The Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools

Celebrating 50 Years of Educational Progress

The Board of Public Instruction
Pinellas County Public Schools
Clearwater - St. Petersburg, Florida
A COMMEMORATIVE MESSAGE . . .
AND DEDICATION

PINELLAS COUNTY
BOARD OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND ALL OTHER CITIZENS OF PINELLAS COUNTY:

The customary Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction is expanded this milestone year, 1962, to serve as a Golden Anniversary Report of educational growth since Pinellas became legally a separate county on January 1, 1912.

The people of Pinellas have cause to be proud of the progress made during the past fifty years, not only in education but in many phases of social, civic, economic, and cultural development. We share in that pride, but at the same time we give great credit to the pioneers who came before us and led the way. In the perspective of history, early efforts at progress often appear feeble or crude, yet we realize full well that the present must always build upon the aspirations, decisions, and pioneering efforts.

In this half-century report we have attempted to portray the contrasts between "Then" and "Now". Some of these contrasts arouse memories and nostalgia; others are profoundly interesting, and a few are quite humorous. But there is no intention whatever to belittle the work of our predecessors, as they deserve much more praise than we do, for the foundations they laid were fundamental.

Not only do we know that our forerunners blazed worthy trails, but we also realize that our present accomplishments, great though they may seem today, will appear puny fifty years from now when another Superintendent will record the Centennial Report of Pinellas education and compare 1962 with 1922.

As we present this Semi-Centennial Report to the people of Pinellas County, I think it is appropriate to pay respectful homage to all of the teachers, school administrators, board members, trustees, and public-spirited patrons of the past fifty years who gave generously of themselves and their resources to upgrade the effectiveness of our school and to improve educational opportunities for Pinellas children.

In honor of those many splendid benefactors of 1912-62, the living as well as the departed, this Golden Anniversary commemorative book is hereby solemnly dedicated.

Yours very sincerely,

Floyd T. Christian
Superintendent of Public Instruction
FROM MOUND BUILDERS - - - -

A Brief History of Pinellas County

The first "tourists" to discover Pinellas Peninsula were the Mound Builders. Here they came to live many centuries ago, building a primitive but unique civilization, the remains of which have been found in scores of mounds scattered over the peninsula. One huge mound, on the Stafford estate near Tarpon Springs, was 60 feet wide and yielded a marvelous find of rare artifacts as well as 600 skeletons.

Gradually, however, the Mound Builders were replaced by a culture migrating from the southern hemisphere which spread over Florida and across to the Yucatan peninsula.

First White Settler in 1823

The first white settler on the Pinellas peninsula was Dr. Odet Philipippi, a friend and fleet surgeon of Napoleon. Displaced by war, Dr. Philipippi arrived in his own ship in 1823 at what is now Safety Harbor, where he and his men cleared land and set out 100 acres of various fruits. (The grove and the entire estate were later destroyed, in 1848, by a hurricane.)

The Booth family also settled at Safety Harbor, and after a Booth son married a daughter of Odet Philipippi, the first Pinellas white child was born—Odet "Keeter" Booth. Keeter's son, Roy, became a sheriff of Pinellas County. A great-granddaughter of Dr. Philipippi, Mrs. Ethel Booth Chapman, now teaches at Lakewood School in St. Petersburg, and another descendant, Mrs. Gladys Tucker, taught in Safety Harbor until she retired in 1950.

Other early settlers were Arthur Turner and the Whitehurst family, who settled in the Clearwater area, the McMullers at Coachman, and Henry P. Murphy, who homesteaded 165 acres at the Jungle.

More families arrived

In 1852 the Griner family settled at Seminole. Soon the Bethels were at Big Bayou, Captain Miranda was at Maximo Point, Nat Elles settled at Gulfport, W. M. Cobb bought a place on the Ridge for $1.25 per acre, and the Hammocks made a home in the Lealman region.

After the Civil War a few more families, mostly from Georgia, moved to Pinellas. The only post office was at Clearwater Harbor and received mail only on Fridays. Ox teams and carts supplied transportation; a few settlers had horses. Now and then a covered wagon appeared from the north. Dunedin became a trading post, but it was an all-day trip with a team of oxen from Tarpon or Largo and back. The leisurely life was pleasant, however, and the pioneers enjoyed the natural advantages of sea, land, and climate.

How the Trains Got Here

In 1876 a "tourist" from Detroit, John Williams, arrived, liked what he saw and managed to buy 1,700 acres of wild land on the west side of Tampa Bay. He called it New Williams Village.

Williams persuaded Peter Demons, a Russian exile, to extend his Orange Belt Railroad from Sanford to Tarpon Springs and on down to the village. It took two years to build the line, 1886-88. When the first train, using pine knots for fuel, stopped at about 54th Avenue on the way south, Demons named the area Lealman, because Beasley Lealman lived near the stop.

When the train reached New Williams Village to the resounding cheers of the entire population of 30 souls, Peter Demons was invited, in appreciation, to rename the village. In nostalgic memory of his Russian birthplace, he named it St. Petersburg.

Ways to Make a Living

The varied activities of the Pinellas pioneers before and after 1900 included turpentine distilling, sugar cane growing and syrup making, charcoal "manufacturing," hunting, trapping, fruit and berry canning, fishing, sawmilling, the making of sawgrass baskets and palmetto rugs, shell work, and stock farming of...
Then — Town of St. Petersburg about the time Pinellas became a county.

Hogs and cattle, which were let out "to range."

Poultry farming was not begun to any extent until 1905, when M. C. Mohr developed a flock of 3,000 hens and shipped eggs north. The dairy industry started in 1908 when J. M. Hood started a successful business with ten cows.

W. L. Straub, owner and editor of the St. Petersburg Times, arrived in 1900, when, he reported, roads were little more than cattle paths covered with pine needles and sawdust. The best road was a wagon trail from the Taylor place in Largo to the Hay place near 20th and Lakeview in St. Petersburg.

By this time Florida was organized into counties, and Pinellas peninsula was a part of big Hillsborough.

Pinellas Declares for Independence!

It was no good, being a neglected part of Hillsborough County. The automobile age was beginning, but residents of the western peninsula had no roads suitable for the horseless carriages. Their few cowpaths and sandy wagon-ruts were wheelspinning traps for gasoline buggies.

But the Tampa area was getting surfaced roads, and Pinellans said it wasn't fair. They constituted only 17 per cent of the population but paid 23 per cent of Hillsborough taxes, they said, and what was worse, the county government spent very little money on the peninsula for roads or schools.

Led by W. L. Straub and picturing a situation similar to that of the taxed and mistreated colonists prior to the American Revolution, the people of Pinellas fought for their independence. A bill was introduced in the legislature in 1907 and 1909, to separate Pinellas from Hillsborough, but it was killed. Finally, on May 23, 1911, the "Division Bill" passed, subject to referendum. The referendum won November 14, 1911, 1,397 to 505. Gov. Albert W. Gilchrist then appointed the first Pinellas board of county commissioners and 16 public officials, including Dixie Hollins, the first schools superintendent.

Clearwater Gets Courthouse!

On January 1, 1912, Pinellas County had its official beginning. As three of the commissioners were upcounty men, the two came from St. Petersburg were ouvoted in selecting a county seat. The first courthouse, where the Peace Memorial Church in Clearwater now stands, cost $3,750. The courthouse of 1962 is costing 1,280 times as much — $4,800,000, or more than the entire tax roll in 1912.

The history of Pinellas education is related to the success of many other organizations and enterprises. Resourceful Pinellans have not been content to drowse in their famous sun. They have always achieved. The Mound Builders made remarkable artifacts. Today Pinellas engineers are constructing the world's most sophisticated electronic and inertial guidance systems and other precision instruments for America's missiles.

Education has been and will continue to be a vital factor in the progress of Pinellas. We present on the pages to follow the story of 50 years of education in this unique county.
Mr. Allen was a member of the first Pinellas school board of 1912 and chairman 1915-19. He died in office June 4, 1919.

THE FIRST Board of Public Instruction of Pinellas County met and worked at this table in this cramped office of the first county courthouse (pictured on page 2). This office was used until the new courthouse was built in 1917.

SCHOOL AND COUNTY LEADERS WHEN PINELLAS WAS AN INFANT. (Left to right) Dixie M. Hollins, Superintendent of Schools 1912-20; A. P. Beckett, school board member 1912-16; A. F. Bartlett, school board chairman 1912-14; C. W. Wecking, clerk of county court; Jeff Lowe, county commissioner; and T. J. Northrup, tax assessor.
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1960 E. Druid Road, Clearwater, has been in use since 1958 as headquarters for the School Board, Superintendent, purchasing and accounting departments, administrators and supervisors.

A SYSTEM of over 100 schools requires accounting by most efficient methods. IBM machines do much of the work. Above is a card sorter.

THE BOARD ROOM (located in building shown at top) where School Board meetings are open to the public on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month. Important decisions affecting the entire county are made here.

EDWARD A. TURVILLE has been school board attorney since he was appointed Jan. 2, 1951. There were six previous attorneys.

PRESENT MEMBERS of the Pinellas County Board of Public Instruction are as follows, left to right: (seated) Mrs. Marjorie D. Whitley, Mrs. Mildred Day, Miss Frances Belcher; (standing) William H. Williams, James E. Hendry, Elwyn C. Vevier, and Chairman Charles E. Helman, Jr. From 1912 to July 1, 1946, there were only three members of the Board; then two were added. By referendum of county electors Nov. 5, 1957, two more were added, making a seven-person Board.
# COMPLETE ROSTER

## SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS OF THE EVOLVING PAST

(Board member's home district is abbreviated as follows: TS, Tarpon Springs; CW, Clearwater; SP, St. Petersburg. Each year of service is from January 1 to December 31 unless otherwise listed.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. F. Bartlett</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>1912-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. A. Allen</td>
<td>CW</td>
<td>1912-19¹</td>
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<td>Ashland P. Beckett</td>
<td>TS</td>
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<td>J. C. Blocker</td>
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<td>Dr. Geo. W. Fitch</td>
<td>SP</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ada Fernald (Rees 9/25)</td>
<td>TS</td>
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<td>SP</td>
<td>1925-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. H. Baskin</td>
<td>CW</td>
<td>1927-28²</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geo. B. Merrell</td>
<td>CW</td>
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<td>Mrs. Esther F. Bradley</td>
<td>SP</td>
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<td>Geo. W. Kersey</td>
<td>TS</td>
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<td>Ray D. B. Matthews</td>
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<td>Alfred P. Marshall</td>
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<td>Harry S. Jukes</td>
<td>TS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bradford A. Lawrence, Jr.</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>1933-34</td>
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<td>Granville E. Noblit, Jr.</td>
<td>TS</td>
<td>1933-34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry S. Jukes</td>
<td>TS</td>
<td>1935-36</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. F. Register</td>
<td>CW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geo. P. Hoffman</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>1935-35³</td>
</tr>
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<td>Don Grady</td>
<td>SP</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Pasco Morris</td>
<td>TS</td>
<td>1937-46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chas. H. Teeter</td>
<td>CW</td>
<td>1937-48</td>
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¹—June 4, 1919, died
²—July 1928
³—Appointed Superintendent Nov. 1935
⁴—June 1946
⁵—January, 1959

### THE 1953-54 BOARD

Seated, left to right: Abe Pheil, William H. Williams, Chairman A. Franklin Green, Mrs. Marion Price, and Mrs. Maurine Topliff. Standing are Floyd T. Christian, Superintendent, and Edward A. Turville, Board Attorney. Sad to relate, Mrs. Topliff died in January 1955, only a few days after completing her term; and Abe Pheil died in December 1960.

- S. R. McIntosh SP 1937-42
- W. B. Dowling SP 1943-50
- Sidney B. Miner CW 1946-46
- Weyman Withington SP 1946-48
- Michael Gianesakis TS 1947-50
- B. T. Lang SP 1947-50
- Abram L. Pheil SP 1949-56
- Charles E. Belcher CW 1949-52
- A. Franklin Green SP 1951-57⁴
- Mrs. Maurine Topliff TS 1951-54
- Mrs. Marion R. Price SP 1951-54
- William H. Williams CW 1953-56
- Richard A. Miller SP 1955-56
- Justin J. Albaugh SP 1955-58

### BOARD MEMBERS LIKE TO MIX WITH TEACHERS AND OTHER CITIZENS TO GAIN IDEAS

Here, at the 1951 pre-school picnic, Mrs. Marion Price rules against Chairman A. Franklin Green in favor of Abe Pheil on a close horseshoe toss.

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In a Half Century, Pinellas County Has Had Only

**SIX SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS**

**DIXIE M. HOLLINS, 1912-20**
(Photo shows Mr. Hollins at age of 82 being honored at the dedication of Dixie M. Hollins High School, April 14, 1960.)

**R. S. BLANTON, 1921-28**
(A resident of Plant City in recent years, Mr. Blanton died April 10, 1962. During his "boom-time" administration, schools increased in number from 35 to 60, an investment of over $5 million.)

**CAPT. GEORGE M. LYNCH, 1929-35**
(Following a stroke in the Mirror Lake office, Capt. Lynch died October 19, 1935.)

**DR. GEORGE P. HOFFMAN, 1935-36**
(Appointed to complete Capt. Lynch’s term. Completed doctorate at NYU; was Florida Southern professor, now an investment counselor in Phoenix.)

**GREENE V. FUGUITE, 1937-48**
(After years of faithful devotion to Pinellas schools, Mr. Fuguit died on May 18, 1956.)

**FLOYD T. CHRISTIAN, 1949-1962**
(First board-appointed Superintendent, after three successful elections. Present contract has three more years to run.)
THIS WAS REAL PROGRESS IN 1922. At a Christmas “party” in the SPHS auditorium students presented this Model T Ford to Capt. Geo. M. Lynch, then City Superintendent. He admitted that he'd have to learn to drive. He and the County Superintendents had been visiting schools via the horse and buggy! Driver education had never been heard of; you learned to drive by experimenting — out in a cow pasture.

SUPT. G. V. FUGUITT on the lawn near Oak and Haven with the School Administration office force not long before he completed his term of office at the end of 1948. Front: Susan Bryant, Mary Dewey; back: Mattie Barfield, Unidentified, Nelda Thomas; middle: Marguerite Thurston and Mary Hurst.

THIS OLD PHOTO, taken in 1919, shows the office of the Superintendent as used by Dixie Hollins first, and then by Supts. Blanton, Lynch, and Hoffman, etc. Note the old roll-top desk used for many years.
DIXIE M. HOLLINS was the honored guest and speaker on January 2, 1962, on the Courthouse portico, when Pinellas County's 50th birthday was officially observed. He is the only surviving member of the first set of county officials, whose names are engraved on the permanent plaque unveiled at the ceremony. At Mr. Hollins' right is the 6-year-old girl who did the unveiling, Karen Harn, fifth generation representative of the pioneer Harn family.

MRS. PATRICIA O'KEEFE, secretary to Superintendent Christian, peers from behind 50 years' worth of School Board minutes. Every official decision or act and important discussion of the Board must be taken in shorthand and later transcribed, approved, and accurately placed in these big 600-page books — just one of the secretary's important duties. Lowell Hawkins, research and publications specialist, reviewed all 16 of these historical books in preparation for this Golden Anniversary report.

THESE ARE THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S TOP ADMINISTRATORS. Assembled about Floyd T. Christian (center), Superintendent of Public Instruction, are his five assistant superintendents (left to right): Dr. Albert T. Craig, in charge of general administration; Paul D. Bauder, administrative services; Supt. Christian; Roy E. Kinnick, instruction; James R. Barnes, new construction; and Charles O. Smout, finance.
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST

When Pinellas became a county in 1912, it took over from Hillsborough County the operation of 22 public schools — 18 white and four Negro, the latter being at Tarpon Springs, Dunedin, Clearwater, and St. Petersburg. Of the 22, 11 were one-teacher and five were two-teacher schools.

There were four high schools in the county in 1912 — in Tarpon Springs, Clearwater, Largo, and St. Petersburg — but they were operated as part of the entire public school, with the same principal. High school classes were taught in the same building with the grade school, except in St. Petersburg, where in 1902 a separate building had been provided and then a newer high school in 1911 — but all at the same location at 5th Street and 2nd Avenue North.

Of these 22 schools taken over in 1922, only one building is still operated for school purposes, South Ward School in Clearwater; and of course it has had many repairs and additions.

On the roster of those 22 schools were several names not appearing in today’s directory, such as Pinehurst, Wall Springs, Curlew, Bayview, Keene, and Green Springs. They’ll be explained later in this report, as for example that the name “Green Springs” was simply changed to Safety Harbor.

Forerunners Worthy of Respect

In this Schools of the Past section we shall not only pay homage to those humble institutions which have been abandoned or outgrown since 1912, but we shall take a “flashback” to the earliest pioneer schools of the peninsula in an effort to preserve a memory of them. Crude as these first schools may have been, they were as American in their purposes and ideals as essential to Florida heritage as the colonial schools were to New England.

First Schools of Pinellas

From library books, newspaper files, clippings, resource materials, scrapbooks, and personal interviews the following chronology of the earliest known Pinellas Peninsula schools has been compiled.

1853: The “McMullen Log School,” two miles southeast of Clearwater, built by Capt. James McMullen for his and neighbors’ children.

1860: The “Taylor School” on the Sever place. Dr. Bethel McMullen and Mrs. Sally McMullen Belcher attended there, and Mrs. Belcher related that “it was really hard to study in that school, because it was so much more fun to watch the little bears just outside, playing in the trees!”

1868: “Clearwater Cemetery School” — only school operating in the area after the Civil War.

1874: First Anona School, made from lumber rafted down from Cedar Keys. It was unheated; on cold days, school was held around a bonfire among the trees.

1879: The early Mt. Vernon or Belcher school, made of vertical planks and handmade furniture, was at 12th St. and 45th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg. Elias Belcher donated the land and lumber; neighbors built the school. He named it Mt. Vernon, but people called it Belcher. Enrollment dropped to 10 in 1909, and the school was closed.

1880: The Hammock School was the first in the Lefalman area. It was named for the man whose vacated house was converted to a school by adding split-log benches. Teacher: Miss Mary Marston. Pay: $15 a month, plus board taken in turn at patrons’ homes. Term: three months.

1882: Midway School, east of Largo, near the R. C. McMullen home. It was later moved north to Keene Road and nicknamed Skunk Hill by the pupils.

1884: The Content School, west of Largo on what is now West Bay Drive.

1884: The Sylvan Abbey School, on the site of the Sylvan Abbey Cemetery between Clearwater and Safety Harbor. The name was that of the lovely daughter of the school’s first teacher.

1885: The Wards’ School, started by Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ward at Big Bayou, mainly for their own children but with 11 others joining. A homemade one-room shack, it was St. Petersburg’s very first school.
1886: "Prop College," nickname for the Diston City School in Gulfport. The "prop" referred to the six pine logs which were used to prop up each side of the makeshift structure after a storm. The teacher for a time was Arthur Norwood, born in England in 1860, who came to Pinellas in 1886. He not only taught, but he whitewashed the school and dug a well.

1888: The Little Wooden School near Central Avenue between 9th and 10th Streets, St. Petersburg. Erected by the people, it was directed by trustees of the Congregational Church until the School Board agreed to finance it. Mamie Gilkeson taught its 29 pupils for the first two months, followed by Olive Wickham. It was taught the next three years by Jacob Keagy until enrollment outgrew the school.

