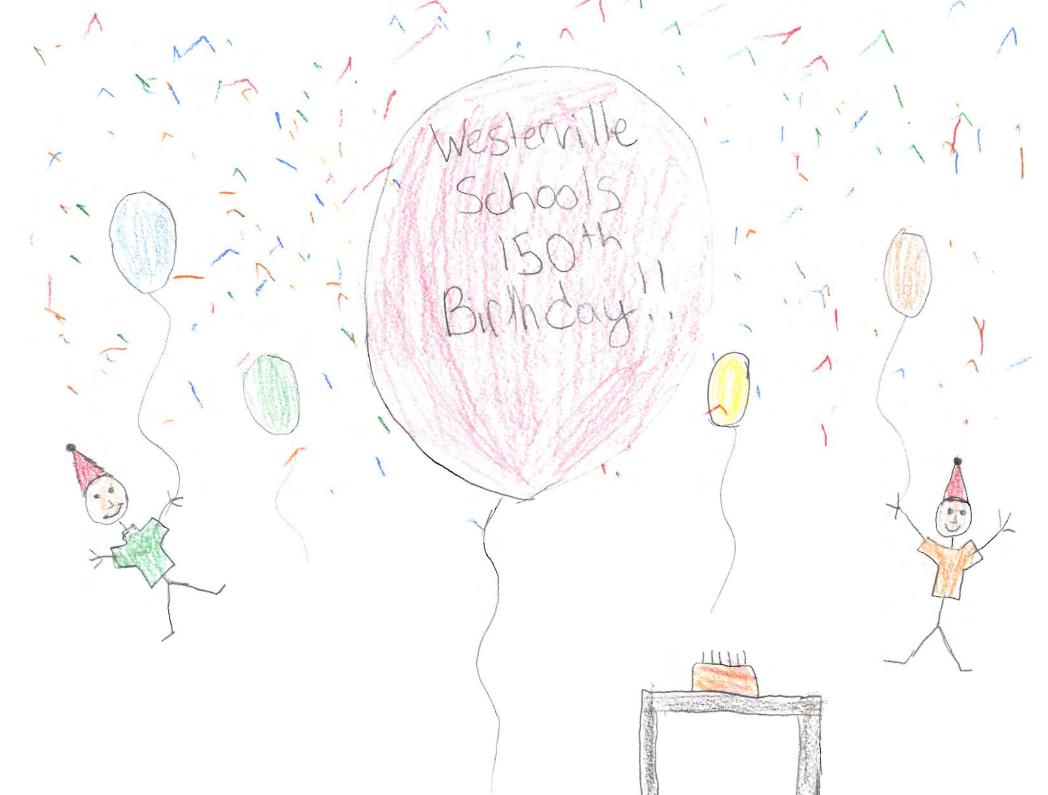


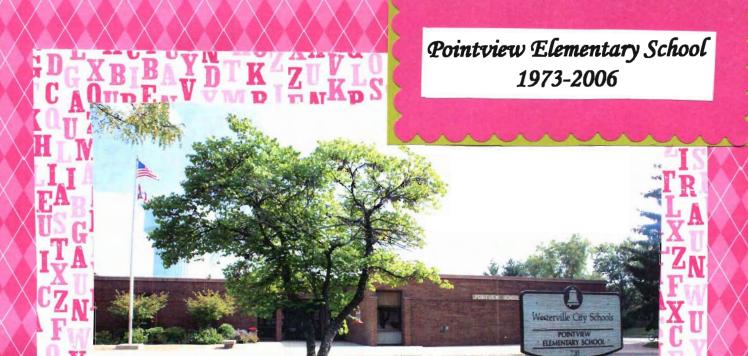
Minerva Park Elementary School

Here is one for the history books! Westerville City Schools opened a new school in 1949 at 5212 Cleveland Ave called Minerva Park Elementary School. This building had one class each grades 1-5 with no kindergarten classroom.

Minerva Park Elementary School was annexed to the Columbus Public School district in a Supreme Court ruling in the mid 1970's. Prior to the Win-Win Agreement, Columbus Public Schools wanted to annex the Columbus Square/Sharon Woods area, which they succeeded in doing.







Then

Pointview Elementary School opened for instruction on September 10th, 1973 with an enrollment of 600 students. Nestled in the newly developed "Hills and Dales" community, it was originally built to serve the residents of its surrounding neighborhood and the majority of students walked to school each morning. Over the past 33 years, Pointview's attendance area has grown to include neighborhoods as far away as Minerva Park and North Columbus. Since its opening day, over 15,000 students have walked the halls of Pointview.

