



History of Allen School

John Allen Elementary School, commonly known as Allen, houses Preschool, Young Fives, and Kindergarten through fifth grade in the Ann Arbor Public School District. Opened in 1961, it was named for John Allen, one of the founders of Ann Arbor. John Allen was known as a man of action who “dreamed of open spaces and fresh opportunities.” The school is located in the Southeast quadrant of Ann Arbor adjacent to Buhr Park. It was built on the property that was formerly part of the Ticknor farm. The school mascot is the eagle and the school colors are red and white.

Allen started as ten classrooms and was expanded in 1963 with a new wing to total eighteen classrooms. Another addition was completed in 1991 which added four more classrooms, the Great Room, and a new art room. This is also when an elevator was added to make the building more handicap accessible. In 2005, the school received renovations of updated classroom sinks, some improved classroom storage, flooring, and the addition of the preschool wing. After a flooding event in August 2016, the school received new flooring and paint throughout the building, renovated office and library space, and new furniture. New lighting, ceiling and the addition of air conditioning came during the summer of 2017.