1890: Largo School No. 1, a red two-story school built on the site of the present town hall, where pigs learned to invade the cloakroom and devour pupils' lunches.

1891: The three-room "Railroad School" at 8th and Railroad Ave., St. Petersburg. Enrollment was 74 and the term lasted seven months, but because of the distractions of trains, a novelty works, and lumber cars a new location was found.

1892: St. Petersburg School No. 3 at 5th and Central had 100 pupils with Olin King as principal; E. C. McPherson, intermediate grades; Mrs. E. J. Orr, primary. Building was later moved to 1st and Central, changed to the Clarendon Hotel, and was destroyed by fire in 1899.

1892: The Mistletoe School on Diston Ridge, at 52nd St. north of Lake Sheffield was named for the abundance of mistletoe on the myriad oaks. School was held outdoors as much as inside. Teacher Minnie Evers received $25 a month. She boarded with the Sheffields, a pioneer family. (See photo.)

1893: The Graded School, located where the St. Petersburg city hall now stands, was first of a cluster near Mirror Lake. Financed by a $7,000 city bond issue, it had seven classrooms, library, and assembly hall. In 1895 the County Normal was started in it for teachers' summer school. Later it was called the Old St. Petersburg Grammar School. Its huge two-story porch was a memorable feature. (See photo.) On Feb. 22, 1896, began a series of 18 annual Washington's Birthday celebrations promoted largely by E. H. Tomlinson, who provided 250 flags for the big parade which became a tourist attraction and was shown nationwide on motion picture film in 1912. The Board stopped the annual celebration in 1914; it was robbing pupils of study time. In the meantime, the library had developed greatly, a fine orchestra was the town's pride, and a school cadet company was organized. In 1900 the Board established the first St. Petersburg High School — but within the frame walls of the Graded School building. After World War I, enrollments became high and war surplus buildings were moved into the school yard for extra classrooms called "chicken coops."

1894: The Gold Dust School, sometimes called the Arnold school, was on Clearview Avenue, west of 49th St. N. It was a deserted log house on Joe's Creek, behind the Gold Dust Orange Grove. It was opened after Mistletoe School was abandoned. It continued for four years until Lealman No. 1 replaced it.

1898: Lealman School No. 1, a forerunner of Clearview School, was built at 42nd Ave. and 46th St. N. after J. C. Williams donated an acre of land with the

ANONA SCHOOL, built before 1900, with pupils and teacher of 1912. Anona School of 1874 was not this "nice."

LARGO SCHOOL No. 1 of 1890. Recent photo since it was made into apartment house. Pigs ate here; read story.

MISTLETOE SCHOOL of 1892. Teacher (in hat) was Minnie Evers with Arnold, Archer, McCardle, McLoad, Mohr, Nash, Rousseau, and Sheffield children. School is barely discernable through the foliage.

"Schools of the Past" Continued on Next Pages
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST -

WHEN ST. PETE WAS A COMPACT TOWN...

STORY OF ST. PETERSBURG'S DOWNTOWN SCHOOLS, 1893-1948. (A) Washington's Birthday was annual celebration, 1896-1913, as indicated by this heading from a 1906 publication, "Pleasure City of the South." (B) The Graded School, 1893, on present City Hall site. (C) Another view of the big-porched Graded School. (D) Built in 1902, this school was called at different times the St. Petersburg Normal and Industrial School, the Normal and High School, and finally the Central Primary. It was located on the south part of the present County Building site. (E) Another view of the Central Primary taken 14 years later, in 1919. (F) The Central Primary was moved slightly west and remodeled into the present County Health Building. (G) This school, with dome and columns, was at different times the High School, the Grammar School, and then the Junior College. It was built in 1911, blocking 2nd Avenue at 5th St. N. It was torn down in 1948 to make room for the County Building and open up 2nd Ave. (H) St. Petersburg "town" looked like this when "G" was built. A magnifying glass brings out interesting details. (I) Edwin H. Tomlinson, who benefited the schools in many ways. (J) The Domestic Science & Manual Training School with its Cadet Company. (K) The same building as it looks today, behind City Hall. (L) Plaque on J, K, and M. (M) Same building as it looked in 1919 photo in Superintendent's Report. (N) Manual Training Annex on 4th St. S., from 1906 photo, four years after construction. (O) Pinellas Heights School, as pictured in 1919 Report.

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gon. In 1908 the building was sold at auction and a new school was built on the site, Lealman No. 2.

1902: The Domestic Science & Manual Training School, founded and outfitted at a cost of $10,000 by E. H. Tomlinson, still stands today behind the St. Peters-
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST (Cont’d)

burg Municipal Building. It is used as an annex for Sunshine Festival headquarters. (See photos.) On the first floor of the school was the manual training workroom with 27 adjustable work benches, each with a full set of tools; a kerosene engine with shifting and belting to operate a saw, planer, grindstone, jigsaw, and lathe. The second floor was a hall for physical training and cadet drills.

1902: The St. Petersburg Normal and Industrial School was built where the County Building now stands. It was a well-built two-story brick, topped by a windowed tower. (See photo.) It was at different times called St. Petersburg Normal and High School and later was converted to the Central Primary. As a high school, the instructional program was strengthened so that graduates would be admitted to any college. It was the last school of the cluster at 5th St. and 2nd Ave. N. to be discontinued. Finally, after 1947-48, with the faculty down to five including Principal Natalee Sterling, the school was closed. In 1946 the county commissioners bought the building from the School Board and in 1948 moved it a short distance west, where it was remodeled into a substantial part of today’s County Health Building.

1902: Manual Training Annex on 4th St. S. was also built by E. H. Tomlinson. It was large enough for elaborate drill teams and would reportedly accommodate 5,000 persons. A $2,000 pipe organ was installed. The Annex was not school property, but schools were encouraged to utilize it. In 1907 it was converted to a city hall and fire station.

1906: Clearwater Public Schools begin. See “South Ward” in the Present section.

1908: Lealman School No. 2 was built with community labor and $840 borrowed by district trustees. It had two rooms with a removable partition. The front room sported factory made seats and desks; the back room had the old hand-made ones from the other school. (Photo.)

1908: Largo School No. 2 was a two-story, four-room house built by Duncan Dewar when the town outgrew the old red No. 1, but almost at once it was running over and a smaller building was constructed just south of it for the primary. Largo School No. 2 became the Town Hall in 1914 when the brick school was built — and it still is. Some young citizens want a new municipal building, but old timers who remember its history are proud of the hall that was once their place of learning.

1909: Keene School was opened southeast of Clearwater in old Midway building moved from east of Largo. It was lovingly called Skunk Hill by the boys and girls. July 3, 1912, patrons were granted permission by the Board to transport their children to the Clearwater school, and Keene was closed until 1915, when Board ordered it re-opened. May 13, 1919, the Board decided to rebuild Keene from materials on hand or available from other old buildings. March 8, 1926, the Keene district voted consolidation with Clearwater, and on Dec. 21, 1933 the building was sold to Clearwater for $200 in teachers’ scrip, to be moved to the city’s athletic field.

1910: Gulfport School was a four-room block building housing eight grades with two teachers. (See picture.) This school continued until the new school of 1926 was started on the same site. The block building was torn down and removed so that the new rooms could be arranged around the auditorium (built 1923-24) to form a center patio. Note that the school garden was quite a project during World War I. (Photo.)

LEALMAN SCHOOL No. 2 as it looked (top) in 1909 when one year old and (bottom) in 1913. People in bottom group are, left to right (front), Jerald Harris, Joe Nash, Herbert Watley, Everett Sheffield, John Nash, Earl Harris, Haden Sheffield, Melvin Anderson, Ray and Earnest Nash; (middle) Thelma Maxwell, Virgie Anderson, Lottie Hopkins, Lenora Watley, Fay Nash, Loretta Anderson, Mabel Nash, Norma Mohr, Marie Anderson, Gladys Harris, Ethel Sheffield; (back) Goldie Maxwell, Maybell Sheffield, Bessie Maxwell, Berthe Gross, Miss Margaret Richards (teacher), Blanch and Frances Sheffield, Lorrayne Barnes, Edna and Gertrude Lealman.

LARGO SCHOOL No. 2, 1908, has been Largo Town Hall since 1914. It holds nostalgic memories for many.

KEEN SCHOOL, started 1909 by that name, had several locations and monikers before it ended up on Clearwater’s athletic field in exchange for teachers’ scrip.

(Schools of the Past continued on next pages)
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST (Cont’d)

1911: The four-columns-and-dome St. Petersburg High School, later called the new St. Petersburg Grammar School, was delayed five years because of much controversy. In 1906 the city council authorized a $63,000 bond issue including $16,000 for a new high school. The next year the Supreme Court declared the issue illegal. Then the council called for an $80,000 bond election including $25,000 for the high school, but the election was defeated. In 1909 the council called for a $30,000 bond issue for schools, and this election passed, 180-39. A site at the head of 2nd Ave. N. was chosen and the $28,000 contract was let to W. C. Henry, but some citizens opposed the location, as it would close 2nd Avenue. The legislature approved the site, but the Supreme Court declared the bond issue invalid, as schools were a county charge. By this time the building was well started and belonged to the city, which “sold” it to E. P. Harrison, John D. Peabody, and A. F. Bartlett for $10,000 notes from each. These notes were taken up and the school transferred to Pinellas County after the peninsula became divorced from Hillsborough in 1914. The school in the meantime was being used and had a glorious part in the growth of the city and the school system. It was the home of St. Petersburg Junior College from 1927 to 1941, when SPJC moved to its present 5th Avenue campus. On Feb. 5, 1946, the County Commissioners closed a deal with the School Board to buy the domed school and the Central Primary next door south for $75,000, so the property could be converted to a junior courthouse, permitting the primary school to be used until June 30, 1948. Before the present County Building was built, the domed school was torn down, opening up 2nd Avenue, and the Central Primary was moved west and converted to the County Health Building.

1911: Gauseville School, District No. 4, was staffed; it was consolidated into the Tarpon Springs District No. 1, July 2, 1913.

1912: The Harris School of 1912 was a one-room weatherboarded house built with volunteer labor and donations from the community. The newly-created Pinellas School Board provided seats and desks. First teacher, Rosa Kilgore, had 15 pupils. The last teacher, in 1923 before the new six-teacher school was built, was Estelle Chapman.

1912: A new Tarpon Springs Public School was built with seven classrooms 23x20, library, chemical lab, and auditorium for $11,598. (Photo) The Tarpon Springs Primary was added as a separate building in 1915. On Nov. 11, 1919, the old high school building was sold for a $500 mortgage which was sold for $450 cash.

1912: Pass-a-Grille Beach School was first started in a small house on 4th St. and E. Alley, a house now owned by Dr. Bradley Waldron. Teacher was Lownet Glass; she had 17 pupils that first year (see photo). School continued here until the block church was used in 1916-17.

1914: Clearwater Negro Schools. Following a 1912 petition by Clearwater trustees, a new Negro school was built in 1914 by H. M. Jones for $2,545. (Photo) With older buildings, one for vocational training, this plant served until the new Pinellas High School was built in 1954. On March 28, 1956, the frame building was moved to the Lealman Jr. High site for use as a materials center and typewriter repair shop at a cost of $2,085. On April 24, 1957, the other Pinellas High property was sold for $25,651.

GULFPORT SCHOOL of 1910 was 4-room block structure. Photo of 1917 shows pupils' World War I "Victory Garden."

This group of pictures shows how a rural one-room school house which lacked the essential features of a modern school building—fountain, sanitary indoor water-flush toilets, workrooms, left-side lighting, sufficient space for blackboard, etc.—was remodeled into a plant supplied with all these really necessary things.

School improvements of this kind have an immediate effect upon the community. Every windmill installed in a rural schoolyard has led the way for others for rural homes.

The real school is a leader.

HARRIS SCHOOL of 1912 shown in photos taken several years apart to indicate improvements. Above, including text, is reproduced from Superintendent’s Report of 1919.

TARPON SPRINGS SCHOOL of 1912, with Primary School of 1915 showing in background. Photo was taken in 1919. Buildings still stand, but are condemned.

1915: Pinellas Park School of six rooms was built for $4,589. It operated until 1949, when the new elementary school was built. In 1951 the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church offered the Board $21,500 for the entire property.
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST (Cont’d)

1915: Heidelberg Heights School, near Dunedin, was built for $700 by Lovell & Taylor. It operated until the fall of 1925, when it was closed and the pupils transported to Dunedin schools. On Aug. 9, 1914, the Board executed a quit-claim deed to restore the property to the heirs.

1916: Pass-a-Grille School was established in a block church at 105 10th St. where it served as the island’s school until May, 1926.

1916: A new Curlew School, two miles east of Ozona, was built by C. A. Gause for $3,699. The two-story brick school (see photo) was designed by Lester Avery. The old Curlew School, which operated long before Pinellas County existed, was sold for $75, to be removed from the site. When electric lights were finally installed at Curlew in February, 1931, it was a memorable event. Curlew’s last few years embraced only the first four grades with two teachers, Eloise Thompson and Mrs. Margaret Whitney. After the 1949-50 term, it was closed. On Oct. 28, 1953, the Board exchanged the Curlew property and $862.50 for five lots adjacent to Curtis Elementary.

1917: A new two-classroom, stucco Lealman-Clearview School at Clearview Avenue and 42nd St. in St. Petersburg opened with Minnie Phelps as teacher. With individual seats and blackboards on the walls, the school was the pride of the district. In 1921 when L. A. Pinholster was principal, the enrollment suddenly skyrocketed because of the hurricane; the Seminole bridge had been destroyed and children from the Jungle area could not reach the Seminole School, so they transferred to Lealman. An “assistant teacher,” Gladys Walsingham, was employed in 1922. A temporary three-room addition and three more teachers became necessary in 1925. More overcrowding soon led to the building of Lealman Jr. High, with 7th and 8th graders transferring there. Even though “boom days” were over, the trustees determined to have a better school. In 1931 the stucco school was torn down and the materials auctioned off. The present Clearview Avenue school was the only one in the county constructed during the depressed 30’s until WPA funds helped to build the new Lealman School in 1939 after years of red-tape delay. (See Schools of the Present.)

1922: The Pine City School was first established in a one-room frame structure (see drawing) to school the children of the Pine City Tourist Camp and other residents. This settlement was west of 14th St. between 21st and 38th Avenues north of St. Petersburg. Many tourists with limited funds camped out in this area under the pine trees, using tents, cars, or trucks for shelter. Mrs. Lagerstadt was the first teacher and she had 24 pupils. This Pine City School at 29th Ave. and Union St. became the Church of God in 1925 when the present Norwood School was built. However, the Norwood School was called Pine City until 1927.

1926: Lincoln Heights School had its tangible beginning this year with the construction of the three-room building pictured. Mrs. Hannah H. Thomas was first principal. In 1948 the school was consolidated with Williams School in Clearwater.

1926: Palm Harbor School, an excellent two-story, eight-classroom building with library, clinic, and 400-seat auditorium, began operating for Grades 5-9. A community center, it was a great personal loss to the people when the school was destroyed by fire on Memorial Day, May 30, 1948. The present school succeeded it in 1950. In the interim, school was held in a church, in school buses, and a frame building moved from Tarpon Springs in 1949.

1915: Pinellas Park School, 6 Rooms, costing $4589.

1915: Tarpon Springs Primary addition, as photographed in 1919 School Report; also the 4-room block school at Pass-a-Grille, forerunner of today’s Sunshine School.
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST (Cont'd)

1927: Lealman Avenue School began with three classrooms and 75 pupils. Mrs. Gladys Walsingham was the first principal. In 1935 this school also was destroyed by fire, and it was four years before federal aid could be procured and a new school finished.

CURLEW SCHOOL built in 1916, costing $3,699.

PINE CITY SCHOOL, 1922, was forerunner of Norwood Elementary. Pine City, the community, was a tent city under the pines.

LEALMAN-CLEARVIEW SCHOOL of 1917, though with only two classrooms, was so well planned it merited a floor plan printed in the 1919 School Report, as reproduced above. Group photo was taken in front of the same school in 1926, with Principal L. A. Pinholster at left of students and teachers Gladys Walsingham, Janet Terwilliger, Blanche Zinser, Sara Shaw, and Ethel Robinson.

LINCOLN HEIGHTS forerunner is shown at right as it looked in Safety Harbor in 1935. Left, it is a part of the old warehouse facility on Lakeview Avenue recently sold by the Board.

WILLIAMS SCHOOL began in the Helping Hand lodge hall shown at left. Right: Mrs. Arabella Faust, first principal.

1936: Williams Elementary School began when overflow children from Curtis Elementary, Clearwater, were housed in the Saint John's Helping Hand Society lodge hall (see photo). This group was not declared a separate school, however, until 1937 when the Board leased the lodge hall rooms for $25 per month, appointed Mrs. Arabella Faust principal, and accepted the name of Williams Elementary. The present building was constructed in 1947.

TAMPASHORES SCHOOL, Oldsmar, was closed in 1944.
SCHOOLS OF THE PAST
(Conclusion of Flashback)

1947: WALL SPRINGS SCHOOL (shown above) was sold, after an on-and-off existence, to two veterans for $1,200. After living in it for a while, it was made into a tavern — the only school we know of where patrons order beer!

1948: PINEHURST SCHOOL, south of the Belleair limits at Pinehurst and Lentz Road, was closed after 76 years of intermittent operation. In 1949 the property was sold to Marianna Vogner for $4,000. Now, in 1962, the 90-year-old building is for sale by G. F. Leaver to make room for residential property. Inset photos were taken in 1918.

THE 1927 Lealman Avenue School, visible behind this group of unsuspecting children, teachers, and parents who have just enjoyed their 1932 Easter party, was burned to the ground on the night of November 18, 1935.

THE 1926 Palm Harbor School, built in 1926, was totally destroyed when it burned on the night of Memorial Day, May 30, 1948.

F-I-R-E ENDED THESE SCHOOLS

Fortunately, all Pinellas school fires of record occurred at night or during holidays, when children were away from school. Three schools totally destroyed by fire are pictured on this page.

Most recent fires were April 8, 1961, when 12 classrooms were damaged at Geo. W. Perkins School by a smouldering week-end blaze, and October 25, 1961, when a vandal’s fire did some damage at Gibbs High School.

The Old Dunedin Elementary School, shown here when temporary wooden structures were used for the extra enrollments, was sold in 1955 to the City of Dunedin for $20,000 (including site). In recent years, the city has permitted it to continue as a school—for adult education classes. Weaving classes are conducted on the dozens of looms located upstairs; arts and crafts are taught downstairs. Exhibits are held here regularly.

THIS GIBBS HIGH SCHOOL FOUR-CLASSROOM BUILDING, constructed as a temporary overflow facility for $3,545 in 1937 but used for classes for 15 years, was destroyed by fire on Halloween Night, October 31, 1952. Firemen saved the main buildings.
Administrative Services Grew as Needs Developed

For 14 years the schools had no administrative services except for local janitor work, and that was under the principal's control; he was given a minimum allowance to provide it. Then in 1925 the Board investigated warehouse economies and in 1926 set up a county warehouse, hiring C. W. Talbot as superintendent of maintenance. Supplies were stocked; orders filled by truck.

Gradually the services for the schools have developed to fill needs and effect economies. Today, under Asst. Supt. Paul D. Bauder, this division is in charge of the school lunch program, the school bus operations, supply stores and warehousing, custodial and maintenance work for all schools, site improvement and grounds keeping, repairs, renovations, and interschool mail service.