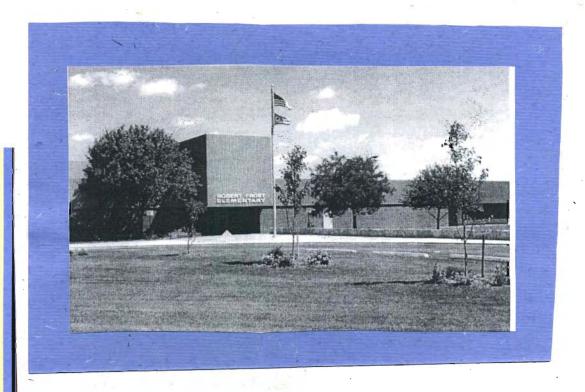
Pointview Elementary was one of several Westerville schools that were built around the "open classroom" concept that was very popular in the 1970's. The school is designed with four large instructional clusters rather than individual classrooms. Each cluster houses up to six classrooms and space is divided by bookcases and portable chalk boards. This openness not only promotes teacher collaboration and collegiality, but allows for individualization of instruction and classroom design that meet the unique learning needs of all students. Pointview students have learned in traditional classrooms, multi-age classrooms and have looped from one grade to the next with the same class and teacher. During the energy crisis in 1978, Pointview was one of three elementary schools in Westerville that remained open because of its economical heating system.

Pointview has a long history of Excellence in Education. In 1984, the school received recognition from Kappa Delta Pi, a national education honor society. The society honored Pointview for its outstanding practices in education as one of 106 "Good Schools" following a national study it conducted to identify schools of academic excellence across the U.S. Since then, Pointview has received numerous awards, grants and recognitions for its family involvement and literacy programs from the State Department of Education, including a "Best Practice" award in 1998 and the "Hall of Fame" Award from the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators in 2001. The outstanding educational practices resulting in accelerated student achievement at Pointview have caught the attention of such distinguished visitors as Ohio's First Lady Hope Taft in 2000 and U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige in 2003.

As we look forward to the challenge of meeting the needs of ALL students in today's diverse learning culture, the staff at Pointview Elementary School is committed to continuing the tradition of excellence in education.

The mission of Pointview Elementary School is to provide a positive and safe environment in which all students can become creative, confident independent learners who will accommodate change, respect individual rights, appreciate cultural diversity and engage in lifelong learning.



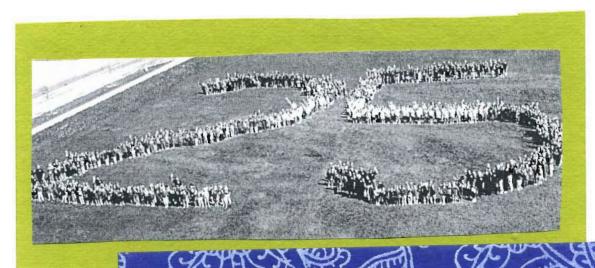


The mission is to create a positive climate that encourages life long learners to achieve success

Then

Robert Frost was an "open-space" elementary school which first opened its doors in 1974. It was reported that construction was not complete as students and staff first entered the building. There were not enough books or desks. Staff at the time stated, "It was like Christmas everyday with something new arriving or being completed." In 1974, Frost housed grades K-6.

By 2001 the building capacity was at its peak and five fifth grade classrooms were housed in portable classrooms just outside the building. Throughout its' years, Robert Frost transitioned from a completely open school concept to divided classrooms with bookshelf dividers to classrooms with "real walls" which were added in 2002. During that renovation period, there was a four classroom addition.





