

# Hillcrest Hosting Summit County's Gifted Program

For two years, Hillcrest hosted a special class made up of Summit County's gifted 5th graders. The state board of education provided \$10,800 in funding with the Summit County Board of Educating putting in \$1,500. 21 Fifth grade students with IQs between 140-163 were chosen from the 13 Summit County Schools, including Revere's Gary Durant and Andrew Zakrajsek. Mrs. Karen Klomp was chosen as the teacher. The program lasted for two years and then funding was not renewed.

Akron Beacon Journal—4/13/1962

AT BATH'S HILLCREST

## Summit's Gifted Child Class Opens In Fall

### Special Teacher Is Sought

By DON KIRKMAN

A special class for children with exceptional IQs will swing into operation next fall in Bath's Hillcrest Elementary School, Summit County Schools Supt. Carl Coffeen announced today.

Children for the class will be drawn from all 13 County school districts on the basis of talent. Individual programs will be worked out, Coffeen said, attempting to challenge each child.

**THE BASICS** will be taught but tough courses will be added in each child's major interest—music, the sciences, mathematics and languages. A special teacher now is being sought for the class. Salary, equipment and teaching materials will be financed by a \$10,800 grant from the State Board of Education while the County Board will add \$1,500 for furniture and supplies.

**AS NOW** anticipated, 20 to 25 children will be accepted. Preliminary screening now is going on, Coffeen said. Thus far, two children have been found with IQs of 163 and 143. Transportation to the school will be the responsibility of the individual boards qualifying children. Hope is, Coffeen said, to work out schedules to pick up children from more than one district in one bus. The class will meet daily in Hillcrest. Approval for setting aside the room was given Thursday night by Bath-Richfield Board of Education.

Akron Beacon Journal—8/3/1962

## Gifted Child Class Plans Orientation

Summit County's first countywide class for gifted children will have an orientation meeting Aug. 29.

Twenty-three fifth graders and their parents will attend the session at 7:15 p. m. at Bath-Richfield's Hillcrest School, site for the two-year experimental program.

**THE CLASS**, designated as Summit County Special Project Class, will start in September.

County Board of Education members have been invited to

sit in on the introductory session this month.

Three other pre-school programs are scheduled. Summit superintendents will have a breakfast conference Aug. 17 at the Falls-Akron Motel. High school principals will break fast together Aug. 22 and elementary principals Aug. 23 at Howard Johnson's Restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls.

Akron Beacon Journal—8/30/1962

## Gifted Pupils See What's In Store

By BETTIE LEICHT

Introduction to the Fall school semester came early for 21 Summit County youngsters when they met Wednesday for an orientation session of the new countywide special projects class.

Parents and school representatives joined the fifth graders for a seven school district breakfast conference Aug. 17 at the Falls-Akron Motel. High school principals will break fast together Aug. 22 and elementary principals Aug. 23 at Howard Johnson's Restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls.

The class is designed to offer more than regular subjects to youngsters of advanced ability.

The two-year experimental program was originally called the gifted child class when plans for it were started two years ago.

**ARITHMETIC** and spelling were listed as favorite school subjects by the pupils. Electronics and science ran high on the hobby list.

Most of the youngsters had pets to talk about, too. Sidney Fay was asked if he had any pets. "Sure," the Hudson boy replied. "I've got a hamster, two cats and two guinea pigs."

Children and their parents were introduced by one of the



MICHAEL VON GUNTEN ...cuddle tester

Akron Beacon Journal—10/4/1963

## First County Gifted Class Adjusts Well

By ERNEST SCHONBERGER

Fears that the brightest youngsters in the Summit County school system might suffer socially and emotionally when grouped into special classes have eased.

A report just issued by the Summit County Board of Education on the first year of a two-year research project declares, "Social adjustment was excellent. Emotional adjustment was good."

The project was designed to study a 1962-1963 fifth grade class of youngsters with IQs of 140 or more—with an eye to developing administrative and instructional methods for pupils with high mental potential. Those selected ranged up to 165 IQ.

Twenty-one children were selected from the 33,000 under the Summit County board. Classes were conducted at Hillcrest Elementary School in the Bath-Richfield district by Mrs. Karen Klomp.

**THE SAME** group, as sixth graders, is continuing the program this year. One change—a group guidance and counseling program—has been instituted.

The program was highly diversified. It included the usual academic subjects; reading, math, social studies, English, spelling, handwriting, science and health.