Providing all these services to 100 schools is an operation second only to that of teaching 69,000 students. This division is on a strict budget and more than earns its way. It saves the taxpayers thousands of dollars a month through efficient management and large-scale purchasing.

Employees are encouraged to make careers of their jobs by workshop training schools and by job classification schedules offering definite pay increases after specified years of service. They are on Social Security, workman's compensation, and have sick leave benefits.

(A) CUSTODIANS, like Bill Fruehwirth of Lealman Jr. High, not only have the county's biggest housekeeping job; they also trim hedges and care for grounds. (B) Interschool mail service for more than 100 schools is performed by this truck, on schedule five days a week. (C) Most school furniture is purchased from factories, but schools' cabinet shops can make custom pieces, such as service line for a new cafeteria. (D) This was schools' warehouse (on Lakeview Ave. in Clearwater) for many years; it was sold in 1961 for $77,500. (E-F) Two views of small part of High Point Service Center, headquarters for all Administrative Services since moving from (D).
From Vendors' "Junk" to Soup Kitchens to Balanced Meals

Lunch Program Developed to Help Children Learn

Today's school lunches of a balanced meal prepared and served in a healthful environment for 30c to 35c were a slow development in most schools. The pioneer school was Glenoak in St. Petersburg, where Principal Ethel Bachman realized that under-nourished or hungry children cannot learn very well. She began mid-morning "milk parties" at Glenoak in 1917; in 1919, with the help of parents, she added soup to the menu. The Glenoak screened-in soup kitchen, pictured below (B), was a great step forward. In January 1920, students at the new SPHS (now Mirror Lake Jr.) were offered a variety of 5c food items — buffet style, as tables were late in arriving.

Glenoak added hot sandwiches to the menu of milk and soup in 1920-21, and when the Federation of Women's Clubs noted that most county schools were not following Glenoak's lead but allowing candy and soft drinks to be sold to children for profit, it marched to the Board and secured adoption of a resolution putting lunches under the supervision of the demonstration agent or the domestic science teachers.

In 1923 the Times commended the Glenoak mothers' cafeteria, which by now had added "large helpings of vegetables, whole wheat sandwiches, salads at 5c a portion... under direction of Dr. Wyman, city food inspector... . 150 to 175 pupils eat lunch every day."

Soon other schools began to follow suit: the new SPHS on 5th Avenue; Roser Park; Norwood; Diaston; Lellman Jr.; Belleair, etc. Sept. 14, 1937, oil stoves were purchased for cafeterias in Gulfport, Pasadena, and Forest Hills schools, and an ice box for Childs Park! In 1939 the WPA gardens raised vegetables for the lunch program. In 1942 the Board required cafeteria workers to have health exams, and in 1947 all "concessions" were closed. An "adequate lunch" policy was adopted, and supervised by Mrs. Elizabeth Yearwood the program steadily improved. Today's lunches set a new high standard.

(A) CONCESSION stands, operated by outsiders, were permitted in some schools until 1947, such as this stand at South Side Jr. High. Though sandwiches were offered, most children spent their change for candy, peanuts, and soft drinks, a poor diet for scholars. (B) Glenoak School led the march toward today's lunch program with this first good step — a soup kitchen operated by loving parents, circa 1919. (C) These unsanitary, unhappy lunch periods in the classroom were unavoidable until cafeterias were built.

(A) Kitchens and cooks are immaculate in most of today's schools. (B) Corner of lunchroom at Madeira Beach Jr. High. (C) Reverence and gratitude for life's blessings are observed by Pinellas students. (D) This 1946 photo of the North Ward lunchroom shows the program is gaining momentum. Note happy faces compared to glum looks in photo C at left. (E) Chief cook and bottle washer, otherwise known as Talford M. Gainey, supervisor of school lunch program. (F) Serving line at Clearview Elementary showing abundance of wholesome food prepared to help children's learning opportunities.
THEN - Lumbering to School was an Adventure!

Fifty years ago when districts were large and few roads could accommodate the new horseless carriages, most children walked to school, actually enjoying a three or four mile jaunt on shortcut paths through pine woods or palmetto thickets. They were alert to the dangers of rattlesnakes and plenty of other wild animals, but by walking in groups they had enough courage to attack or retreat when necessary. Pioneers recalling such walks say they were good exercise as well as daily adventures keeping them in close touch with nature.

When the weather was bad, or for those who lived much too far away for walking, quite a few youngsters were given a horse to ride. In woods near schools could be seen horses tethered to saplings.

Often the children of several families in a remote community were transported by buggy, surrey, buckboard or wagon on a co-op plan like today's car pools. Bicycles were used in town or village areas where they had sidewalks or hard-packed roads.

High school students living in outlying districts received the first "free" transportation. This was a reimbursement plan or one-half cost arrangement, the family determining the mode. Many St. Pete students used the electric trolley cars.

Following are a few Board decisions affecting pupil transportation:

7-3-12: Board honors bill for $440 for pupils' trolley fares.

WHEN Pinellas was young, most children walked to school. Some, however, lived five miles or more from school, and Dad took them in the buckboard or buggy, as in (A) left, a lonely drive then. (B) Poor roads prevented more than a few Pinellans from buying these 1910 International Harvester. (C) The St. Petersburg Gulf Railroad Trolley did a prosperous business prior to the automobile age. Students from Gulfport, the beaches, and upper Tampa Bay areas rode the trolley to SPHS; the Board reimbursed them. Pictured is a Sunday picnic with trolley standing by.

FORERUNNER of today's school buses was this double-T operated in St. Petersburg in 1920 by the Evans line. The School Board owned no buses but would make a contract with a "jitney bus" owner to carry high school students from outlying districts. Fares were low to match the speed; "jitney" usually meant 5c.
NOW - They're convoyed to School like V.I.P.

9-19-13: Board agrees to pay half the cost of transporting students who live more than three miles from high school.

11-5-13: Rate of 3c per mile is fixed for pupil transportation.

9-1-14: Board agrees to pay $10 a month for cost of a wagon to be run by C. E. Thomas, Largo district to pay $10 and “patrons of the wagon” a third $10.

1-8-18: Board agrees to pay $100 month to J. H. Penddairvis for operating his coach from Bayview and Green Springs to Largo and Clearwater schools.

1-14-19: Board agrees to pay “jitney bus contractors” one-half the daily allowance for the days schools were closed because of Spanish Influenza.

9-14-20: Board hires Henry Logan @ $150 per month to operate an Ozona-Curlew-Tarpont Springs bus of his own; Albert Stigler @ $100 for a Dunedin-Clearwater bus; William Tyler @ $100, Seminole and Largo; Homer Mohr @ $75, Lealman-Harris-St. Petersburg.

Fall, 1922: Lealman District operates first county-owned school bus, Ford Wom Drive, driven by Mrs. Norma Mohr Trowell, setting a precedent for women drivers.

8-5-23: Board buys its first “fleet” of buses — five Internationals for $11,240.

9-11-23: Douglas Wilcox appointed Anona bus driver @ $20 month and Miss Eva Woodruff appointed chaperon of Anona bus. The speed limit of 1.5 mph may be increased to not more than 18 miles if bus is behind schedule.

7-15-24: Bus drivers are required to post $500 bond.

10-5-26: First gasoline pumps installed at warehouse.

3-4-30: School bus garage 30’ x 60’ to be erected near Lealman Jr., High, using materials from the old Harris School. Cost: $407.

3-6-33: Several school buses discontinued because of financial crisis.

8-17-33: Board offers eight school buses for sale to highest bidders.

1-4-34: All bus drivers are required to have physical examination.

3-23-37: Board authorizes purchase of five new White buses.

9-2-38: Set of instructions to bus pupils is issued.

3-22-39: St. Petersburg Garden Club protests a plan to build bus stop shelters carrying advertising.

1-27-42: Tire rationing prohibits the use of school buses for any excursions.

7-13-43: Eighteen regular and three extra buses are insured.

9-13-44: Bus drivers’ salaries are increased five per cent.

8-28-46: Negro students in grades 10-12 in up-county areas are transported to Pinellas High School.

1-23-57: Paul Bauder reports that school buses are operating at 23.2c per mile or $13.93 per pupil annually.

1-10-59: Green lights to be removed from bus traffic control signals.

1-2-61: Very suitable but inexpensive bus service center put into operation at High Point.

Yes, they’re convoyed to school like V.I.P.—because that’s what they are: Very Important People. More than 100 buses are required to transport the thousands of Pinellas students who live two miles or more from school. (A) This bus has just unloaded students at Clearwater High, and driver must yet pick up a load for Oak Grove. Earlier, this bus hauled elementary children. Varying school starting times are necessary to allow each bus to service different schools. (B) Now it’s time for home delivery. This bus has delivered primary children at 1:45, upper elementary at 3:00, high school at 3:45, and now this junior high after 4:00. (C) Main bus sheds are here, at High Point Service Center.

“LOOK, MOM, NO WHEELS!” The school bus of tomorrow will draw energy from a cushion of air, be powered by motors that draw energy from natural radiation in the air, and protected from collisions by down-the-road radar. This is the plan of the Wayne Bus Division, according to “Safety Education” for February, 1962. This bus MAY be ready for your great-grandchildren, although each feature has already been invented, such as autopilot, ultra-violet air purification, radio control of stop lights ahead, and solar heat.
Special education for those children who are handicapped in some way has always been needed — more desperately needed, perhaps, than that for children who fit the standard mold. But special education was pathetically slow in developing. For centuries, parents hid their handicapped. Little or nothing was done for them.

At last a new concept developed — very recently. Now people realize that these children can live happy, useful lives — if helped. This concept not only benefits the child and his family — it benefits society as a whole.

In Pinellas County the first step in this direction was the employment of two part-time teachers, Louise Overturf and Marian Mahan, on Dec. 16, 1930, to instruct in the Crippled Children’s Home. On Nov. 6, 1935, Mrs. Nellie Patterson was hired to do “opportunity” or “adjustment” teaching at South Side Junior High.

The county’s first speech correctionist, Mrs. Elaine Clemmons, was employed July 13, 1943, and a second one was hired the next year — Mrs. Grace Randall.

On July 25, 1947, the Board authorized a school for spastic cases, with a teacher and a physio-therapist, provided the need, space, and personnel could be found. Oct. 8, 1947, Mrs. Eunice Love Hiatt was hired to make a complete survey of handicapped children in Pinellas County. She submitted her report the following January 14, indicating discovery of 43 physically handicapped, plus 13 with speech, vision, or hearing defects, two epileptics, and 29 mentally retarded. She recommended home-bound teaching for 36 children.

AT NINA HARRIS SCHOOL, where many of the county’s physically handicapped children are trained in various ways, much equipment is available for the therapy of those with disabilities that can be remedied. This boy is using the weight pulleys to strengthen impaired muscles.

with Mrs. Marjorie Wolcott teaching 13 — with five on the waiting list. The Pinellas Association for Retarded Children, just one year old then, had effectively pointed out the needs of these children.

The Association, the Kiwanis Club, the Builders and Contractors Association, and many other citizens jointly offered to erect a school for retarded children if the Board would provide a site and operate it. Result: the Parkland School, completed in 1957. Today it serves 95 retarded boys and girls (See Schools of the Present).

The Nina Harris School was built and opened in 1956 with seven teachers, one physical therapist, and 83 pupils. The program there has expanded in scope and enrollment until now it includes the nearby Lakeview facility and has an enrollment of 325.

The Ruperti School in Clearwater originally cared for physically handicapped children, but those are now transported from up-county to Nina Harris School. Ruperti now serves 18 severely retarded children.

Miss Marguerite Morse was supervisor of special education from 1951 until her retirement in 1955. Since then the coordinator of special education has been Paul B. Stephens, Jr., who is not only in charge of the three schools but also coordinates slow-learner and other special classes in various schools, service for 28 legally blind children attending regular schools, the home-bound program, and the work of six speech therapists.

From the small beginning at Hiatt Hall, the program now has grown to include a staff of 68 persons serving well over 1,700 children a year.

HIATT HALL, old three-room house across from Glenoak School, was headquarters for the first organized Special Ed program in the county. It was named for Mrs. Eunice Love Hiatt, head of the first program.

On April 14, 1948, Mrs. Hiatt was put in charge of the exceptional children program. On June 9 the Board accepted an offer to house classes for spastic children in the educational unit of the Mirror Lake Christian Church.

By this time a growing group of intensely interested citizens began to help develop the program. As a result, Hiatt Hall opened in 1949. The first class for severely retarded began in a small room there in September, 1953,
Organized, Coordinated System Was a Logical Development

Educational Services Facilitate Effective Learning

School systems of any size have found it beneficial to the teaching and learning processes to provide such services as pupil guidance, visiting teachers, standardized tests, psychological examinations, research, and corrective instruction where needed. These services either directly help a child to improve his learning or indirectly benefit him by aiding teachers and parents to understand his difficulties.

An individual school, however, would find it impracticable to provide all these services, although the need has always existed.

Ahead of his time was G. V. Fuguit, a Pinellas teacher specializing in educational measurement. In 1923 the Board, in a historic act, assigned him to conduct county-wide standardized tests. In 1925 he was appointed assistant superintendent with two duties: supervision and pupil classification based on tests. Thus G. V. Fuguit, later Superintendent for three terms, was our forerunner of Educational Services.

Another step was a reading clinic set up at West Central School in 1945. In 1947 the schools began officially to cooperate with the Child Guidance Clinics. In 1954 a seven-schools summer reading program was started and a specialized county-wide reading program was also organized for the regular term. Dr. Stella Center was appointed in 1955 to make the reading program effective. It was in 1954 that Dr. Thelma Voorhis reported to the Board on the function of school psychologists. Comprehensive tests were given to all pupils in Grades 5-7 in 1955-56, with Dr. Walter N. Durost analyzing the results.

These services were proving their value, so it was a logical step for them to be organized in 1957 for greater efficiency under Dr. Durost. A central location was also logical; thus the Educational Services building was occupied in January, 1959, with facilities for three psychologists, guidance and research, corrective reading, and group-test evaluation.

Operation of the testing center is mechanized greatly by the use of IBM equipment. The school census is also handled here. Test results are processed so that schools may pinpoint their weaknesses and take steps to strengthen their instruction.

Since Paul W. Fitzgerald was appointed in 1959 to coordinate guidance in the schools, great gains have been made in counseling youths in planning their careers so as to become more useful citizens.

Dr. Durost left the county in 1960 and Dr. Bert L. Sharp became director until Auburn University made him an irresistible offer.

WILSON HOPPER, left, machine scores students' standard tests. Right, sorter puts IBM test results in desired order.

DR. JAMES F. GOLLATTSCHECK, left, was appointed director of Educational Services in 1961. Right, teacher and pupil demonstrating a technique are unaware of class of observers because of one-way glass partition.

EDUCATIONAL Services Building, 1895 Gulf-to-Bay, Clearwater. Inset is of first director, Dr. Walter N. Durost.
Guard Children's Health, Keep Them in School!

A pupil not in school is missing part of his education. The greatest cause of absence is illness — usually physical, sometimes mental or emotional.

From 1912 to 1962, Pinellas school people have striven to keep children in school by helping to keep them healthy and safe from hazards. School nurses working with the County Health Department keep a close watch on each school and check referrals from teachers. Illnesses observed early can be readily remedied and contagion prevented. Schools have clinics where children may be treated or rest until taken home. In some schools, PTA mothers perform great service in clinics and during screening tests.

In 1915 the county held a special election, Oct. 29, which approved compulsory attendance and "truant" officers. First employed was Mrs. Olive M. DeHon (at $25 a month). In 1918 Sara Colton Smith was appointed attendance officer at $30 a month and travel. Next year the Board and Negro Civic League jointly hired an officer for Negro schools. In 1920 Mrs. Ida Dann was made truant officer for the entire county at $45.

Mrs. Dann's report, 1927-28, listed 2,159 cases of four or more days absence in a month, 217 non-entrants investigated, 37 run-aways, eight girls under 15 who married (three returned to school), 178 children illegally employed, and 54 picked up off streets.

July 11, 1929, the State Supreme Court declared attendance officers unconstitutional, and Mrs. Dann was notified. That winter two "visiting teachers" were appointed: Mrs. Elizabeth Gagg, down-county; and Mrs. Ruth Dei, up-county, at $200 each. This was the first step toward a new concept in securing attendance of pupils — reason and understanding instead of coercion. In 1937 Mrs. Alice Boyd was appointed visiting teacher to work with the probation officer and in 1939 the Veteran Jeannies Worker, Henrietta Dominia, was appointed visiting teacher for Negro schools. The Board has gradually strengthened the visiting teacher program since then. In 1962 there are 14 visiting teachers in the county, a ratio of one to 4,150 students. They are actually social workers, linking the home and school (and sometimes other agencies), discovering the true cause of truancy and then trying to remove that cause by ethical means.
Problems of Speed and Traffic Have Multiplied Since 1912

Safety Education is a "MUST" in 1962!

This fast-moving world makes it necessary for the school program to include lessons in safety. In 1912 children had to be taught to beware of the wild animals in the palmetto jungle; now danger lurks in the traffic jungle. The latest unfortunate necessity is a disaster plan for each school to follow in the event of nuclear attack. Do you wonder that youths of 1962 are more apprehensive than those of 1912?

THIS 1912 PATHFINDER, with fancy serpentine horn and cowl lights, wasn't so dangerous to students in early Pinellas; there was just one Pathfinder in the county. But now, taking its place, are the most cars per capita anywhere. Traffic problems since 1912 have multiplied into a hazard that demands safety education.

PINELLAS schools have safety patrols who cooperate with crossing guards to protect pupils about to cross the street. Bottom photo, of 1950, pictures battered marker knocked askew by hit-and-run driver in front of Harris School four days after 32 signs at 12 schools were erected. "It might have been a child," the officer noted. The public is pretty well trained now to slow to 15 mph in a school zone at opening and dismissal times, but one must still be alert for that exceptional case.

EDUCATORS would rather limit instruction to the fundamentals, but an "A" scholar who gets killed hasn't accomplished much. So classes take time now and then (A) to discuss safety problems and traffic rules. Getting students to think for themselves clinches the important points. (B) Law enforcement officers and teachers take time each year to give bicycle riders needed safety instruction. (C) In 1962 few citizens would deny the necessity of driver education in our schools, but they used to. This photo was taken in 1950, when Supt. Christian (center) was delighted at the impetus given the student driver program by the donation of two cars from M. D. Slagle and Milton Kenyon of Thayer Motor Co. Every high school now has such a program. Trained drivers have fewer accidents, get better insurance rates.
The reprints on this page are evidence that Pinellas elementary schools, `til the Florida "bust" slowed things down, had wonderful annual "get-togethers." 'Twas the good old days! The pictures and all printing on this page (except this band you're reading now) and picture at top of opposite page are reproduced from Supt. Dixie Hollins' Report published before his term expired in 1920.

**Schools Were Competitive, Too, 1912 - 1927**

The Annual County Grammar School Meet

The Pinellas county annual grammar school meet is in several respects unique in the State. The contests of this meet run an entire day and are entered by representative teams from all the grammar schools of the county. Last year the number of actual contestants reached approximately three hundred. Hundreds of pupils from the various schools, with their relatives and friends, come from every part of the county and evidence the wide interest the contests have developed.