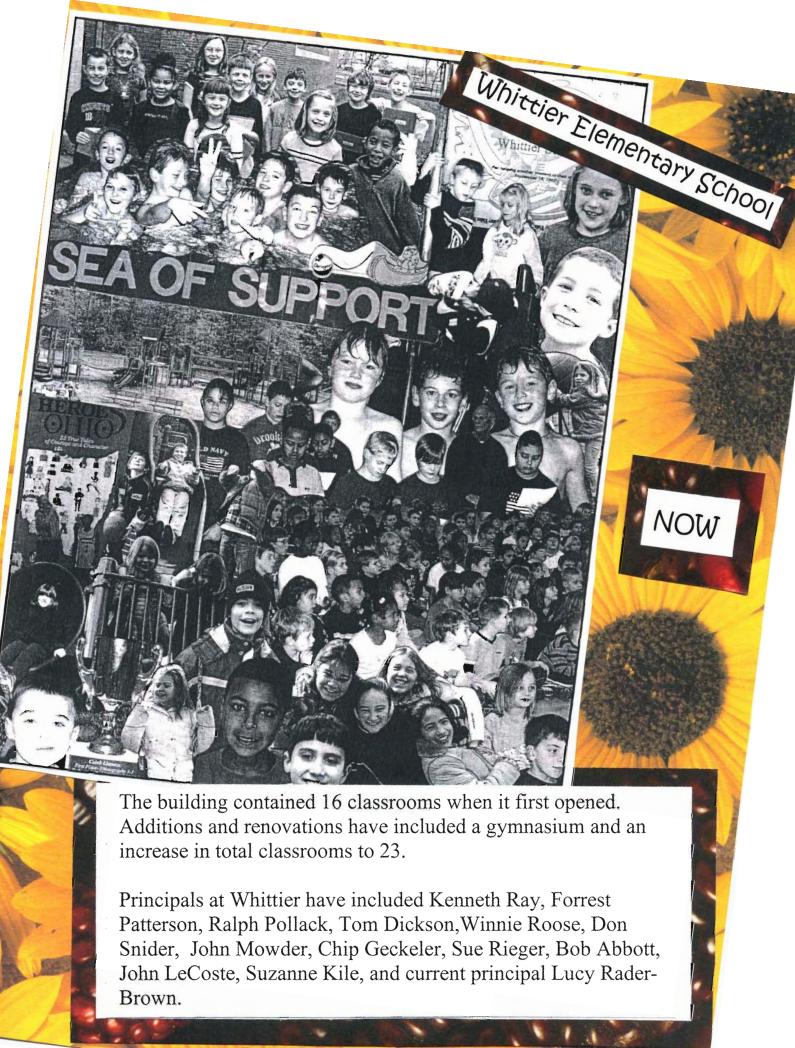
Row

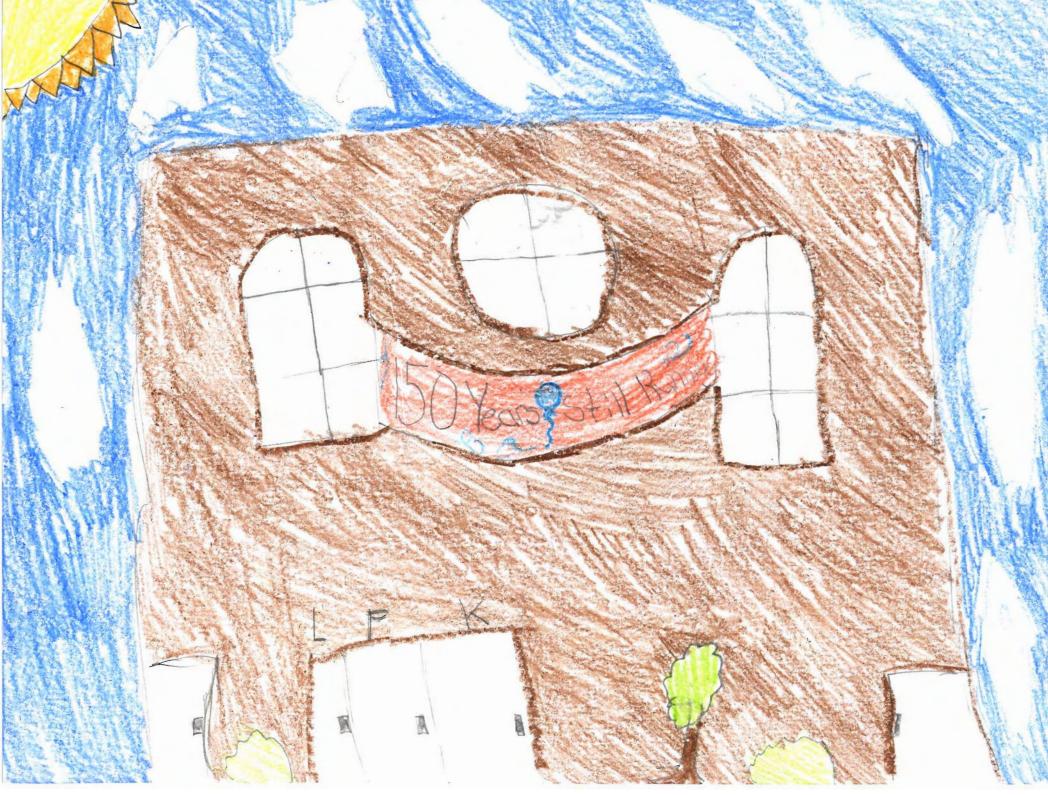
By 2005, Robert Frost welcomed grades K-5; special needs pre-school students, and ESL students.

Robert Frost boasts a strong tradition of extremely supportive parent involvement which sponsors many of the enrichment programs including Creativity Celebration, enrichment clusters and artists in the schools.

Famous faces from Frost include Luke Fickle, Ohio State football player and coach, and Bob Kennedy, long distance runner, state and NCAA champion record holder and USA Olympic team member.