Hillcrest school also provided its regular physical education teacher, Edmund Wolski, for gym classes for the special project and the district elementary French teacher, Robert Monac, last year and Mrs. Davis Clay this year.

Also worked into the program were vocal music, art and opening exercises of 20 to 40 minutes entirely by the children.

**CLASSES** were flexible enough to stick with children that absorbed the children's interest. Reading projects were stressed for their discussion value.

Akron Beacon Journal—6/15/1964

## Experiments Over...Now What?

By FRANCES B. MURPHEY

Of Our Summit County Bureau

How do you tie up loose ends when an experimental class ends its experiment? That's the current assignment in the Summit County school system.

A countywide class for gifted fifth and sixth graders, officially labeled "The Special Project Class," has ended its 2-year run at Bath-Richfield's Hillcrest School.

The 21 boys and girls wrote their own final in a 34-page mimeographed booklet, "Loose Ends," Anne Helwig of Hudson and Andy Zakrajsek of Northfield co-edited the collection of poetry, essays and stories.

A more scholarly and highly analytical publication will be written this Summer.

The Summit County Board of Education has contracted with the State Dept. of Education to prepare a report on "Highly Gifted Children in a County School System."

The state will reimburse the county \$2,000 for this work which eventually will be printed and made available throughout the state.

Mrs. Karen Klomp, who taught the special class; Mrs. Barbara Ling, county schools' elementary supervisor; and Asst. Supt. E. H. Simonson will write the report on off-duty hours.

Their task is to report on the challenge and accomplishments of the advanced

class. What happens to former pupils as they return to regular classes in their hometown junior highs will be another story.

County Board of Education members, who initiated the special project class, questioned the future as they dispersed the equipment they gave space rent-free, will get some classroom sets of texts, maps, globes and furniture.

Projectors, tape recorders and some furniture will go into the county office.

"Is this the death of the

program?" asked member George G. Stein. "Do we go out and buy more equipment some future time?"

County Supt. Ralph Gillman replied no one can predict what will come of the experiment. "We intend to move cautiously as we see what the children do when they go back to junior high."

We will continue to investigate," Gillman cited the rapid growth of youngsters in the two-year program.

The State Dept. of Education underwrote the first year's activities which cost \$10,080, including \$7,500 for teaching. During 1963-64 the state trimmed its budget and the tab was picked up by the county and its 13 participating districts.

### Other Area News Page 52

co-ordinators of the class, E. H. Simonson of the Summit County School Staff.

Mrs. Karen Klomp, class teacher, escorted the boys and girls through the building and their classroom and explained some of the special subjects they would be studying.

**THE PARENTS** were taken on a tour of the building by Hillcrest Principal Gaylord Best and Bath-Richfield Supt. Harold Schweisberger.

Refreshments were served by a FTA committee headed by Mrs. John Joyner, Hillcrest PTA president.

Youngsters tapped for the class after extensive tests are: Bath-Richfield's Gary Durant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Durant; Andrew Zakrajsek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Zakrajsek.

Copley's Candy Galat, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Galat; David Inks, son of Dr. and Mrs. R. J. Godlove; Virginia Moyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Moyer; Billy Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Peterson; Constance Seamon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Seamon; Mike VonGanten, son of Mr. and Mrs. William VonGanten.

**FRANKLIN**—Robert Vattela, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vattela.

Hudson—Mark Andres, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Andres; Hester Barlow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Barlow; Denise Cunningham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Cunningham; Sidney Fay, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Fay.

Elizabeth Good, daughter of Mrs. Martha Good; Anne Helwig, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Helwig; Margaret Poor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Estace Poor; Wendy Weeden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Weeden.

Northfield-Macedonia — Ruth Hill, daughter of Mr.

SHARING a moment of laughter during refreshment time at Summit County Special Projects Class orientation Wednesday were Christine Von Gunten (left), 3188 Montrose av., Copley, and her neighbor, Virginia Moyer, 3418 Montrose av. Christine's brother, Michael, and Virginia are members of the new class to be held at Bath-Richfield Hillcrest School.



PUNCH was served by Hillcrest PTA after introductions and tours. Mrs. John Sega and her son, Ronald, 9, 8880 Brandwynne rd., Northfield, sip a cup.

**Beach Meeting** SAWYERWOOD — Sawyer sell for cash through Beacon wood Beach Association will Journal Want Ads. To get cash meet at 7 p. m. Friday in the quickly, phone your Want Ad to Miss Dodge, 233-1111.