A teacher in charge of each team is present from each school. Other teachers come in great numbers because of the interest they have in the meet. In the two years of its existence, it has become the great day of the school year and has attracted a great deal of favorable comment.

The annual meet is held at Clearwater, and the school buildings, the court house and other public buildings, and the school athletic grounds of that place are used for the accommodation of the contests.

**The Events**

The contests are of two series. One is academic; the other, athletic. The academic or literary events, as they are called, comprise contests in speed and accuracy in the fundamentals of arithmetic, in comprehension in silent reading, in spelling, in composition, and in declamation. There are four groups of contestants in each of these events—one group representing each of the grammar grades, the fifth, the sixth, the seventh, and the eighth. The literary events take up the entire forenoon. The judges in these contests are selected from the members of the high school faculties.

The afternoon is given to the athletic events. Two groups carry on contemporaneous contests. The boys of the fifth and sixth grades form one group, and the boys of the seventh and eighth grades form the other. This throws contestants of approximately the same age and size together in the competitions.

**The Prizes and Awards**

At the close of the day the Superintendent announces in a mass meeting of contestants and spectators the winners of the events by schools and by individuals. Contestants winning first, second and third places are awarded ribbons. The winners of events are also given prizes donated by various business and public spirited individuals of the county.

The school whose seventh and eighth grades and the school whose fifth and sixth grades win the greatest number of points in the meet are awarded each a grand prize. In the past these grand prizes have been large framed pictures. Silver loving cups are given to the two winning relay teams representing the fifth and sixth and the seventh and eighth grade groups of contestants.
With rigorous games and vigorous calisthenics, today's pupils have opportunities to get and stay in good condition. Strongest competition should be reserved, according to medical advice, for the high school and college set.

The summer program in Pinellas is one of the nation's best and reaches about 40,000. It offers academic subjects to those in need of credit; a reinforcing reading program; a science camp for the gifted; and an enrichment program with wide variety.

**Schools in '62 Stress Physical Fitness and Kids have a Grand Summer Enrichment Program**

**Basketball** is just about the most popular sport in Pinellas, a sports-minded county. Although above team is junior college, the team of the year is Dixie Hollins High, which has just won its second consecutive State Championship.

**Summer Enrichment** program includes swimming lessons at pools and beaches, as well as games, dancing, music, story-telling, arts and crafts, science, and educational trips.

**Now** — Junior high schools hold track meets each spring. Various events test strength and endurance, providing incentives for clean living.
Teaching Devices and Materials Are Improving and Multiplying

Technological Age is Bolstering Instruction

THEN AND NOW

Two high school libraries of 1919 are pictured at top; photos are reproduced from that year’s Superintendent’s Report. Not bad for then, either. (A) The Graphophone, first practical talking machine, using a wax cylinder for the record, was in wide use 50 years ago. Some schools used it—a forerunner to today’s audio-visual devices. (B) The phonocinetograph was an attempt to give sound to early motion pictures by using a phonograph with a projector. Synchronization of sound with action was difficult, but it was a step leading to “talkies.” (C) Disc recordings amplified was a giant step toward today’s audio aids. (D) The early radio, circa 1924, stimulated school boys to study enough science to build their own sets. Many schools used radio to advantage, 1930-50.

(A) LARGO High School library today. (B) Students stations in language laboratory, SPJC. Junior and senior high schools are obtaining labs for foreign language instruction as they can manage the funds. (C) Instructor’s console for controlling communications. (D) The overhead projector is just one of a dozen modern teaching tools used by the instructor to make subject matter interesting and understandable.
ETV Enriches Instruction; TV Also Helps Adults to Extend Horizons

Pinellas Makes Effective Use of Television

WEDU-ETV has not only supplied classrooms of PinCo-Schools (and those of six other counties) with high quality instruction, but it has also become a cultural asset to adult and family viewers during its three years of operation. The studio on the SPJC campus also serves as a laboratory for college students studying TV. Six closed-circuit telecasts are supplied to college classrooms, with additional courses to be furnished.

WEDU began with four live programs daily, Monday through Friday, but now offers about 10 programs a day. The broadcast day has grown from six to 13 hours.

WEDU is non-profit, non-commercial. A direct, state appropriation paid for the studio. Equipment has been supplied by the parent corporation and the Board of Public Instruction. Main transmission station is in Tampa.

CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV within a school offers various possibilities for profitable use. It can, for example, pick up through a microscope a magnified image and transmit it through the coaxial cable to as many rooms and eyes as desired. Above equipment is used at Disston Junior High. Highly professional equipment is used at SPJC, where facilities of WEDU-ETV can be utilized.

AUDITORIUMS, cafeterias, and multi-purpose rooms are used for receiving ETV tele-lessons. Sets are located in various positions for viewing ease. Later, the large class divides into smaller groups for personal instruction, discussion, and questions.

WEDU-ETV STUDIO (top photo) is located on the SPJC campus. It transmits both live and taped telecasts to the sister studio in Tampa via microwave, the tall tower for which is a St. Pete landmark. Middle photo is of Mrs. Aimee Shingler, manager of the local Channel 3 studio since it was built in 1958. Bottom photo shows a scene from the TV show, "School Slate," which is telecast Sundays on WSUNS-TV, Channel 38. At left is Mrs. Marjorie Owens, producer and moderator of the show which explains some phase of the Pinellas schools' program each week; center, N. O. Clark, supervisor of business and distributive education; and Ralph G. Williams, DCT coordinator at Northeast High. Mrs. Owens is also coordinator of Family Life Education for PinCoSchools.
From the year Pinellas County had its birth, 1912, to now, excellence in education has been a tradition. The people of the county have expected it, and they have elected through the years 46 Board members who were sufficiently devoted to that ideal to give it a good part of their lives.

More dedicated Superintendents than the six which Pinellas has had could never be found, and year after year their staffs labored long and hard to keep Pinellas' standards of excellence high.

This tradition shall live on. Pinellans want nothing but the best for their children. That they achieve the best will be the goal of 3,000 selected teachers.

OLD 1922 photo above shows the county schools' annual exhibit held in the City Hall in conjunction with the Washington Day celebration and the Festival of States. As for 50 years, the quality of the work was generally high. Schools vied for a "Certificate of Approval," as superimposed over part of the picture, awarded by the Board to those schools achieving a Standard of Excellence.

WHAT to teach and how best to teach it are bigger problems today than at any time in a half century. Those questions are responsibilities of the two pictured here. Mrs. Ivy C. Hammock, right, has been director of elementary curriculum since 1959. Thomas H. Rothschild has been director of secondary curriculum since January, 1961. Both have previous records of great service to PinCoSchools.

RANDOM SHOTS from our photo files. Top shows a current events exhibit at the Perkins Library, Gibbs High, on April 25, 1951. Other views, more recent, show students striving for excellence in various schools.
As Man’s Fund of Knowledge Grows Vaster Faster

Youth Has More to Learn

The curriculum of Pinellas schools is continually adjusted according to the changing nature of our society, our occupations, our institutions, our needs. The curriculum is purposely organized and presented so as to challenge and bring out the best in students.

The vast majority of Pinellas students meet their challenges with great credit. It is true that in this year of our Lord, A. D. 1962, there are critics of Youth and critics of education, just as there have been in every year and every age.

Those teachers and other people who are fortunate enough to have academic involvement with today’s Youth in today’s schools are not the critics, however, for they have living evidence that tomorrow’s world will be in good hands.

To the critics may we suggest: visit the schools and witness students performing complex computations which Youth never heard of a generation ago. And, please, don’t base your judgments upon a minority or upon the exceptional case which can be found in any situation.

PinCoSchools are a Blue Ribbon system and PinCo students are deserving of your utmost confidence.

SPACE limitations permit only a random glance or so of the student world of 1962 — a world in which the leaders in science, government, and education of tomorrow’s world are learning more things more efficiently than ever before. (A) Ronnie Meyer, Boca Ciega student, displays his electronic computer which won for him a $250 ECI scholarship, 1961 Science Fair. (B) The optical mechanism and projector which creates the planetarium illusions at SPJC. (C) Ninth grade biology (accelerated) students soon become adept in uses of microscopes.
Industrial Arts is that part of education which provides opportunities for students to explore, identify, and develop occupational and avocational skills and interests in the manipulative fields.

We are living in an industrial-technological society characterized by rapid change. The industrial arts program has a responsibility in helping students develop interest, understanding, and skills in areas of metals and electricity.

A program of drawing, woodworking, arts and crafts has long been meeting needs of Youth in PinCoSchools. But the past few years have brought this county many new opportunities in business, industry, and technical plants. Recognizing that the basic skills which may and should be taught in secondary schools are prerequisites to more advanced courses and/or practical training which are steps on the way to modern occupations or careers, the Board of Public Instruction approved a plan last year to expand the Industrial Arts curriculum.

In 1961-62 all I. A. shops included areas in electricity and wood. Some shops included power mechanics, areas in metals, and upgrading in wood and allied materials.

In 1962-63 all first year shops will include all of the foregoing.

By 1963-64 all shops at all levels will show sequence development in woods, metals, power mechanics, electricity, and mechanical drafting.

MANUAL TRAINING was the name of the shop courses back in the early days of Pinellas County schools. The 1919 photos above indicate that the shops of those days were farther advanced, relatively speaking, than the facilities used for other subjects. Equipment was always called "apparatus" then, and the Board ordered 12 Perfection manual training benches on 8-10-13 from American Seating Co. For only $16.66 each and six hardtop domestic science tables at $13.30, while steel automatic desks were only $2.80 each. At right, you see (1) a junior high school shop of the present. Every student has a specific job to do; nobody loafed and everybody cleaned up his area on time. (2) Schools exhibit at County Fair. (3) Skills learned in Mechanical Drawing are basic and will be useful for a lifetime in many lines of work. (4) Students learn operation and repair of small motors in Power Mechanics course. (5) Same student at home now has ability to keep his father’s mower in good condition.
No Matter What You Call Their Courses,

Girls Prepare for Happier Homes

From 1919 Report

Negro education in Pinellas county has been taken care of by providing four separate schools, one located at Tarpon Springs, one at Dunedin, one at Clearwater, and one at St. Petersburg. Two of these are brick buildings, one a stone building and the other a frame building. These buildings have been erected in the last four or five years and are modern and sanitary. Industrial equipment has been provided in all of the buildings and every effort is made to stress this line of work.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS! The three pictures at the top, including the type-set matter, are reproduced from the 1919 Superintendent's Report. The bottom photo, from a real estate agent's brochure showing "modern" living in some 1920 Pinellas homes, was captioned: "Women at last enjoy the benefits of labor-saving machines. This small mounted kerosene engine runs up-to-date washing machine, water pump, cream separator, and churn. The housewife can easily pull it from place to place where its energy is needed to take the work out of housekeeping." School girls had a lot to learn!

CALL it Domestic Science, Homemaking, or Home Economics, these 1962 Pinellas girls are learning the practical aspects of making a house into a home.

Home Ec girls are interested in clothing. This panel depicts the changing styles, 1912-62.
Tailored to Fit Needs of Employer and Employee —

Up-To-Date Adult, Vocational Courses

Vocational education in PinCoSchools from 1912 to the 1940's mostly concerned the occupations of a rural environment: agriculture, canning, building trades. Since World War II, the program has expanded to include a wide variety of technical and industrial courses, as an available catalog would show.

Director of vocational and adult education is Joe D. Mills, shown in inset of top photo below. Pictures give a suggestion of the variety of courses.
We Need Bread, Yes, but Also the Exaltation of

Music and the Other Arts

The advantages of Pinellas County have always attracted people who appreciate the beauties of nature and also the beauty of those fine arts which enrich life and help to give it spiritual qualities lifting one above mere mundane existence.

With such people in the majority, the county’s high schools had a strong music program from the start. In 1918 a need for county-wide coordination was filled when Sallie May McCoy was made the first music supervisor, and two other county-wide supervisors were appointed, providing one for each level: primary, grammar, and high school.

Music in the elementary schools for many years was vocal only, but in 1928 the Clearwater Women’s Club asked that instrumental music be taught as soon as feasible. In 1931 Rocco Grella was employed to give instrumental instruction in the grade schools.

In 1935 Everett A. Moses was employed as band and orchestra instructor at Mirror Lake Jr. High at $25 per month (part time).

In 1937, Seminole School wanted to start a harmonica band; Joseph W. Lefter offered to instruct and direct for $6 per month. In 1941 Mr. Lefter directed the SPHS Band while Edward Heney was in service.

Wallace Gause joined the county schools in 1938 as teacher. In 1950 he was made supervisor of music. Since World War II, the music program has made magnificent progress. During a school year music students have opportunities to perform during many programs, festivals, and parades.

Drama receives expert attention in many Pinellas County Schools, and some of them offer classical or interpretative dancing as part of physical education.

The arts and crafts program has been brought to a high stage of achievement in recent years, as visibly demonstrated in the art festivals and exhibits held periodically each year.

The county now has 11 area art teachers, with Hayden C. Bryant, Jr., serving as coordinator. Students have opportunities to develop artistic talents in all grade levels, 1-14.

THE THREE TOP PHOTOS show some of the earliest musical groups of Pinellas schools, as shown in the 1919 Schools Report. Bottom photo was taken in 1930 at Lealman Junior High School, showing cast of the Pirate Crew. Arrow points to young pirate flourishing his cutlass; today he is the Pinellas Superintendent with more than 100 flourishing schools.

WALLACE P. GAUSE, at left, is director of music education and also of the summer enrichment program. Top photo above shows the Meadownlawn Junior High School Concert Band; next photo below is the Dunedin High School Choral Group; third photo shows musical comedy production, and bottom picture gives a view of Ashley Russ displaying to the Board students’ art posters for the county fair. After serving the schools in many capacities for years, Mr. Russ became assistant superintendent until he retired in 1953. He still serves as coordinator for the schools and the annual fair.
Anecdotes Spanning a Half Century

Sept. 19, 1908: Hog enters cloakroom of Largo School (now the City Hall) and devours pupils’ lunches. Pupils’ tears dry and smiles break out when the hog owner’s wife invites them all to her house for a good, hot lunch.


Feb. 12, 1918: Board investigates report that certain teachers are making pro-German remarks. Three days later, Board says charges are unfounded.

Apr. 1, 1918: All Pinellas schools go on daylight saving time.

Aug. 12, 1918: State Supt. Sheats declares state-wide teachers’ exam held at Madison invalid because of evidence of wholesale cheating.

Oct. 17, 1918: Board decides to pay teachers for time lost when schools were closed because of Spanish influenza epidemic.

Dec. 10, 1918: Board installs drinking fountain at Glenoak School as token of gratitude for custodial work done by pupils to earn money for beautifying the grounds.

Jan. 14, 1919: Only one board member attends scheduled meeting. With important business to transact, Supt. Holllins and A. M. Lowe go to W. A. Allen’s home near Largo to obtain a quorum. Meeting is conducted in Mr. Allen’s bedroom, as he is ill. He never fully recovered and died June 4, 1919.

Mar. 11, 1919: Board raises Kathleen Plumb’s salary from $80 to $100, as she had assumed much of the work previously done by two teachers who had resigned.


Nov. 2, 1920: Dixie Hollins runs for State Superintendent, but the northern counties bring about his defeat; reportedly because the incumbent, W. N. Sheats, circulated handbills with pictures and descriptions to show how Negro education, under Hollins’ superintendency in Pinellas, had greatly improved.

Nov. 2, 1921: Supt. Blanton calls special Board meeting to cope with repair problems resulting from “big storm.”

Sept. 13, 1922: Jazz music is forbidden at SPHS.

Oct. 22, 1924: Board orders schools to observe Armistice Day as a patriotic program, not dismissal, as the “day spent in idleness would be a desecration.” However, the 1927 legislature makes Armistice Day a legal holiday, with schools to close.

Nov. 18, 1925: Committee appointed to investigate possible savings and other advantages from (a) schools warehouse and (b) superintendent of construction. Favorable feasibility reports follow. One report says that the Hillsborough construction superintendent performs many duties usually done by architects; by paying architects 3% for plans and specifications, $30,000 is saved on each $1,000,000 in construction. Board calls for applications.

Jan. 5, 1926: Lot for warehouse purchased for $8,000.

Feb. 8, 1926: A. R. Ulrich, architect and construction expert with ten years’ experience in New York, graduate of Columbia U., is employed as construction superintendent at the highest salary in the county — $10,000.

PIONEERS in school service, shown in a photo taken in July, 1950. L to r., Jessie Key Stephenson, who was a Mirror Lake teacher 20 years; Natalee Sterling, longtime teacher and principal at Central Primary and Glenoak; Daisy Bell John, pioneer teacher of speech, SPHS; Margaret Wilder, with one of the greatest service records of any Pinellas teacher; and May C. Pomeroy, music teacher.

(Supt. Blanton received $350 per month.) The irony in this staff addition is something no one could foresee: that the Florida Boom and the schools’ huge building program were almost over. By 1927 the Florida “Bust” had hit, and no more new schools were to be planned.

Feb. 20, 1928: Board approves purchase of a “moving picture machine” by Palm Harbor Jr. High for $375. Same day, the Board passes a resolution noting that several schools are purchasing such projectors and that “no use shall be made of such machines except for educational purposes” and no revenue shall be derived from their use for more than enough to pay for operation.

May 1, 1928: The Safety Harbor theater manager appears before the Board and explains that his business is being ruined by schools which make contracts with film producers and show regular features for admission. Board orders schools to complete present contracts and then to enter into no more contracts for entertainment features.

THE DEPRESSION

Even those people who lived through the Depression are apt to forget, after 20 years, just how severe the economic situation in Florida and Pinellas really was.

It was worse here than in most of the U.S. because of the land-buying, population-boom Boom from about 1922 to 1926, which created great optimism, caused a great deal of construction on credit and bonds, and was followed by the “Bust” of 1927. Many people who had moved here during the Boom quickly moved away, and by the time of the stock market crash in 1929 much activity had stopped, grass was growing between the bricks of many miles of new pavements, and the residents were already “enjoying” a depression well ahead of the rest of the nation.

Here is the record of the Depression, as reflected in the Board minutes:

April, 1927: Special meeting is called of all principals to devise ways of reducing expenses, as school funds are giving out. Elimination of 18 teachers follows, with two weeks’ notice, and most buying stops.

July, 1927: Contracts for 1927-28 are limited to 7½ months for elementary and eight months for secondary teachers.

Dec. 1927: Board notifies Peninsular Telephone Co. it will be six or seven months before any phone bills can be paid.

Feb. 1928: Contractor building Pass-a-Grille School goes broke.

July, 1928: All schools are asked to reduce expenses drastically and to increase the pupil-teacher ratio.

July, 1928: Ozona’s junior high students are transferred to Tarpon Springs to save on expenses.

Sept. 1928: Supt. Blanton recommends 10% reduction in administration salaries, including his own. Board approves. This was strictly an economy move; the fact that Blanton was nearing the end of his term and would be succeeded by the man who had beaten him in the election, George M. Lynch, had nothing to do with cutting the Superintendent’s pay.

Nov. 1928: Harris School closed; pupils transferred to 54th Avenue School.

FACULTY, Clearwater High School, 1943-44. Principal E. W. McMullen, front, died the following August. Matching game: if you know or knew this faculty, identify them from this alphabetical list. Christine Carmack, Mrs. Bessie Crowell, Rachel Donald, Rocco Grella, Frank Hancock, Martha Kelley, Sara De Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Edna Knapp, Lois Morse, R. Burton Reed, Mrs. Barbara Rhoades, Joe W. Scafidi, Amber V. Turner, Mrs. Mildred Turner.