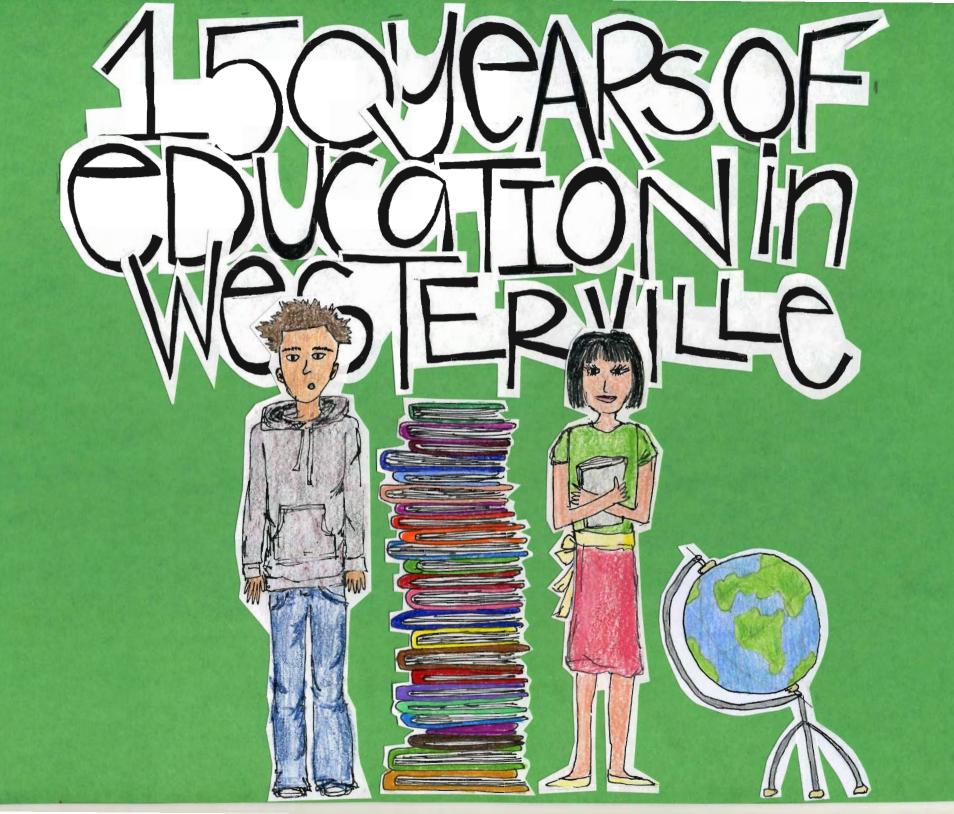
Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary School

Tucked into 17 acres of trees of the Sunbury Woods subdivision is the Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary School. Wilder Elementary was opened in 1989 and followed the Emerson tradition of naming a building after an author. Wilder Elementary continues to honor Laura Ingalls Wilder with their projects, readings and pioneer day celebrations. The opening of Wilder Elementary was a true community effort with assistance from local Girl Scout Troops, PTA fundraisers, and students. As construction advanced, Girl Scout troops cleared weeds from the ravine and planted flowers and trees. Livingston Seed Company supplied the materials to enhance the natural setting of Wilder. To bring the Wilder spirit alive on the interior of the building, The Wilder Museum in South Dakota sent items on loan from a private collection for a fall opening event.

The actual opening of Wilder Elementary was delayed for a school year as funds did not exist for the operation of the building. Westerville voters approved an operating levy which allowed for the opening of Wilder in 1989. The first principal of Wilder Elementary was Mr. Kagarise. Enrollment has fluctuated around 600 students throughout the years.







Blendon Junior High

Blendon Middle School opened in September 1969 as Blendon Junior High School, joining the original Westerville Junior High, which was renamed Walnut Springs Junior High School when Blendon was constructed.

Then

The building consisted of 27 rooms when it was first built; but within a year, an additional nine rooms were added. An art room was added in 1981. Initially, the building served students in grades seven through nine. In 1975, the ninth grade was moved next door to Westerville South, and the building has served students in grades six, seven, and eight since that time.

Remodeling and renovations have occurred since the building was first opened; and by 2003, the building consisted of 36 classrooms, a media center, music rooms, and a cafeteria. New gym bleachers had also been installed. When the Adopt-A-School program started in 1985, Blendon was the first school adopted. The City of Westerville was the partner, and the annual City of Westerville Day evolved. Since then, adopt-a-school partners at Blendon have included McDonalds, who hosts the Homework Hotline, and Krogers-Maxtown, who sponsors the Bulldog Breakfast Recognition Program.

Throughout its history, Blendon has established a legacy of students who care and share their time, efforts, and money with the Westerville community, the nation, and the world.

