

Rowell Elementary School

Rowell Elementary School is named for one of the very prominent pioneer citizens of Fresno, Dr. Chester Rowell. He was one of the first practicing physicians in Fresno. He established a daily newspaper in Fresno and built business structures at the southeast corner of Tulare and "K" Streets. His home occupied the corner where the present Rowell Building now stands.

Rowell was an early day Fresno Mayor, and served for a time as a Regent of the University of California. His family had been an important part of the civic, professional, and business life of Fresno. A statue of Dr. Rowell is located at the northeast corner of Van Ness and Tulare Streets in Courthouse Park. Fresno has had few citizens more concerned for the welfare of this city.

The Rowell School first appears in the Fresno Schools directory during the year 1921-22. The site was purchased in 1915 and the first unit of the original building was built in 1919-20, which was a one-story brick structure. The school was built to meet the need for elementary school housing in the eastern area of Fresno when that area was expanding.

Rowell Elementary School is located at 3460 East McKenzie. It serves children grades K-6.

Rowell building photos of two-story building prior to demolition (1961).