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GOLDEN SCHOOL - BELL MEMORIES

Jan, 1929: Office of City Supt. of St. Petersburg is abolished as an economy measure.
May, 1929: Board faces 21 lawsuits; gets lawyer!
Sept, 1929: Stringent economy is urged of all principals. Many salaries reduced.
May, 1930: American Bank and Trust Co. is insolvent and six more banks close doors. Some checks of the Board are not being honored.
Oct, 1930: Teachers get only $2 per day. Keene School is offered for sale to the highest bidder, but there are no bidders.
March, 1932: Board accepts 9% settlement for receivers' certificates from defunct banks.
June, 1932: Entire maintenance force is notified their services will have to be dispensed with after July 1. Telephones at most schools are ordered discontinued. Supt. Lynch dispenses with all supervisors.
Sept. 1932: Stove wood for schools is down to $.29 per cord. For $1.00, 20,000 cubic feet of wood.
Sept. 1932: Teachers receive only 50% of their first month's salary.
Sept. 1932: Board borrows $100,000, half from Jacksonville Bank.
Nov, 1932: Board signs a note for $2,000 to cover delinquent bills for electricity.
Nov, 1932: Board issues $50,000 scrip in lieu of teachers' salaries, $5 and $10 denominations — a promise to pay when funds are on hand.
March, 1933: All teachers ordered not to turn on electric lights except in dire emergency, and even then the principal's permission must be obtained first. City is asked to accept a 10% payment for past due gas and water bills of St. Petersburg schools. All cooling systems in schools turned off.
June, 1933: Board's indebtedness is set at $5,500,000. A refunding plan is discussed. $55,000 more in scrip is issued to school personnel, some in $1 denomination.
Aug, 1933: Federal aid is applied for to cover schools' grounds projects.
Sept. 1933: Stove wood is down to $.29 per cord. Number of instructional personnel is cut to 360 (in 46 schools). Refunding bonds for $5,109,950 are issued to satisfy creditors.
Sept. 1933: Teachers in small schools are offered $5 monthly supplement to do their own janitor work.
Nov. 1933: New teachers' contracts are for only 4½ months or less, salary to be paid from funds remaining after outstanding scrip and other unpaid bills have been settled. Board calls upon all citizens who can to pay their taxes early so that money will become available to operate the schools.
Dec. 1933: So many school children have no writing paper for school work or money for school supplies that the Board asks for all unused election ballots to be sent to the Board for distribution to children needing paper. The Keene School building is sold to Clearwater for $200 in teachers' scrip; it is moved to the city's athletic field for a dressing room. Last pay day before Christmas is Dec. 21, but there are not sufficient funds. Board divides total on hand by number of employees and thus gives each employee, regardless of whether he is principal, teacher, or janitor, a check for $30 along with a card wishing each a Merry Christmas.
Jan. 1934: Board appeals to Congress for federal aid to keep schools operating.
Feb. 1934: Board offers to operate schools on tuition basis only, $4 for elementary pupils, $6 for secondary; teachers in each school to divide proceeds. Any teacher not willing to continue on such basis will not be penalized for withdrawing. Rio Vista School closed; pupils transferred to 54th Ave. School. Federal aid is received for only two districts — Lealman and Pinellas Park.
March, 1934: Board applies for Civil Works Administration projects, but federal aid on such projects is only 30 per cent.
April, 1934: Board thanks everyone concerned for helping to keep most schools going for eight months' term. More refunding bonds are issued to satisfy creditors.

KATHLEEN PLUMB, outstanding teacher and principal with many years of service at various schools. Before retiring, she spent some wonderful years at Belleair School.

MILDRED NEEL, another splendid teacher, recently retired after serving as principal at the new Pinellas Park Elementary, 1949-59. She is now active with the Retired Teachers Association.

May, 1934: Board's citrus grove at 54th Avenue School is stripped of fruit crop; Board orders an investigation.
June, 1934: Keene School site sold to Ernest E. Whitacre for only $200. More refunding bonds are issued to creditors.
Aug, 1934: Piano tuners are begging for work; they offer to tune pianos for $2.50 each.
Nov. 1934: A mother stands too close to the stove at Euclid School and burns her coat; she sends a bill for the coat to the Board but the Board, after due deliberation, declines responsibility in the matter; and besides, there's no money in the budget for scorched coats. Fortunately, it was a mild winter in Pinellas County.
Sept. 1935: Board sets up tuition charges of $4 and $6 per month for non-resident pupils, but soon rescinds the ruling when such tuition is found to be contrary to State Law.
Nov. 1935: The Lealman Avenue School is destroyed by fire, and Board applies for federal aid to help rebuild it. Red-tape and other delays, however, make the rebuilding of the Lealman school a four-year job. When it was finally finished in May, 1939, it was the first new school built in the county in eight long years.
After 1935, times were still not flourishing, but the backbone of the depression was broken as the war clouds gathered over Europe. In Pinellas County, our economic barometer — the price of stove wood — indicated the trend, when the dealers, in August of 1936, started asking $4.50 per cord, 1/4 fat pine and ¾ oak, more than double the price in 1933.
The depression had far-reaching effects, of course, on education. It was just recently that the last of the refunding bonds were finally paid off.
And take the school bus situation for an example. Harry Gause, the transportation supervisor, included this statement in a report to the Board on Jan. 8, 1935:
“All buses were painted last summer and their appearance is good, but they are feeling the effects of old age. We haven’t replaced any buses in years, and they are about to wear out.”

People say that the Depression was good in some respects — that it forced people to develop their resourcefulness and to build up habits of thrift.

But no doubt it set some aspects of education back a great deal. A Superintendent of great vision, Capt. George M. Lynch, was elected in 1928. What a tragedy it was for a man with his splendid ideas for advancing education to obtain his position of leadership just as the Florida “bust” and the Depression made it impossible to inaugurate many of his aspirations. He did, however, get the Junior College started, but the strain of trying to operate schools without sufficient money resulted in a stroke in the Superintendent’s Mirror Lake office in 1935 and he died at Mound Park Hospital that evening.

Now, in 1962, it appears that while our economy may fluctuate up and down at times, it is unlikely that we shall ever again have a Great Depression like the one of the ’30’s.

But we’ll get depressed at times, no doubt, over a minor insufficiency of funds. If it happens to you, then just remember what a really tough time the people of Pinellas had from 1927 to 1939, compare our present status with theirs, and then think the good Lord for the blessings of this Golden Anniversary year, 1962.
50 Years of Professional Growth Tool

THEN

The Pinellas Education Association

There is a voluntary though closely organized and active association of teachers and school officials in the county which holds three meetings annually. For these meetings programs of educational talks and round table discussions are prepared by a program committee. Practically every teacher in the county takes an active interest in these meetings and aids in making them of inspirational and practical helpfulness to the schools.

The place of meeting is first one and then another of the four larger school centers of the county, Tarpon Springs, Clearwater, Largo, and St. Petersburg. The association is financed by the County School Board except for a fee of twenty-five cents paid by the members which goes into a fund for obtaining an occasional speaker from a distance.

The association is a factor in school progress which the School Board and Superintendent recognize as important and deserving of their earnest support.

THE ABOVE picture and text are reproduced exactly as printed in the 1919 Superintendent's Report. The dues of 25c for the speakers' fund were sufficient; for example, the Detroit Hotel bill for one speaker amounted to $2.60.

MILESTONES

11-6-12: Board votes to investigate possibility of teacher training school in County. Average teachers' salary is $50 month. A few get as low as $35. Many small schools have terms of six months.

2-5-13: Board approves “normal work being done at St. Petersburg.”

6-29-14: Board approves appropriation of $75 to “any member” who could attend the NEA at St. Paul, July 4-11, 1914.


2-18-16: Board authorizes library not to cost more than $50 for use of Normal Dept.

5-11-16: Board offers $5 per month increase to any teacher attending a full term of “first class summer school.”

9-15-16: Board appoints Miss Margaret Ann Burney as teacher of the Training Dept.

6-12-17: No teacher will be employed who has not had either one year of experience or one year of normal school.

5-7-18: Teachers may dismiss classes in order to take exams from State Board of Examiners in County.

5-5-19: Teachers get increase in new schedule. Grade teachers get $75 (no experience) to $100 (four years' experience); M.S. teachers get from $100 to $133, monthly. Principals of small schools get from $85 to $105.

8-5-19: Massey House in Largo purchased as a “teacherage” or co-op boarding house.

10-14-19: Board encourages extension schools by paying $100 to provide lunch for the three sessions.

4-13-20: Board resolves that teachers' pensions of not more than $25 per month shall be granted to worthy teachers no longer able to teach.

12-27-21: Board subscribes $600 toward a Normal Training School in St. Petersburg for two summer months a year, provided that students from outside the county would pay tuition.

2-12-24: Resolved that (a) teachers of the first eight grades shall have a minimum preparation of graduation from a standard high school and two years' normal training; (b) teachers of grades 9-12 shall have as a minimum preparation graduation from a standard college including one year of normal training.

2-9-24: Board offers to pay transportation of all county teachers who attend the State Association meeting in Dayton during the holidays.

4-26-26: Board states disapproval of employment of teachers holding third grade certificates (good one year only).

10-5-26: Board authorizes payment of half the tuition cost of University of Florida extension courses taken by county teachers.

MARY I. BAINUM, Director of Personnel, constantly upgrades the profession in Pinellas by selecting only the best available teachers. Miss Bainum was put in charge of instructional personnel in 1947.

1-1-26: G. V. Fugitt has picture on cover of Journal of F.E.A. and article published on thesis that a teacher's goal should be to see that the pupil's educational quotient equals his I.Q.

4-2-29: Board recommends that teachers needing credits to meet higher County requirements should attend classes at the new SPJC, in which case salary will be increased an amount equal to the tuition cost.

12-7-29: Substitute teachers' pay set at $5 a day, elementary, and $6 a day, secondary.

1-10-33: Board issues resolution beginning, “Whereas, it has been brought to the attention of the Board that some teachers are objecting to the payment of their F.E.A. dues... it is the duty of teachers and school officials to give wholehearted support to the association which represents their highest interests.”

NOW

1894 DOCUMENTS. Magnify them; you'll see that Frances Walshman of St. Petersburg received a two-year certificate by taking 10 examinations, scoring from 82 up to 100%. The contract is for $50 per month for six months at Gulfport School. Both are signed by L. W. Buckholz, Hillsborough Superintendent.

THE PINELLAS Classroom Teachers Association is now so large, nearing the 3,000 mark, that no school auditorium will hold us all. Here we met at Pasadena Community Church, which has outdoor facilities for the overflow. More important than growing in numbers is the fact that we have learned, year by year, how to be more truly professional in all our relationships.
Ideals and Goals Reach Ever Higher

10-19-33: Substitute teacher pay revised to $3.50 per day for elementary, $4.50 for secondary school, and $2.50 for Negro schools.
11-16-33: Board agrees to teachers' position that salary should be paid on a nine-month basis instead of the 12-month basis as done since 1930.
8-22-34: Federal aid is asked to improve teacherage in Largo.

EDUCATIONAL INTERNS, from two to four most years, are in line with Board's policy of recruiting supervisors and administrators from teaching ranks. Above are Herbert L. Johnson and William D. Allman, I. to r. The third 1961-62 intern is John B. Wuertz, spending second semester at FSU.

3-8-38: Two teachers reimbursed for travel to Home Economics Conference.
3-8-39: All schools closed one day so that all teachers may attend the F.E.A. meeting.
6-14-39: Six teachers are reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending the Laboratory School at Vanderbilt University, July 18 to August 26.
7-12-39: Six high school teachers sent by Board to a curriculum workshop at Chapel Hill, N.C., expenses paid.
9-6-39: New salary schedule for white teachers pays $100 month (two or three years of college, no experience) up to $140 (Master's degree, 10 years' experience).
3-28, 29-40: Schools closed at noon so that teachers may attend F.E.A. in Orlando.
11-12-40: Board pays expenses of three educators brought to Pinellas County Teachers' Association meetings.
8-21-41: New salary schedule starts at $70 for Negro teachers and $100 for white (two years' college, no experience) on sliding scale to top for bachelor's degree of $110 for Negroes and $145 for whites (10 years' experience).
3-4-42: Schools to close at noon Thursday, April 9, so that teachers may attend F.E.A. meetings in Tampa with full pay. (Half-day's pay deduction for absences unless ill.)
6-14-43: All teachers' salaries increased $10 month for 1943-44. Three-day professional meeting authorized for September 8-10.
8-31-43: Board pays $100 to get Dr. Willis A. Sutton to address teachers September 8th at Mirror Lake auditorium.
6-26-44: Committee of teachers and administrators recommend that Pinellas schools adopt a Teacher Evaluation instrument similar to that used in Los Angeles. The rating scale consists of 20 teacher characteristics to be checked Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair or Poor.
6-26-44: Board approves evaluation plan recommended by professional committee.
3-14-45: Board approves plan and appropriates $1500 for Teachers' Workshop on Human and Natural Resources.
5-2-45: Emergency legislation by state gives all teachers a salary increase of at least 10%.
10-17-45: Board approves new salary schedule which sets three factors for determination of salary: Evaluation, Training, and Experience. For

WITH PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

PINEILLAS Teachers' Credit Union, with offices in the Tomlinson Center, has assets of several million and serves almost every teacher with either low-interest loans or high interest on savings. The Union was chartered April 16, 1937, had 61 members the first year, dropped during the war years, reached 1,118 members in 1955, and now has over 4,700.

PINEILLAS Teachers' Club has swimming pool (top) and other advantages. (B) New teachers are welcomed during coke break on Orientation Day by Supt. Christian, left, and Board Member James E. Hendry. (C) Professional library, moved in April 1962 to School Administration Building, is available to all personnel. (D) Every new school has a dedication, as here at Geo. W. Perkins Elementary. Programs are uplifting.

ALL SMILES, knowing it was the last political commission. This photo was taken after Floyd T. Christian had engaged in and won in 1956 his third political campaign for the Pinellas superintendency — a necessity he and Gov. LeRoy Collins deplored. The Governor had just presented Supt. Christian with his third commission, and both felt sure that the next legislature, meeting shortly, would pass the bill making the Pinellas superintendency an appointive post. The bill passed, and Supt. Christian is now working under contract with the County School Board, devoting all his time to school affairs. This was a giant stride in professional growth.
PROFESSIONAL GROWTH MILESTONES (Continued)

the first time, Negroes have the same schedules as whites. Basic annual salaries for Bachelor's degree run from $1400 (no exp.) to $1900 (10 years). Added for Master's, $150. Teachers evaluated AA, $300 extra. Rating A, $150 additional. Rated A-2, $300 deducted. Rated A-3, $600 deducted. Teachers not satisfied with their evaluation may take teachers' exam of the American Council of Education, and percentile rank will determine their evaluation (94-100, Rate AA; 83-93, Rate A; 65-82 Rate A-1; 45-64, A-2). Principals same as teachers, plus $200 year.

3-3-46: Language Arts Workshop planned for summer, and three days Preschool Institute planned for September 11-13.

8-21-46: Miss Evelyn Hammer, Dunedin Elementary principal, approved as first recorded exchange teacher, going to England, 1946-47, in exchange for Miss Helen Hustler of England, who will teach in Dunedin Elementary.

2-12-47: Miss Helen Hustler receives supplement of $50 a month as exchange teacher from Great Britain because of her extra speaking engagements.

3-21-47: School dismissed at 12:00 to permit teachers to attend a Reading Clinic directed by Dr. D. D. Durrell of Boston U.

4-9-47: P.C.C.T.A. requests Board to substitute the merit system based on educational training and experience for the evaluation system adopted 7-1-45, but Board resolves to continue previous salary schedule also, teachers classified A-1 for two years will have their salaries adjusted to the A-1 schedule retroactive to 7-1-46. Right of appeal and use of national teachers examination as optional way to determine evaluation classification is affirmed.

7-15-47: Board adopts salary schedule, paying minimum of $1224 (two years' college, no experience, rating A-2) to maximum of $3168 (Master's degree, 15 years' experience, evaluation rating A).

5-12-48: Board establishes a policy regarding professional leaves.

6-2-48: Board issues resolution enumerating provisions of State Minimum Foundation Act and sets up policy, of not hereafter hiring teachers with less than a Bachelor's Degree and giving present teachers until 1951 to meet college credit and certification requirements.

6-8-48: Board establishes new salary schedule granting increases of from approximately $350-$500 for Rank II & III, but continuing old schedules for Ranks IV, V, and VI.

6-9, 30-49: Special workshop held for teachers — 176 at Diston, 41 at Davis — Registration fee $5.

12-14-49: Board authorizes payment of 25c per teacher to F.E.A.

6-30: Committees prepare English and Social Studies Guides for junior highs.

7-12-50: Committee identifies and issues Philosophies of Education after six months of study.

12-20-50: There are still 18 teachers on Rank IV, four on Rank V, and one on Rank VI. Rank I: 11. Rank II, 171. Rank III, 652.

10-24-51: State Department notifies Supt. Christian that every school in the County, white and Negro, is now accredited.

9-24-50: Board approves 11 out-of-state professional trips at Board expense during school year.

7-8-53: Board establishes eligibility of two teachers in elementary
music, one in nutrition, two in library, and two in visiting teacher education for paid participation in workshops under ASIS units provided in the Minimum Foundation Program.

7-27-59: Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan for school board employees is approved.

2-9-58: Board approves cooperative program of Internship and Advanced Graduate Work in Educational Leadership as presented by the administration.

6-6-58: Teachers' salaries raised $100 across the board.

2-27-58: Superintendent Christian tells the Legislative delegation that it is highly important to the teaching profession and the welfare of the state for the Legislature to provide the teachers with a substantial, much needed salary increase.

5-1-57: As a result of favorable legislation, it will be possible to increase teachers' salaries from $300 to $1,000 depending upon experience, rank, and contractual status.

4-9-58: Career Increment committee appointed to formulate county plan as required by law.

6-24-59: Credit Union receives space at Tomlinson Vocational High School.

10-14-59: Of 390 teachers eligible to apply for a career increment, only 176 have applied and are being evaluated by the reviewing board.

2-10-60: Eighty teachers are granted a career increment.

2-6-61: Career increments are granted to 37 teachers.

5-20-61: Legislature enacts law providing $400 competence awards to teachers who have scored 500 on the NTE and evaluated as being in the highest 30 per cent of the county's instructional staff.

6-12-61: Career Increment program to be discontinued.

11-22-61: Dr. Albert T. Craig is selected to instruct the in-service course for the preparation of teachers who will teach Americanism vs. communism.

12-6-61: NTE fee of $9 paid by teachers taking examination to qualify for continuing contract will be refunded by School Board.

2-10-62: 815 teachers take the National Teacher's Examination at SPJC and the SPJC branch in Clearwater.

NEW TEACHERS in Pinellas are always welcomed on both the county level and by the school's hospitality committee. In this 1950 photo the two men, George Fox and Ralph Kern, are entertained by Betty Cooper, North Ward teacher, and Donna Dyer, SPHS student, at the "get acquainted" banquet for 124 new teachers. No longer new, George is principal of Norwood Elementary and Ralph is P. E. instructor at Junior College.
SCHOOLS OF THE PRESENT

This section will introduce you to each school now in use, in chronological order, from the oldest to the newest. But even the old ones have modern additions.