Events such as Save the Statue of Liberty, Jump for Your Hearts, along with numerous food drives, and support for the Ronald McDonald House have been supported by Blendon students.



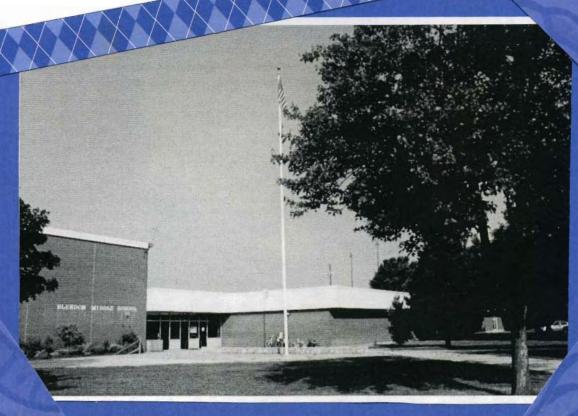
Blendon Middle School

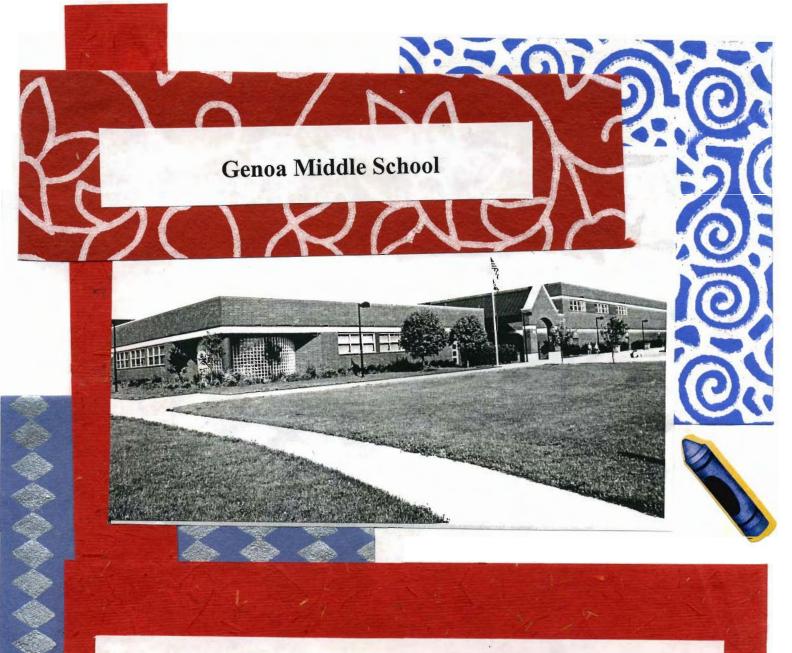
\$20to

Blendon students have also been involved in service clubs and organizations such as Builders Club, Peer Tutoring, Youth to Youth, Invention Convention, MathCounts, Young Authors Conference, Student Ambassadors, the school newspaper, and yearbook.

As a middle school, Blendon became a leader in the team teaching concept in the mid 1980s. Teaming as a teaching strategy was in place at Blendon until budget reductions in 2003 caused a decrease in staffing.

Principals at Blendon have included Regis Birchbichler, Jim Dalrymple, Bob Schultz, Sam Dorff, Tina Thomas-Manning, and current principal David Baker.





Genoa Middle School opened its doors for the 1998-99 school year for 640 students after a fourteen month construction period. The capacity of the school was for 700 students in the 125,000 square foot facility. Ralph Collins was the first principal after serving twelve years as the principal of Walnut Springs. Genoa was a state of the art facility for the district as each room had computers and video capabilities, its own local area network for computers, and each classroom had a telephone. The students were without a gymnasium for the first nine weeks as it was not completed prior to the start of the year. The volleyball teams practiced and played all their home games at Walnut Springs. The football team practiced and played their games on a practice field that is now a parking lot for Fouse Elementary. Luckily the weather cooperated as physical education classes were only impacted by rain on three days.



The students of Genoa changed a middle school trend in Westerville. While Genoa's school colors were Silver and Blue as the three other schools, the students overwhelmingly voted to break the canine mascot pattern and voted to become the Jaguars. The Westerville track meet at the end of the season became Three Dogs and a Cat after being the Canine Classic since Heritage opened.

Staffing at Genoa was done through a voluntary process as teaming was used for the first time in the district in grades six and seven. Teams were comprised of three or four teachers in academic areas.

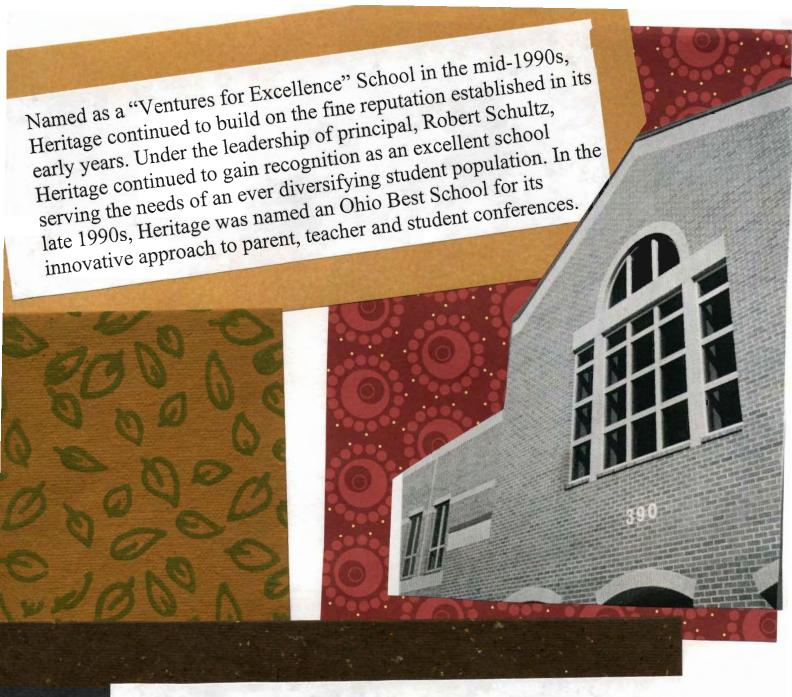
While Genoa opened under capacity, yearly student enrollment pushed the need for classroom space at the school and an addition to the building was planned. When classes started for the 2002-03 school year, a new 18,000 square foot addition had been added. This increased the capacity of the building to 900 students as it is today. The current enrollment is approximately 930 students.

Suzanne Kile became the second principal at Genoa when Ralph Collins retired during the 2005-2006 school year.



Over crowding across the district prompted voters to support a 1986 bond issue to construct a new middle school, two elementary schools, and expansion of both high schools. Construction began on a fast track for Heritage Middle School located on a 99 acre site that included Westerville North High School, Robert Frost Elementary School and a warehouse with some district offices. Completed and ready for occupancy in 1988, the school remained vacant for one year while awaiting the necessary operating funds for staff and supplies.

Heritage Middle School opened its doors in the fall of 1989 and served a population of 1056, nearly 90 students more than originally projected. The additional space allowed the three middle schools to reconfigure enrollment and for the first time in district history all students in grades 6, 7 and 8 attended middle school. The realignment of enrollment across the district as well as the closing of Hanby Elementary School created a great shift in not only student population but also in staffing. Teachers reassigned from schools across the district formed the new staff and worked hard to create a culture of excellence based on the motto, "The tradition begins with us."



Now

Taking over the leadership at Heritage in 2005 is principal, Felicia Harper. Decreasing enrollment and increasing diversity among the student population provides new challenges. With less than 900 students, but over 100 students in the English as a Second Language Program, teachers and administrators work hard to meet the needs of this diverse group. Continuing success in athletics and an ongoing emphasis to meet the needs of the whole child through the integration of the arts and academics are guiding forces for the school.

Tracking the Wolves

The Walnut Springs Parent Teacher Student Association Newsletter

Vol. 6 No. 1

September/October, 1992

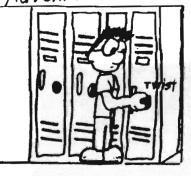


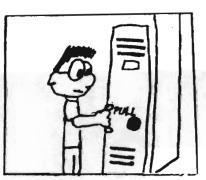
Walnut Springs Middle School opened its doors in the Fall of 1965 as Westerville Junior High School, the first Westerville junior high school. The Westerville Board of Education changed the name to Walnut Springs Junior High School in 1967 based on the recommendation from the Citizens' Advisory Council. Beginning in 1972, the district began the expansion of Walnut Springs Middle School to accommodate the growing population. Enrollment was composed of 1, 063 students in 1974. Quite a bit of controversy surrounded the location of Westerville Junior High School as the public questioned the need to build a school so far away from town.

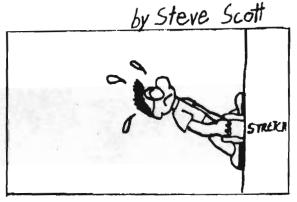
Past principals of Walnut Springs Middle school include: Arthur Wright, Harold Carrick, Joe Borst, Robert Baselack, Ralph Collins, Phillis Magliocca, Greg Sampson. Ralph Collins, Rebbecca Kulman, Mike Kabler, and Greg Sampson all worked as teachers at Walnut Springs Middle School prior to becoming administrators. Ray Bertelsen served as both the first assistant principal and guidance counselor of Westerville Junior High School. It cost the district \$11.50 a square foot to completely furnish the school. This included all furniture, lab materials, etc!