SOUTH WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Oldest building in use) 1906 - 1962

INSETS, left, show Dixie Hollins, top, and Mrs. Kathryn Wilcox, first and present principals respectively, in recent photos. Pictures of buildings were made in 1919 when primary school was separate, but on same site with Clearwater High. A frame school was built here prior to 1900; it's the only section out of use.

CLEARWATER HIGH BASKETBALL SQUAD 1914 (Won 6, Lost 2)

FOUR of the seven CHS graduates of 1912 with favorite "speed buggy" of the day.

1906 BUILDING, same as in background at left, from a 1917 postcard.
Principals:
Mary Moore 1913-20
Lillian Bigger 1920-25
Alsie Hall 1925-27
Frances Belcher 1927-54
Elsie Duncan 1954-62

NORTH WARD'S PTA celebrated its 40th anniversary last year, and later the school depicted the founding of Pinellas County in song and May Day dances.

PHOTO (right) shows North Ward as oldest part looks today. Overlaid photo at corner shows nearby oaks in 1918, removed when they got too big.

North Ward's kindergarten tots (left) on a picnic at Clearwater Island Beach, December 14, 1925, with teacher, Grace Clark, now secretary to Mel Wagner, schools' purchasing agent.

DAVIS ELEMENTARY (St. Petersburg) 1914

(Formerly called Davis Academy)

Principals:
J. W. Ovaltree 1914-16
Rev. W. H. Holmes 1916-19
M. Selmo 1919-21
H. D. Bryant 1921-22
R. L. Deckey 1922-23
Carlos Hale 1923-24
G. T. Wiggins 1924-27
L. H. Kirksey 1927-30
Mrs. R. McKin 1930-35
Mrs. Emma Booker 1935-39
Mrs. R. M. Blye 1939-44
John H. Hopkins 1944-52
Mrs. Amanda Howard 1952-56
Emmanuel Steward 1956-57
Louis W. McCoy 1957-58
William G. Thompson 1958-62

ALMA MATER to thousands of St. Pete residents of all ages. Present principal, Wm. G. Thompson, upper right. Bottom right, 1918 picture.
For 48 years Glenoak people have labored to make the school live up to its name, signifying outdoor loveliness, strength, steadfastness. But it wasn’t easy for a school built in a dirty, isolated cow pasture with an open sewer running near the school.

By the work and loving care of the PTA, neighbors and children, Glenoak became a health and beauty spot, winning county prizes and newspaper acclaim.

Glenoak pioneered in lunches, with the only mothers’ cafeteria in the teens offering hot soup, vegetables, whole wheat sandwiches, milk and salads at 5c each.

Glenoak — a lovely school, loved by hundreds who have been inspired by her to learn so as to serve.

LARGO JUNIOR HIGH 1914

BUILDING at bottom was Largo Elementary until Grades 1-6 moved to new Mildred Helms School in 1952, when photo was made of remodeling project. Top photo shows converted building; note porch area made into rooms. Inset shows Morgan Fitzgerald, present principal.

Schools Grow with Largo

Largo’s first schools are described in “Schools of the Past” section. The brick building pictured here was built in 1914 and a second building in 1924. A wing and a library were added in 1950; auditorium, 1954; cafeteria and P. E. showers, 1955; second wing, 1956. In 1957, Grades 10-12 moved to the new Largo High and left the whole plant to Grades 7-9.

Outstanding Personnel

Charles Phillips, first principal, is remembered by The Sentinel as a 1903 schoolmaster who’d cut bamboo switches on his way to school to brook no nonsense. Notable teachers were Don McMullen, Mamie Ramage, Rose and Frances McMullen, Estelle Collins. Principals: Messrs. Baugh, Hardy, Sayers, Roberts, Highfield, Erkert, Oscar Smith, R. J. Knight, Sam Hand, J. D. Poston, H. C. Campbell, Bentley Lawson, Nick Mangin, and now Morgan Fitzgerald.

LJH’s faculty, from 19 different states, have collective experience of over 500 years along with 49 bachelor degrees, 19 master degrees, and one higher. The curriculum is modern and broad, with accelerated courses for the gifted and all classes adjusted to children’s needs. LJH was one of the first schools to install a language laboratory.

The School Board is by tradition a serious body of elected citizens who represent the people of the county. Their decisions and resolutions are usually phrased in formal, dignified language.

However, events occur which require Board action in verbal form, but it must be difficult at times to write the orders or resolutions in dignified or even in tactful terms.

For example, the Board found it a little hard to exercise restraint when it was necessary to reprimand the residents of the Lealman district in 1917. For what? For breaking and entering. Yes, for forcibly breaking into the Lealman School every Sunday. Why? To hold Sunday School services. Yes, it was a good reason, but they hadn’t secured permission, making it a crime somewhat like “taking” Bibles.

In 1919 a father and mother with a very large family moved into the Keene district south of Clearwater. In fact, they had so many children the teacher didn’t know what to do; so the Board hired an additional teacher to take care of the overflow resulting from the new family. But about the time the new teacher signed her contract, the father had heard about the Clearwater schools, and as there wasn’t any firm zoning control in those days, he began hauling his brood to the Clearwater school, where they were accepted. No doubt the Board was chagrined at this, but their statement included these mild words: “It is the sentiment of the Board that these children should attend the Keene School.” That was probably a polite way of saying, “Now see here, you population exploder, you’ve already caused enough trouble. We’ve got this new teacher under contract, see, and we’ve got to pay her anyway, see, so how about putting your young-uns back at Keene, so this young lady can earn her $50 a month?”

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NORTH WARD ELEMENTARY (St. Petersburg) 1914

North Ward is another old school with a proud history and a forward-looking program, including Spanish instruction with a full-time teacher available to all pupils.

Under Margaret Wilder's leadership, North Ward had a pioneering lunch wagon in 1917 and perhaps the city's first PTA in 1918.

Fannie Boswell, who lived in the area in 1914 but "trolleyed" to Gulfport to teach each day, watched North Ward being built and asked for a transfer when it opened. Later she was principal for 11 years.

Mrs. Marie McAnellian, principal for 14 years, is a daughter of Capt. Geo. M. Lynch, former Superintendent.

FIRST principal, Mrs. Virginia Hudson, is shown at top. Below, a 1918 photo of North Ward School.

PHOTO at top shows North Ward in 1924, then 20 years old. Lower photo is recent, showing part of modern addition.

ROSER PARK ELEMENTARY (St. Petersburg) 1914

A 30-acre subdivision by C. M. Roser in 1911 started an attractive residential area about a winding creek south of St. Petersburg. Four acres became a city park, and five easternmost lots were provided for the school.

When the $9,620 school opened, only the first floor was finished, and there was no furniture — just lumber on boxes.

Roser Park reached a peak enrollment of 590 in 1925, and in 1931 it became the first elementary school in the county with an organized central library, now named for its founder, Mabel Kelso. The PTA's have been very enterprising.

Principals:
Natalie Sterling 1914-15
Audrey Arrowsmith 1915-16
Lila Allen 1916-17
Annie L. Anderson 1917-21
Mabel Kelso 1921-58
Mrs. Eva Evans 1953-61
Mrs. Elizabeth Dietz 1961-62

(Roger insets, L. to r.:) Natalie Sterling, first principal; 1919 view of school; entrance today; Mrs. E. H. Dietz, long associated with Roser Park as patron/teacher, now principal.
CHASE MEMORIAL (Dunedin) 1915

Founded as Washington School by Mrs. Almira Chase, the school was later named as a memorial to Charles W. Chase. It has won many honors and has benefited hundreds under the leadership of Principals Richberg, Manegar, Maloney, McCrea, Chandler, Kelloy, Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Whitehead, Cleo Hadley, Gressner, Warren, Mrs. Beatrice Lewis, Mrs. Lucille Lewis, and now Mrs. Janie J. Wilson.

MAIN photo shows Chase Memorial as it looks today; inset, left, as it looked in 1918. Right inset: Mrs. Janie J. Wilson, present principal.

SEMINEOLE ELEMENTARY 1915

Early Seminole schools were on various locations: south of 54th Avenue, then near Orange Blossom Groves, later near Weldaingham, finally across from the present site chosen in 1915.

Four rooms in 1952, four more in 1955, and eight more in 1959 have been added, indicating growth of the area. An administrative building and library have also been built.

PHOTOS trace evolution of Seminole School from crude woodland school of about 1885 to brick building of 1915, still in use. The many additions are not shown.

OZONA ELEMENTARY 1916

Principals:
- Mr. Bailey 1895-?
- G. I. Morris 1916-20
- Miss Bly 1920-21
- Ida Guillian 1921-22
- Mrs. Katherine Tyrrell 1922-25
- Mrs. Dickerson 1925-27
- Mrs. Mary Williford 1927-36
- Mrs. Daisy E. Riviere 1936-62

The first Ozona School was a one-room frame house built in 1895 with 20 pupils and eight grades. By the time the four-room brick structure was built in 1916, there were 50 students. Now, with nine teachers and only Grades 1 to 3, there are 240 pupils.

Concentrating on the primary grades, Ozona is an effective school in teaching fundamentals. After completing Grade 3, Ozona pupils go to Palm Harbor School.

SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS 1916

Prior to 1912 the Safety Harbor school was a two-room frame behind the present fire station. A third room was ready when Mary Barker arrived to teach 1-3 with Miss Cooper (4-6) and Principal Chas. Phillips (7-8).

Succeeding principals were P. C. O’Haver, Mr. McLaughlin, R. J. Knight, Mr. Hyde, and for the past two decades, Gary Linton, who will remain as elementary principal when Grades 7-9 move to a new junior high building next year.

THIS BUILDING has had six more classrooms, a cafeteria and a kitchen added since it was built in 1916 with four rooms on land donated by citizens.

ORIGINAL 1916 structure is shown by inset; main photo shows the 1926 building. Modern additions have recently been built for this growing elementary school.
Pioneer families of Wilcox, Meares and Lowe, settling from Key West, settled at Anona in 1859, naming the area after the native Anona sugar apples. First school was on the site of today's Methodist Church.

Two rooms of the present brick building were put in use in 1917. The school has grown with the community under such teachers and principals as Minnie Jones, Faith Duncan, Miss Lachlan, Ruth Camp, Mabel McLaughlin, Faith McMullen, Mr. Stockton, Mildred Meares, Inez Carey, Grace Morris, Una Savage, and Hugh Coll, who was principal 1927-54. Since 1954 Mrs. Louise Judkins has served as principal; but later in 1962, after 30 years of teaching service, she will retire.

VIEW of the oldest part of Anona School as it looks today is at top, but the five modern additions to left and rear are not visible. Lower views show earlier school of about 1900-16 on present grounds. Earliest school was built in 1874 from lumber rafted from Cedar Keys by Wm. Meares and Captains Archie and Lowe. It was a crude building with no heat; on cold days the children studied in the woods around a bonfire.

MIRROR LAKE JUNIOR HIGH 1919

History. This building was planned in 1915 as a new junior high; a bond issue for it for $175,000 was passed in January 1917; the site was purchased for $25,250 on June 17, 1917; architectural plans were expanded twice; Cal. F. Thomas Co. bid a low $136,282 in March 1918 and then went broke trying to build ML for that. A second bond issue for $75,000 was required to finish the building, as costs had almost doubled.

The high school moved in from across the lake on Nov. 28, 1919, and the building was dedicated Feb. 10, 1920, as a monumental achievement. What is now a fourth floor was an open-air study hall.

The Superintendent's down-county office has always been located on ML's second floor; it was there that Supt. Lynch suffered his fatal stroke Oct. 10, 1933. A bronze plaque to his memory was installed on the front lawn.

TOP photo shows Mirror Lake building as it looked in 1919 as the new St. Petersburg High. Lower left is a 1919 view of the entrance detail; at right, the same entrance today.
UNION ACADEMY (Tarpon Springs) 1919

Principals:
J. Tapley Marks 1919-20
A. H. Williams 1920-21
E. J. M. Saunders 1921-23
D. P. Sparks 1923-25
K. Lurette Sowell 1925-26
Gilbert W. Maxwell 1926-28
Levy Gregg 1928-32
A. F. Williams 1932-34
Richard Moore 1934-37
Eugene McLin 1937-41
Julie B. Bragg, Jr. 1941-42
Amos D. Lewis 1942-48
Emanuel Stewart 1948-49
Amanda Howard 1949-52
Ella Holmes 1952-56
William G. Thompson 1956-58
O’Cain J. Thumbtizen 1958-62

THIS pretty setting — the site — for Union Academy was purchased by the Board on Feb. 11, 1919. On June 10, 1919, the labor contract was awarded to C. A. Gause on a $1,468 bid, the Board to furnish materials. First built as a four-room school, it now has six classrooms with eight teachers and 255 pupils.

OLDSMAR ELEMENTARY 1921

Principals:
Mrs. Bruno 1918-20
Miss Dagley 1920-21
Mr. Love 1921-22
Mr. Read 1922-23
Miss L. Davis 1923-24
Rev. R. E. Miller 1924-28
Anna M. Tyree 1928-50
Jim Howie 1950-62

Organization. Grades 1-8 were taught until 1922, when 9-12 were added; but the next year 7-12 were moved to Safety Harbor. The 5th and 6th grades were also moved to Safety Harbor 1928-42, and in 1942 the whole school was in Safety Harbor, as there were only 11 pupils, six of which lived in Hillsborough County. In 1943 Oldsmar School reopened with 18 pupils. Since then two additions have been necessary and enrollments are increasing steadily.

PASADENA ELEMENTARY 1923

Principals:
Isabel Mills 1923-24
Mrs. Elizabeth Thorpe 1924-39
Mrs. Elsie Miller 1939-50
Mrs. Irene Hubbard 1950-51
Mrs. Martha Jerger 1951-58
James Gollattscheck 1958-61
Mrs. Frances Penn 1961-62+

A Mother’s Memories
For years each teacher had to teach at least two grades. The playground was deep sand, giving many children “Florida sores.” So the Mother’s Club raised money through card parties and hard surfaced the grounds. But the hard surface caused many injuries and complaints. Then when parents complained about the cafeteria, it was closed and pupils took their lunches until 1943. Double grades ended in 1947. Pasadena now has a faculty of 17.

TOMLINSON ADULT EDUCATION CENTER 1924

After seven years as a junior high, this school was called “The Vocational School” for eight years. Then it was named Edwin H. Tomlinson Vocational School after the public spirited citizen who helped the city and schools so generously, with emphasis on “manual training” for boys and “domestic science” for girls. The name was changed in 1945 to Tomlinson Technical Institute; in 1951 to Tomlinson Vocational School; in 1955 to Tomlinson Vocational High School; and in 1959 to Tomlinson Adult Education Center (as Dixie Hollins High took over the high school functions.) The program fills the needs of hundreds of adults.

Principals have been W. M. Williams, Conrad A. Conley, C. O. Pinch, C. W. Fitzgerald, Stanley Sweet, Nat Clark, and John R. Hill.

PICTURE from an old colored postcard shows Pasadena School after a $6,580 addition in 1924 to the original $8,740 structure of 1923 converted it from a one-teacher to a three-teacher school. Located near Boca Ciega on Central Avenue, Pasadena drew pupils from beach communities and other areas as far away as Gulfport and Pinellas Park.

BUILT as St. Petersburg Junior High School for $153,770, this building served as a vocational junior high 1924-26 with Ashley Russ as its first principal and as Boys’ Junior High 1926-31 when the girls were schooled across the street in what is now Mirror Lake Junior High. It became a vocational school in 1931.
**CHILD'S PARK ELEMENTARY 1924**

Childs Park has been known for years as a school with high standards of achievement and conduct. The school system's director of personnel, Mary Bainum, had 15 years of valuable experience as principal here.

The enrollment has consistently required a faculty of 12 or 13 teachers since 1927 except for a short time during World War II when only nine teachers were required.

**Principals:**
- Mrs. Herman Berle 1924-25
- Mrs. Nell Moulsey 1925-29
- Miss Mary L. Bainum 1930-45
- Mrs. Martha McCallister 1945-57
- Argel E. Jordan 1957-62

**FOREST HILLS ELEMENTARY 1924**

Pasadena School was relieved somewhat with the opening of Forest Hills, as the latter drew children from as far away as the beaches. Forest Hills organized its first P.T.A. on Nov. 13, 1925, and although small in size it has prided itself on service and achievements.

**Principals:**
- Dorothy Pease 1924-26
- Ethel C. Robinson 1926-29
- Mary M. Lining 1929-50
- Margaret Lynch 1950-58
- Mrs. Frances Penn 1958-61
- George Blanton 1961-62

First four classrooms (left) at Forest Hills were built by A. C. Roundtree for $14,482. It was a four-teacher school until 1952, when eight classrooms were added (one wing right). A 1928 cafeteria cost $750. Supervisor Ashley Russ had an office at Forest Hills during the '20's.

**HARRIS ELEMENTARY 1924**

**Principals:**
- (Old One-room School) Estelle Chapman (pre-1924)
- (New Three-room School) Gertrude Blair 1924-26
- Mrs. Alverta Bredell 1926-27
- Mrs. Maud Walker 1927-28
- Mrs. Ellen Flynn 1928-32
- Mrs. Mildred Neel 1932-37
- Mrs. Mattie Remington 1937-49
- Frances Healey (Gem.) 1950-55
- Debra Reed 1950-56
- Inez B. Murray 1956-62

For a time during the depression Harris was closed and pupils were transported to 54th Avenue School. When a State Survey Team recommended eventual closing of Harris School, Judge Silk presented the Board with a 212-names petition asking for continuation of the school — and more classrooms!

**EUCLID ELEMENTARY 1925**

Built during "Boom" days near the center of St. Pete's population, Euclid was expensive compared to previous schools. The lot cost $35,000; the base bid for one-story was $40,669 (V. A. Boake) and eight months later the contractor was authorized to add a second story for $22,675.

Euclid opened with 17 classrooms and 860 pupils. It has maintained quality through the years, but as residential areas advanced west and north the enrollments have decreased.

**Principals** have been Mrs. Ruth Deel, 1925-27; Mrs. Estelle Cox, 1927-56; Mrs. Leila Davis, 1956-58; and Miss Kemp.

Mrs. Irene A. Brice, left, and Miss Nora E. Kemp, present principal. Mrs. Brice has taught at Euclid ever since it opened in 1925. The parents of some of Mrs. Brice's present pupils used to be her first graders in the very same room. Miss Kemp has been Euclid principal since 1958.

**This 1924 school replaced the earlier Harris School (which had a windmill — see Schools of the Past). The site was willed to the Board by Mr. A. Harris to be used for educational purposes only or revert to heirs. A cafeteria (to right, not visible) was built in 1926.**

**STARTED during the "Boom," the "Bust" kept Euclid from being fully finished for many years. Lights were not installed, plastering was unfinished, there was no teaching equipment, but school was held anyway as the faculty and P.T.A. gradually provided the needs during a severe depression.**
JORDAN ELEMENTARY 1925

Victor A. Boeke made the low bid ($40,669) on July 15, 1924, to build Jordan School. When it was occupied by almost 1,100 students hungering for an education, September 1, 1925, with 21 teachers and an outstanding principal, Geo. W. Perkins, a milestone in Negro education had been reached in Florida. The older Davis Academy had simply been unable to provide for all the youth of St. Petersburg.

Jordan has pioneered in radio broadcasting of a school chorus, in the first home ec classes for boys, in PTA work, in free night school for adults, in double sessions, in reading clinics for Negroes, and in having had in 36 years the “power steering” of only four principals: G. W. Perkins, 1925-29; Mrs. Marie Pierce, 1929-51; Emanuel Stewart, 1951-57; and Louis W. McCoy, 1958-1962.

In 1948 an $80,000 addition was added to the original 12 classrooms, and a $35,000 cafeteria was completed in 1952. A four-room addition and teachers’ room in 1960 cost $57,895.

NORWOOD ELEMENTARY 1925

The decorative urns bordering Lakewood School emphasize the Spanish motif of the architecture. The two-story stucco opened with twelve classrooms, Spanish arched, and patio; but as only 63 children registered, 400 more were transported from Gleneagles. Folks declared it was foolish to build a big school “clear out in the country far from the end of the street car line.” But today, with a much smaller district, Lakewood has 20 classrooms and about 600 pupils.

In 36 years Lakewood has had only three principals. The first was Marie Lynch McNamara, one of the daughters of Capt. Geo. M. Lynch, former Superintendent. Mrs. McNamara served for 21 years at Lakewood, followed by Mrs. Frances Bailey, 1946-58. Mrs. Fern Terry has been principal since Mrs. Bailey’s retirement.

Elizabeth King teaches four children in her second grade this year whose parents were her pupils not so long ago; she’s been at Lakewood since 1926. Another teacher, Mrs. Ethel Chapman, is the great-granddaughter of Count Odet Phillippi, the first white settler in Pinellas County.

Great stability exists in the Lakewood community because of the mutual faith between dependable parents and devoted teachers. They understand each other because they grew up together.

TARPOON SPRINGS (JUNIOR) HIGH 1925

When this building opened with only 10 classrooms, it served all grades, 1-12, with an enrollment of 100. This year, 1962, is its final year as a junior-senior high school, since the elementary children have had their own school since 1952 and grades 10-12 will have a new senior high later this year. As a junior high, the school will be headed by Gene Chizik (right inset above), Gus Sakkis (left inset), who has been principal here since 1955, will transfer to the new TSHS after graduating a senior class of 100.

To the $118,839 structure two wings with home ec and science rooms and four classrooms were soon added. In 1951 the cafeteria was built, four years after citizens deeded Memorial Stadium to the Board.

As St. Petersburg’s population wave during boom days moved toward the Gulf, new schools were needed. West Central was built for $70,500 on this leading edge by F. J. Mason on a site to be shared the following year by St. Petersburg High.

The first principal, F. Grady Russ, had a faculty of 18 with only 12 classrooms filled to overflowing. On Nov. 19, 1925, he called a meeting of all parents and teachers to explain the nature of a PTA. An enthusiastic organization resulted, providing a clinic with medical supplies, a piano, and for each room a Victrola with records. The PTA also operated a cafeteria with a profit of $400 the first year. With this good start, West Central has always been known as one of the county’s best schools.

After Grady Russ, who died Nov. 12, 1926, the principals were Mrs. Annabelle Branning, 1926-27; Mrs. Emilie C. Shaw, 1927-33; Helen E. Nippert, 1933-58; and since 1958, Mrs. Martha P. Jerger.

The basic Belleair structure shown above, a two-story red brick school with five classrooms, was built in 1926 by Robt. M. Thompson on his bid of $47,539. Additions have by now made Belleair a 24-classroom school. Its peak enrollment has been over a thousand pupils. Belleair is renowned far and wide as the leading school in the teaching of conservation of natural resources.

In 1929 to 1933 Belleair was used as “overflow” for South Ward; part of this time it was out of use altogether, as the “Bust” was followed by the Depression. During Kathleen Plumb’s term as principal when half the children were on relief, the faculty made the most of the opportunity to give happiness to them.

Until the cafeteria was built in 1947, pupils were taken by bus daily to South Ward for lunch. In 1957 enrollment was so great that four Belleair classes were transported daily to High Point School. Ponce de Leon School opened and remedied the situation the next year.

 Principals have been Myrtle Plumb, 1926-29; Kathleen Plumb, 1933-36; Winifred Stoutamire, 1936-40; Ivy Coil Hammock (now Director of Elementary Curriculum), 1940-45; Mrs. Clara K. Reid, 1945-62+

N. M. Faulds, pictured in the inset above, was principal of the school from 1924, two years before this building was built, until 1954. The building was the original senior high, built by Marshall-Jackson Co. of Lakeland for $152,250. The junior high building was contracted for in July, 1925, for $130,000 by F. J. Mason Co. In 1927 a balcony was added to the CHS auditorium for $3,800. All facilities were left to the junior high when the new Clearwater High was constructed on Gulf-to-Bay in 1954.

The junior high school originally had 14 classrooms. Clearwater’s growth has increased the size to 37 classrooms, and enrollments have grown from 235 in 1926 to 1,100 now.

After N. M. Faulds’ 30 years as principal, Roy E. Kinnick held that post, 1954-55; Francis M. Pfoist, 1955-59; and Jack D. Williams, 1959-62+

The first home of this school was the St. John Primitive Baptist Church on Palmetto St. in 1924. It soon expanded into St. John Missionary Church also, with Mrs. Nancy Speed as principal, 1924-31.

The need established, land was purchased and bids called for. On June 19, 1925, Marshall Jackson Co. contracted to build the six-classroom school pictured above, a two-story stucco, for $30,868. It was ready for use in the fall and was called Northward School until 1942 when it was renamed Curtis in honor of the S. W. Curtis family.

In 1935 the school was so crowded that a building on Brownell was rented for Grades 1-4. This annex led to the establishment of Williams Elementary.

 Principals following Mrs. Speed were Milton P. Rooks, Sr., 1931-43; Mrs. Gretchen G. Cobbs, 1943-53; and Mrs. Beatrice F. Lewis, 1953-62+. Curtis is a fine school!
DISSTON JUNIOR HIGH 1926

Built for $116,300 by F. J. Mason Co. (Heating system, $13,757 extra.)
Opened 1926 as Gulfport Junior High. The name was changed June 22, 1927, to Disston.
Principals: Charles M. Phillips, 1926-45; Richard L. Jones, 1946-53; Roy E. Kinnick, 1953-56; Albert T. Craig, 1954-56; Charles Kelsay, 1956-62. (Small photos over school show Mr. Phillips, left, and Mr. Kelsay, right.)

FIRST FACULTY AT DISSTON, 1926
(Some are still in the school system; see how many you can recognize.)

Disston Junior High has been a training ground for future administrators. Among the former educators at Disston who were advanced to the county level are Mary I. Banim, Dr. Albert T. Craig, Roy E. Kinnick, Fred Hoffinan, John Hudson, and Wallace Skrove. (Only one of them is in the above photo.)

DISSTON'S PEN PALS BY THEIR SCHOOL
In Takamatsu, Japan (St. Pete's Sister City)

Disston has adopted a sister school, Yashima Junior High, in St. Petersburg's sister city, Takamatsu, Japan. Yashima has 300 students who attend the year 'round. They have three classroom buildings, a gym, and swimming pool with six diving boards. Students in the sister schools exchange letters and photos, a pen pal arrangement.

DUNEDIN ELEMENTARY 1926

OLDEST UNIT BUILT 1926 FOR $106,606
The 1926 building shown above is now used by the elementary school since both the junior high and senior high schools have their own plants. But it was constructed as a junior high 37 years ago.
The new 1952 building has many modern features befitting a school with

NEW $204,038 BUILDING WAS WELcomed IN 1952
a forward-looking program.
Dunedin elementary principals since 1926 have been J. D. Poston, J. C. Hall, 1927-34; Mabel Buchanan, 1934-40; Evelyn Hammer, 1940-46; Mrs. Alice Starr, 1946-51. and the present principal, Mrs. Faye Wilson.
GULFPORT ELEMENTARY 1926

When this two-story 16-room Spanish-type stucco school opened in 1926, having been built by Eric Clauson for $95,000, it replaced a 1910 block building (see Schools of the Past) and the earlier "Prop" College.

The old block school removed and a $12,700 auditorium put up in 1924, the rooms of the new school were arranged around the auditorium to form a lovely patio in the center of the school. The patio has always been a kind of natural science "lab" for the children. A cafeteria and library were added in 1948, and a four-room primary wing in 1954.

Principals have included Julie Dieffenbroich (Prop College) 1905-06; F. G. Tranbarger, 1912-13; Mrs. Margaret Wilder, 1913-15; Laura Walker, 1915-16; Miss Pelham, 1916-17; Ashley Russ, 1919-20; Cecil F. Phillips, 1922-23; Mrs. Lily Berls, 1923-24; Chas. M. Phillips, 1924-27; Mrs. Sarah Anderson, 1927-29; Mrs. Mary Lou Gray, 1929-33; Stanley Moore, 1933-35; and the present principal, Theresa Graves, 1955-62.

ST. PETERSBURG HIGH 1926

The opening and the dedication of the new million dollar SPHS on December 14, 1926, was a brilliant event, marking a final achievement by city and county leaders spearheaded by Capt. Geo. M. Lynch, County Superintendent. The new school was written up in various magazines and newspapers. The F.E.A. Journal and the Palmetto and Pine gave much of their space to descriptions of its features, such as these excerpts:

"The finest school building in the South . . . superb equipment and unique architecture . . . an enormous auditorium with a stage as large as those in the greatest theaters in the world, on which basketball contests may be staged . . . shower rooms, lockers not only in shower rooms but also individual . . . tennis courts, baseball diamonds, football gridiron, cafeteria for 1,200 . . . private waterworks . . . electric light plant, oil burning boilers for heat . . . rambling Spanish architecture makes the three-story building look long, low, impressive . . . an inspiration to walk toward it . . . to see the sun on the red-tiled roof . . . inside, one is almost lost at first." And so on. The dedication was attended by notables from many cities and states.

The new SPHS had been designed by Wm. B. Ittner, who had also planned the 1919 SPHS (now Mirror Lake). An editorial in P&P pointed out, however, that students would continue with the same spirit that had already made the school famous — that the spirit was now written out over the stage: "Loyalty and Service to God, Country, and Home." This motto is near and dear to old graduates of SPHS, whether they attended the million dollar 1926 school now in use, the $300,000 Mirror Lake building of 1919, or the $30,000 school of 1912 on the County Building site.

Principal of the new 1926 SPHS was Albert J. Geiger, succeeding Winston Little, who had resigned. Geiger remained in charge for 21 years. Principals since then have been Fred K. Stewart, 1947-48; Dr. C. Taylor Whittier, 1948-53; and the present principal, Fred H. Geneva, 1953-62.
SUNSHINE ELEMENTARY 1926

The burning of the Pass-a-Grille Beach Hotel in 1922 led to the Board's purchase of a square block of the hotel grounds for $63,000, where the four-classroom Sunshine School was built.

Principals have been Maud English, Mrs. Hazel Walsh, Mrs. Elizabeth Gagg, Mrs. Helen MacLeod, Mrs. Florence Malone, and since 1955 Mrs. Dorothy S. Turner.

Many pupils at Sunshine have been tourists in search of health, and the nearness of the beach has permitted sunshine and surf bathing to be P.E. activities, as photo shows.

Sunshine is a unique school, with murals, a published school song, centralized library, and a Parents' Club that does fine things for the school, which has grown to seven classrooms and about 200 pupils, many of them new permanent residents.

WOODLAWN ELEMENTARY 1926

Woodlawn, first called Sixteenth Street School, was built "way out in the country" in 1926 as a 12-room school for $56,900 by Heuber Bros. Less than 100 pupils entered.

Mrs. Mabel L. Bourne, a highly educated and experienced teacher, was principal, 1926-31, followed by Annie Laurie Anderson, 1931-56. Since Miss Anderson's retirement, during a period of many school improvements and enrollment growth, Mrs. Pearl K. Johnson has been principal, 1956-62. Mrs. Bourne and Mrs. Johnson are shown in the photo insets above, left and right respectively.

In recent years Woodlawn has organized violin classes, established a reading clinic, and developed effective TV classes.

Woodlawn PTA has been active since 1928. A cafeteria was built in 1954; previously a classroom had been used for the lunch room.

GIBBS HIGH 1927

The imposing 31-classroom school shown in the top photo, right, began in 1927 as a $49,490 eight-classroom unit. It has had many changes and additions since then; photo at lower right shows how Gibbs looked in 1935 after one addition but before the front corridor was enclosed for office areas.

Under the leadership of George W. Perkins, the community established a library and an auditorium-gymnasium just south of the high school, across Ninth Avenue. In 1946 these were added to the School Board on condition that they would be completed and a mortgage paid off. The library, named for Educator Perkins, is pictured in the lower left corner of photo above.

North of the main building is the Gibbs Vocational School. It has facilities for teaching youths salable occupational skills.

Principals have been Samuel Reed, 1927-29; Geo. W. Perkins, 1929-32; Mrs. Theresa McKinney, 1932; Rev. John Carter, 1932-33; Geo. W. Perkins, 1938-46; Andrew Polk, 1946-52; John W. Rembert, 1952-58; Emanuel Stewart, 1958-62.

Gibbs High has long been recognized as one of the South's greatest Negro schools. Its scintillating bands and fast-breaking teams have won many honors.

A new Gibbs High is being constructed east of the present site. (See Schools of the Future.)
The Louis Fleisher Co. contracted on Aug. 24, 1927, to build the Lakeview Avenue School for $54,220, and it was soon operating as a six-teacher school with Miss Ethel Bachman as principal.

Principals who followed were Ruth Deal, Margaret Shine, Harold Brown, Mrs. Mildred Dawson, and Gerald Caffrey.

After 34 years of quality service, Lakeview's days as a regular elementary school may be over. Last spring the Board authorized the use of Lakeview as an annex to Nina Harris School, which it borders, in the program for exceptional children. Currently used in that way, it is under the leadership of Paul B. Stephens, Jr., special education coordinator.

In November, 1926, the Board purchased a site for the "Coffee Pot School" for $22,000. It was June 23, 1926, that Hauber Bros. contracted to build this eight-classroom school for $54,500, and it opened in January, 1927.

First pupils consisted mostly of children from the 103-room Masonic Home on Coffee Pot Bayou and transfers from Central Grammar School.

It was not until June 17, 1940, that the Board officially changed the name from Coffee Pot School to North Shore Elementary School.

First principal was Mrs. Beatrice Beckley, followed by Emmie Reynolds, 1928-32; Ellen Flynn, 1932-33; Julia Dieffenwierth, 1933-48, and since 1948, Mrs. Vera Fogarty. The school has had modern additions and now has 16 classrooms with an enrollment of about 450.

Lealman Junior High was built when R. S. Blanton was Superintendent and Ashley Russ was supervising principal. The trustees were Henry Belcher, Homer Mohr, and Ray Matthews, the father of Eli, who built the old Mt. Vernon School; the latter was called "Daddy of Lealman Junior" because of his great efforts for it.

On Dec. 8, 1925, the Board had paid $40,000 for Lealman's 10-acre site. Low bid on June 3, 1926, for the building was by Levering & Longbotham for $114,879 plus $11,757 for heating facilities. The first unit consisted of 16 classrooms, office, auditorium for 500, and library.

Completed, the community held an open house reception. Old settlers said they had never dreamed such a "crowning school'd ever be put up in these backwoods." None was finer anywhere, they claimed.

Lealman opened Sept. 19, 1927, with Charles H. Teeter as principal. The faculty included Miss Helen Lynch, whose father was to become Superintendent in 1929, and George P. Hoffman, who was to be appointed Superintendent after the sudden death of Capt. Lynch on Oct. 19, 1935.

From 206 pupils on opening day, the enrollment increased rapidly as pupils transferred from the closed Pinellas Park junior high, the two older junior highs in St. Petersburg, and nearby elementary schools. Principals have been Chas. H. Teeter, 1927-30; Atlov V. Tipton, 1930-33, Charles (Chill) Moore, 1933-39; and since 1959, Eric A. Whittem. The Lealman plant has gradually expanded. It now has 27 classrooms plus other facilities, and has a modern, forward looking curriculum to meet the varying needs of Lealman youths.

TOP photo shows Lealman Junior High as it looked in 1930. There have been many changes since then in additions and landscaping. LOWER photo shows Lealman's Graduating Class of 1930. Horizontal arrow indicates Charles Teeter, Lealman's first principal. Vertical arrow indicates a boy destined to do great things for his county: Floyd T. Christian, who has been Superintendent since January, 1949.
RIO VISTA ELEMENTARY 1927

What Happens to a Shut-Down School?

Rio Vista has a unique history. It was started in "Boom" times with great expectations that failed to materialize in that generation but that have more recently been reactivated.

Eight lots having been donated to the School Board by the Boulevard Bay Land and Development Co., a contract was made Oct. 5, 1926 with Fellows Construction Co. to build a five-classroom, stucco school with orange tile roof for $34,850.

Rio Vista opened in the fall of 1927, but only two teachers were needed for the small enrollment. Anticipated growth in the area failed to develop, as the "Boom" had turned to "Bust." Consequently, two teachers were sufficient for several years, and finally one teacher could handle the small enrollment as the Depression deepened.

On Feb. 26, 1934, Rio Vista was closed temporarily and the pupils were transported to 54th Avenue School. The school reopened 1935-36; but after the next term started, the Board ordered Rio Vista closed. The small enrollment and one teacher were transferred on Oct. 1, 1936 to Pinellas Park Elementary School.

Rio Vista remained closed as a school for 14 years, from 1936 to 1950. Pictures on this page give a slight idea of what can happen to a shut-down school. Weather and encroaching branches and mischievous boys shattered every window pane. The lower concrete floors began to sag and crack. The upper floors had never been completed.

Walls were eaten away by termites. Rats and mice played running games inside. Scavengers carried away choice flooring. Fixtures and plumbing were used to remodel Euclid School.

One neighbor used the school as a goat stable. Chickens used the deserted building as a roosting place, but on many nights they were alarmed by hobo and tramp who wanted to share the place. Undergrowth, weeds, and Australian pines almost hid the dilapidated building.

Finally, after the Depression and World War II, the area became prosperous. Citizens talked to the Board. Surveys were made. But it was not until Floyd T. Christian became Superintendent that Rio Vista was remodeled completely, at a cost of $38,644, in the spring of 1950. In May the Board purchased, through William Wiley, 15 adjacent lots for $2,992.70, and in September Rio Vista reopened, after 14 historic years.

With a faculty of 12, Rio Vista is now a thriving, modern school.

Principals have been Lillian Walker, 1928-31; D. Lamb, 1931-34; Marie Weir, 1935-36; Mrs. Elsie Miller, 1950-56; Oscar Jackson, 1956-58; Leonard D. Jones, 1958 to the present.

SOUTH SIDE JUNIOR HIGH 1927

South Side Junior High School was one of four junior highs in Pinellas County built within approximately a year — at the climax of the Florida boom. Because of the impending Florida "bust" and the Depression soon to follow, there were to be no more junior highs down-county until the Sixteenth Street Negro School was built in 1932 — 25 years later.

Starting with a faculty of 15 when it opened in 1927, South Side now has a faculty of 48. The school has kept pace with the time. The curriculum is as up-to-date as a space capsule, and the student body is interested in both curricular and co-curricular challenges.

Principals have been Mrs. Anabelle Branning, 1927-30; Charles White, 1930-33; Ashley Ruse, 1933-49; John M. Sexton, 1949-53; and John W. W. Patrick, 1954-62.