Bay Prints

Adventures in bill













Currently, Walnut Springs Middle School maintains creativity in student curriculum planning. Among the many projects that have lasted the test of time, Walnut Springs Middle School Fishing Club and Guide Dog Training Program still School Fishing Club and Guide Dog Matthew Lutz is maintain their popularity at the school. Matthew Lutz is currently the principal of Walnut Springs Middle School.

NOW



Westerville Central High School



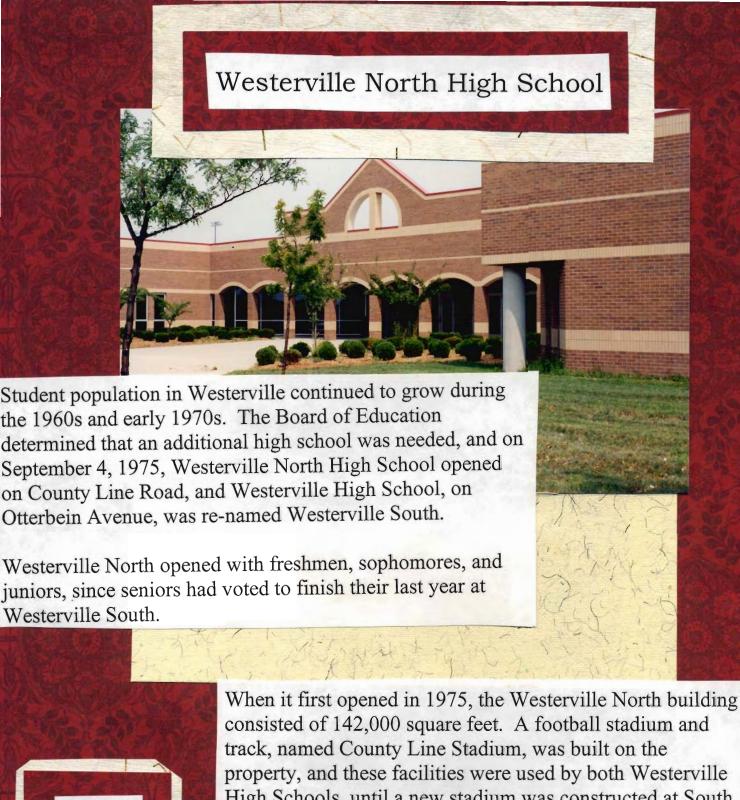
It is our goal for each student to grow academically, socially and emotionally every day at all three of our high schools. Our expectation is to provide academic excellence in a collaborative and supportive school climate

The opening of Central High school in 2003 marked a major milestone in the community. At the cost of approximately \$36 million dollars, the building encompasses 320,680 square feet. Exceptional design, large open spaces characterize this uniquely designed educational facility. The mascot is the War hawk and the school colors are silver and black.



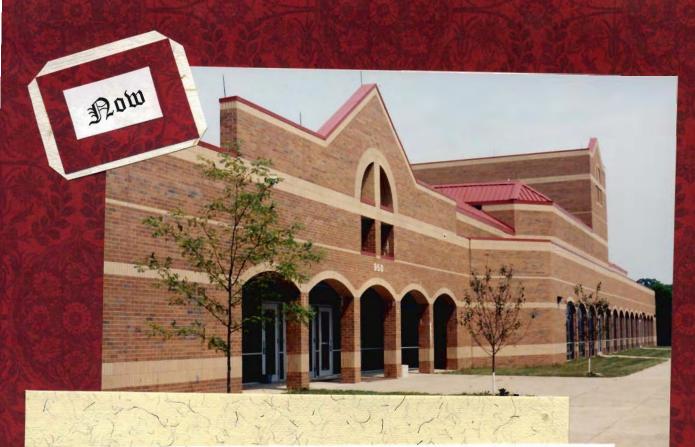
Central, opened its doors to approximately 800 freshman and sophomores on September 2, 2003. The school has been recognized for its design by the American School and University magazine. Specifically recognized by the magazine was the school's main "Central Avenue" dining room and social area, which captures some of the detailing you might find uptown and added streetlights illuminate this effect.

During the first year at Central, Hanby Arts Magnet School was housed in an empty wing of the building while Hanby was being renovated.



Then

property, and these facilities were used by both Westerville High Schools, until a new stadium was constructed at South in 1981. An ever-increasing student population at Westerville North called for the use of portable classrooms – first located on the east side of the building and then on the north-west side of the building in the early to mid 1980s.



Westerville North has had a rich history of excellence in athletics and other extra curricular activities. The school has produced state team championships in girls' soccer (1990 and 1992), boys' soccer (1995 and 2003), boys basketball (1994), and boys track (1998). Fifteen individual championships have been achieved in boys' swimming, boys' tennis, cross country, and track.

Students have excelled in the classroom, winning awards in all academic areas; and students have been awarded millions of dollars in scholarships such as Joyce Scholarships, National Merit Scholarships, and many others as they have attended colleges throughout the United States. Athletic achievements are highlighted in the Commons and the Alumni Hall of Fame (in the hallway outside the Media Center) showcases the accomplishments of graduates.

Lee Whitaker served as the first principal of Westerville North. He was succeeded by Jim McCann (1989-2003), and Curt Jackowski (2003 to present). These principals have joined hundreds of outstanding staff members in creating a school with a rich heritage and a lasting legacy.

WESTERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

The current Westerville South High School has had three names. When the building on Otterbein Avenue was first constructed in 1960 – to replace what is now Hanby Elementary School – it was named James Russell Lowell High School, in keeping with the tradition of naming schools after American authors.

After the name was announced, citizens petitioned the Board of Education and -by a 3-2 vote - the Board changed the name to Westerville High School. The opening of the new high school was indicative of the growth of Westerville, which was proclaimed a city in 1961. However, the school district had always encompassed more area than the city itself. The school became Westerville South in 1975-76 with the opening of Westerville North.

As Westerville High School opened on Sept. 12, 1960, several parts of building were unfinished - including the gym, cafeteria, and other areas. The building also contained the offices of the school district, including the Superintendent, Treasurer, and other district personnel when it first opened. An auditorium was added in 1968. Before getting its own auditorium, the school performed plays and held other events at Cowan Hall on the Otterbein College Campus and even on the small stages in the Cafeteria and the drama room - the current first floor computer lab. With the construction of an Administration Building in 1975, the areas formerly used as District offices were converted to offices for building use - such as administration, counselors, nurse, etc. Before the opening of Westerville North, South had experienced a tremendous growth in student population

experienced a tremendous growth in student population since it was first opened. By 1975, well over 2000 students were enrolled, and the school operated three different shifts to accommodate all the students.



In 1981, athletic facilities were upgraded with the construction of a new football stadium, replacing the facilities that had been built by the Works Projects Administration (WPA), and subsequently a field house was constructed. Before the new stadium was built, athletic events were held at Otterbein and at the Westerville North stadium - referred to as County Line Stadium. Major additions to the building occurred in 1988 including an auxiliary gym, a new media center, music wing, science laboratories, expanded cafeteria/commons, new administration and counseling offices, and additional general classrooms. In 2002, renovations and improvements were made to the building's heating and air conditioning system. Improvements to facilities are still going on in 2006 with replacement of bleachers in the gym (completed in 2005) and new auditorium seating.

As Westerville High School and Westerville South, the school has had a rich history of excellence in athletics and other extra curricular activities. Students have excelled in athletic arenas and in the classroom, winning championships and scholarships. State championships have been achieved in boys' and girls' soccer and individual state championships in diving, tennis, track, and wrestling. The football and softball teams have been state runners-up, and the volleyball team has been in the Final Four.

Students have excelled in the classroom, winning awards in all academic areas; and students have been awarded millions of dollars in scholarships such as Joyce Scholarships, National Merit Scholarships, and many others as they have attended colleges throughout the United States. Academic rigor was increased in 2005 with the addition of the International Baccalaureate Program. Athletic achievements are showcased in the Athletic Hall of Fame located in the Commons. The Alumni Hall of Fame (in Commons) and the Hall of Excellence (front lobby) feature the accomplishments of graduates and students.



WESTERVILLE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



The six principals who have served Westerville High 1961-66, John Mowder (1961-66), John Mowder (1973-78), Louis Heilman (1985-1995), have Dana Aukerman (1966-73), Louis Heilman (1985-1995), have Dana Aukerman (1966-73), Louis Heilman (1985-1995), have Naller (1985-1985), James Dalrymple (1985-1995), have Naller (1978-1985), and Keith Bell (2004-Present) creating Miller (1995-2004), and Keith Bell (2004-Present) creating Naller (1995-2004), and Keith Bell (2004-Present) creating staff members in creating legacy. Rose (1995-2004), and keith gas and a lasting legacy is given by the served Westerville High (1961-66), and Mowder (1973-78), John Mowder (1973-78), John Mowder (1973-78), John Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High (1961-66), and Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High (1961-66), John Mowder (1973-78), John Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1961-66), John Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served Westerville High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served High Mowder (1985-1995), have should be supported by the served By supported by the served High Mowder (1985-1995), hav