Mr. Patrick has been appointed principal of the new Bay Point Junior High for next year, and Wade Hankinson, now assistant principal, has been appointed South Side principal for 1962-63.
This school was one of the 28 "boom time" public schools built in Pinellas County, all but five in the highly publicized St. Petersburg area. Most of them were built in anticipation of mass migrations of northerners, who either failed to come or went back north because of the Florida "bust" and the Depression that followed.

54th Avenue School was built on an eight-acre site purchased from the O'Berry Grove, across the avenue from Sunny Side Cemetery. (For years the school bought equipment with its orange crop profits.) Heuber Brothers built the school for $56,900. It had eight classrooms, a library, clinic, cafeteria, and 300-seat auditorium. When it opened for business in January 1928, there were only enough pupils for two teachers. With all that space, the Board transferred pupils and teachers from Lealman and Harris schools; but the Harris children were soon returned to their own school.

The hordes from the North finally came — in the 50's — and now 54th has a faculty of 24 and an enrollment of about 650. The eight classrooms have been increased to 24. Principals have been Maude Walker, 1928-31; Martha McKinley, 1931-33; Shirley Pethway, 1933-35; Gedna Jewell, 1935-44; Gladys Nash, 1944-52; and since 1952, John E. Waters.

The long, interesting history of the Clearview Schools predates the building shown at right; some of this history will be found in "Schools of the Past" section.

In 1930 the Board determined that the small stucco and frame school on Clearview (38th) Avenue and 43rd Street should be replaced, and bids were requested though the depression was on and money was scarce. On April 7, 1931, John H. Bull Co. contracted to build the present basic structure, a two-story brick with four classrooms, auditorium, and other facilities, for $23,517, about half what it would have been in 1925. Compared to the schools which preceded it, it was "heavenly," for it had indoor plumbing with running water, electric lights, and was heated with kerosene stoves in each room.

By some strange means, however, the plans for Clearview got reversed so that the building, when completed, had no front entrance; the concrete walk, had been "left over" from the previous building, was still there — leading exactly nowhere! Only ghosts, they say, can enter through the front wall.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Edna Miller, the first principal in the new building, the school became a center for community activities.

In 1937 children's bag lunches were supplemented with one "hot dish" prepared on a three-burner oil stove and sold for 5c. Later a 10c "meal" gave pupils two or three items. In 1940 the W.P.A. made an improvised cafeteria possible; in 1948 it was supervised by the county; in 1949 it was housed in a 25-ft. addition; in 1955 it introduced the cashier system, relieving teachers of money chores; and today the cafeteria serves 450 children daily, most of them getting "seconds."

Mt. Vernon was the last of the boom schools to be occupied. On June 23, 1926, Heuber Bros. contracted to build it for $52,000, and the main construction was completed that year. But because of economic conditions which followed, Mt. Vernon was not opened as a school until 1931. Even then it had only three teachers, including the principal, Ethel Bachman, who was to become the first Pinellas teacher, in 1940, to receive a retirement pension. (She had 41 years of service, having started teaching in 1898, when this peninsula was still part of Hillsborough County.)

The Mt. Vernon area is now a fine residential section, and the school has grown to 19 classrooms, a faculty of 22, and enrollment of 600. Junior highs are glad to get Mt. Vernon students; they are well prepared.

Principals have been Ethel Bachman, 1931-40; Louise Burkhart Green, 1940-57; and since 1957, Harold H. Brown.

There's a "ghost walk," but no entrance; read text. Insets show Mrs. Edna Miller, left, Clearview's first principal; and Frances M. Healey, present principal, since 1950.

During and after three years of double sessions due to more density of population, additions were added so that Clearview has grown from a four-classroom school to a 23-classroom facility with accessory advantages, including a wealth of instructional equipment accumulated by the school and community.

Clearview is outstanding in giving children an abiding interest in science; it has the only elementary science museum in the county, and children of all grades may participate in the science projects.

But like all Pinellas schools, the basic subjects, the three R's, are considered fundamental to future learning, and under Miss Healey's direction Clearview is producing well-prepared children to take their places in secondary schools and finally — the world.
The original Lealman Avenue School (see “Schools of the Past”) burned to the ground Nov. 19, 1935. Pupils were transferred to the 54th Avenue School while citizens, trustees, and Board announced intentions to rebuild at once, despite the Depression. Application was made to the government for the new school to be built as a W.P.A. project. Approval was granted, but because of governmental red tape and delays, the school pictured above was not completed until fall of 1939, almost four years after the fire. It was the first county school to be built in eight years.

The basic unit contained only four classrooms with an auditorium. Additions since then have increased the size to 19 classrooms, a cafeteria was built in 1948.

Principals have been Mrs. Vera Reynolds Fogarty, 1939-47; Mrs. Leila G. McMullen, 1947-61; and since Mrs. McMullen’s retirement, Ralph A. Hinkle.

From May 10 to Oct. 10, 1939, the school was officially named John T. Fisher Elementary School.

WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY 1947

The school pictured above was started in 1946, with the Board providing the material and contracting the labor at 15c per block. It was the first school built after the war and in a decade. It has grown from a two-teacher facility with 40 pupils to a 12-classroom school and as high as 400 pupils when Negro children from Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, Seminole, Indian Rocks, Largo, and Belleair were transported to it. Williams has pioneered in the hot lunch program.

Principals have been Mrs. Arabelle Faust, 1947-57; Fred Burney, 1957-58; and since 1958, Mrs. Johnnie De Barco Gilbert.

RUPERTI MEMORIAL 1948

On June 2, 1948, the School Board accepted as a gift the Belmont Nursery School on condition that it be operated as a public nursery or school and called Ruperti Memorial in honor of Justus Ruperti.

Since August, 1949, the Ruperti School has been devoted to the education of handicapped children in the Clearwater area. Adult weaving classes have also been held there.

As part of the Special Education program, it is under the direction of Paul B. Stephens, Jr., coordinator.

ST. PETERSBURG JUNIOR COLLEGE 1941

SPJC OPERATES DAY AND NIGHT, YEAR ‘ROUND

Part of the county schools system, this school offers the first two years of college plus a wide range of adult classes.

There are three important dates in the history of SPJC, as follows:

1927: St. Petersburg Junior College holds its first classes in St. Petersburg High School (in its second year on Fifth Avenue N.). In December, however, the domed Grammar School near Mirror Lake becomes available, and SPJC has its first home, although laboratory work continues to be done at SPHS.

1941: SPJC, still an independent school, acquires from the city 25 acres in a tax settlement deal, builds the Administration Building pictured above, and moves to its own campus.

1948: The SPJC Board of Governors and the County School Board apply to the State Board of Education for permission to make SPJC a part of the county school system. Permission is granted.

From ten classrooms in the first building pictured above, SPJC has shown steady and almost spectacular growth, now boasting 86 classrooms in a dozen buildings and wings. Enrollment has increased from 87 to 4,300 (day and night combined).

In 1953 the junior college began extension classes in Clearwater. In the ten years since then, the junior college classes for up-county residents, held in Clearwater High School, have met growing acceptance. The idea of an up-county junior college branch has grown for several years until at last it is about to be a reality. The Board and the City of Clearwater have agreed upon a site, and the release of state funds is needed to begin construction. It is predicted that the Clearwater branch will eventually be larger than the SPJC campus, which has space limitations.

Students who spend two years at SPJC and then transfer to a senior college or university invariably prove to be well prepared. Records from such institutions prove that Florida’s first and largest junior college is also undoubtedly the best.

A junior college close to home is a great financial saving for students and parents, making it possible to provide the additional funds when the time comes for the students to go elsewhere for the final years of higher education. Pinellas County is fortunate indeed to be able to offer fourteen years of public education instead of twelve.

Whose idea was it? Most credit must go to Capt. Geo. M. Lynch, city and county Superintendent, who had the dream, sold the idea to other citizens, worked out the initial details, and became the college’s first president, 1927-35.

The SPJC presidents who followed have been Robert Bowman Reed, 1935-45; Roland A. Wakefield, 1945-50; and since 1950, our present capable, genial president, Dr. Michael M. Bennett.
PINELLA S PARK ELEMENTARY 1949

First new school of 48 built in 13 years of Floyd Christian's Superintendency—and 10 more to be finished in 1962.

GULF BEACHES ELEMENTARY 1950

Built by Hogan & Harrman for $129,345
Dedicated December 14, 1950
1950: 8 Classrooms
1962: 17 Classrooms
Plus Library
1950: 335 Pupils
1962: 478 Pupils

FIRST PRINCIPAL, Mrs. Frances Penn, is shown in inset. Top, school entrance. Bottom, aerial view of school plant layout.

THE NEW PALM HARBOR JUNIOR HIGH 1950

Built by Robt. M. Thompson for $76,407
1950: 10 Classrooms
1962: 16 Classrooms
390 Pupils
Dedicated November 6, 1950

SIXTEENTH STREET JUNIOR HIGH 1952

A SMALL PART of this far-flung school. INSETS show, left, John H. Hopkins, present principal; right, Frederick D. Burney, principal, 1952-58.
**MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY (Largo) 1952**

Formerly Largo Elementary
BUILT BY ARNOLD CONSTRUCTION
ARCHITECT: PHILIP KENNARD
BASE BID: $403,607
1952: 14 CLASSROOMS
672 PUPILS*
1962: 15 CLASSROOMS
815 PUPILS*

*Does not indicate actual growth, as in 1952 the district was from Bay to Bay; now area has been rezoned for 7 new elementary schools.

Named on April 22, 1953, for Mildred Helms, respected teacher and principal with 23 years of service.

**Principals:**
- Mrs. Mildred Helms 1928-52
- Mrs. Zene Sperry 1953-56
- Mrs. June Watson 1956-58
- Earl C. Foster 1958-62+

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**74TH STREET ELEMENTARY 1952**

ARCHITECT: KENNARD
Built by Collins-Lewis
Total Cost: $233,285
1952: 12 Classrooms
371 Pupils
1962: 21 Classrooms
629 Pupils

**Principals:**
- Mrs. Gladys M. Nash 1952-57
- Ross C. Snyder 1958-61
- Jack R. Garrett 1961-62+

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**SKYCREST ELEMENTARY (Clearwater) 1952**

ARCHITECT: KENNARD
Built by Clearwater Construction
Total Cost: $227,329
1952: 12 Classrooms
280 Pupils
1962: 20 Classrooms
545 Pupils

**Principals:**
- Mrs. Ivy Hamncock* 1952-59
- Matilda Trott 1959-62+

*Now Director of Elementary Curriculum.

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**TARPON SPRINGS ELEMENTARY 1952**

ARCHITECT: PHILIP KENNARD
Built by Arnold Construction Co.
Total Cost: $341,311
1952: 18 Classrooms
487 Pupils
1962: 18 Classrooms
578 Pupils

**Principals:**
- Mrs. Carrie V. Lee 1952-58
- Mrs. Bessie Fultz 1958-62+

**PHOTO shows section of Tarpon Springs Elementary School. Insets are of Mrs. Carrie V. Lee, left, first principal in this building; and Mrs. Bessie Fultz, present principal.**
BOCA CIEGA HIGH 1953

(First Called 55th Street High School Until Named on Motion of Abe Pheil)
Architect: P. F. Kennard
Builder: Arnold Construction Co.
Total Cost: $1,520,209
Site: 36.67 Acres
1953: 41 Class Areas
1,373 Students
1962: 51 Class Areas
1,953 Students
Richard L. Jones, Principal

BOCA CIEGA architecture is streamlined and dispersed to take maximum advantage of Florida's climate and natural light. Inset shows Dick Jones, principal, 1953-62.

CLEARWATER HIGH 1954

(First Called Central Pinellas High School Until Citizens Ask for Change, June 23, 1954)
Architect: P. F. Kennard
Builder: Arnold Construction Co.
Total Cost: $1,196,844
Site: 44.273 Acres
Class Areas: 45
1954: 792 Students
1962: 1200 Students
Principals:
W. B. Feagle 1944-55
Robert Glenn 1955-62+
Historical Notes: June 21, 1948 — Board buys CHS site for $48,280. Grants permission to "Pink" Adams to trap possums and coons on it. March 28, 1951 — Fruit on CHS site grosses $449.

FACULTY of CHS, first year in new building, 1954-55. There were 42 teachers plus staff. This was W. B. Feagle's last year as principal, the post he had held in the old high school plant for ten years.

PINELLAS HIGH 1954

Grades 7-12
Architect: P. F. Kennard
Builder: Clearwater Construction Co.
Total Cost: $540,986
Site: 25.29 Acres
1954: 344 Students
1962: 715 Students

PINELLAS HIGH offers a regular academic and college preparatory program, but also many vocational courses. Inset shows S. W. Curtis, principal and well-known educator.
NORTHEAST HIGH 1954

Architect: Phillip Kennard
Builder: Arnold Construction Co.
Total Cost: $1,366,410
Site: 40.6 Acres
46 Classrooms
Enrollment has increased from 978 in 1954 to 1,499 in 1962.

JOHN M. SEXTON, principal of Northeast High since its inception, was elected 2nd Vice-President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in March, 1962; in all probability will go on to the presidency.

AZALEA ELEMENTARY 1955

Builder: Corfar Construction Co.
Site: 9.4 Acres
Classrooms: Original design was for nine, but community growth caused four more to be added before school opened; now, in 1962, Azalea has 21 classrooms.
Enrollment has grown from 318 the first year to 743 in 1961-62.
Principals:
Edward A. Brown, Jr. *1954-58
Mrs. Gladys Nash 1958-62†

*School was organized for September, 1954, and was on double sessions at 74th Street School until Azalea building was ready in April, 1955.

TYRONE JUNIOR HIGH 1955

Builder: Corfar Construction Co.
Total Cost: $698,325
Site: 19.56 Acres
1955: 16 Classrooms
17 Teachers
375 Students
1962: 32 Classrooms
60 Teachers
1,425 Students

WITH Tyrone Junior High in the background, where he has been principal since its beginning, Stanley Moore (inset) is looking forward to being principal, 1962-63, of the new Seminole Senior High School. New principal of Tyrone will be Fred Goodrich.

NINA HARRIS SPECIAL EDUCATION 1956

Builder: Edw. S. Moore & Sons
Total Cost: $147,843
Site: Seven Acres shared with Lakeview School
Classrooms: Eight
(Facilities are specialized, as school was built primarily for physically handicapped children.)
Principal: Paul B. Stephens, Jr., Coordinator of Special Education
WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY 1956

Architect: C. Dale Dykema
Builder: P. J. Callaghan Co.
Total Cost: $375,510
Site: 3.1 Acres
1956: 12 Classrooms
15 Teachers
300 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
28 Teachers
826 Pupils

LOUIS D. BROWN, right, has been principal of this school since it opened.

BAY VISTA ELEMENTARY 1957

Architect: John B. Gay
Built by Wm. H. Dean
Cost: $243,416
Site: 10 Acres
1957: 12 Classrooms
11 Teachers
350 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
30 Teachers
860 Pupils
Principals:
Barney Hood 1957-58
Leila G. Davis 1958-62+

DUNEDIN HIGHLAND
JUNIOR HIGH 1957

Architect: C. Dale Dykema
Builder: Chilton
Cost: $564,482
Site: 40 Acres
1957: 16 Classrooms
24 Teachers
508 Students
1962: 32 Classrooms
42 Teachers
H. R. Danford* 1953-61
Milton Galbraith 1961-62+
*Also principal at previous location.

Dunedin schools carry on the Scottish tradition. Note mosaic design of bagpiper in photo.

FAIRMOUNT PARK ELEMENTARY 1957

Dedicated October 15, 1957
Architect: G. Q. Johnson
Builder: Southeast Construction Co.
Cost: $256,364
1957: 8 Classrooms
9 Teachers
223 Pupils
1962: 12 Classrooms
12 Teachers
279 Pupils
Principals:
Mrs. Marjorie Martin 1957-60
Mrs. Willa Harmon 1960-61
Mrs. Eva Evans 1961-62+

KINGS HIGHWAY
ELEMENTARY 1957

Builder: Clearwater Construction Co.
Cost: $244,862
57-25 per Sq. Ft.
Site: 10 Acres
1957: 12 Classrooms
14 Teachers
425 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
19 Teachers
495 Pupils
Principals:
Mrs. Neva Phillips 1957-59
Robert R. Vawter 1959-62+

Photo insets show Mrs. Martin, left, and Mrs. Evans, right.

BOB VAWTER, left, is principal of this North Clearwater school, Kings Highway.
LARGO HIGH 1957

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Clearwater Construction Co.
Cost: $624,961
Site: 37 Acres
1957: 37 Teachers
768 Students
1962: 47 Teachers
1350 Students
Principal:
H. Bentley Lawson 1957-59
Francis M. Pfost 1959-62

MADEIRA BEACH ELEMENTARY 1957

Architect: Gay
Builder: Callaghan
Cost: $235,424
Site: 10 Acres
1957: 12 Classrooms
13 Teachers
361 Pupils
1962: 16 Classrooms
17 Teachers
452 Pupils

ROBERT L. MOORE, shown in inset above, has been principal of this lovely school near Boca Ciega Bay since its inception. The junior high school is adjacent to this elementary school. By clever construction, one central kitchen serves both canteenas.

MEADOWLAWN JUNIOR HIGH 1957

Architect: G. Q. Johnson
Builder: Callaghan
Cost: $554,036
Site: 20 Acres
1957: 16 Classrooms
34 Teachers
812 Students
1962: 32 Classrooms
58 Teachers
1474 Students

KENNETH L. PRICE, inset at right, has been principal of this splendid, fast-growing school since it opened November 4, 1957. Meadowlawn is supported by a huge parents' organization that has helped the school in many practical ways.

PONCE DE LEON ELEMENTARY 1957

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Clearwater Construction Co.
Cost: $238,949
Site: 10 Acres
1957: 12 Classrooms
14 Teachers
399 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
27 Teachers
796 Pupils

THIS South Clearwater school is another of the many Pinellas schools that have practically doubled in size in only four or five years. Thomas C. Todd, shown in inset, has been principal since Ponce de Leon opened.
WESTGATE ELEMENTARY 1957

Architect: Johnson
Builder: Dean
Cost: $251,369
Site: 9.5 Acres
1957: 12 Classrooms
13 Teachers
390 Pupils
1958: 24 Classrooms
28 Teachers
829 Pupils

Historical Note: On March 14, 1957, while Westgate was under construction, the walls collapsed during a jacking-up process. Fortunately, no one was injured.
Principal: Mrs. Margaret L. Kraft, 1957-62

CROSS BAYOU ELEMENTARY 1958

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Knowles
Cost: $227,994
Site: 10 Acres
1958: 12 Classrooms
14 Teachers
472 Pupils
1962: 12 Classrooms
15 Teachers
448 Pupils
Principal: Harry T. Green, 1958-62

FUGUITT ELEMENTARY 1958

Named to Honor G. V. Fuguit, Superintendent 1937-48

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Batstone
Cost: $231,672
Site: 10 Acres
1958: 12 Classrooms
13 Teachers
371 Pupils
1962: 16 Classrooms
15 Teachers
404 Pupils
Principal, Edward A. Brown, Jr. 1958-62

FUGUITT SCHOOL boasts exceptionally fine grounds, located near Largo at 13010 101st St. Inset shows Principal Edward A. Brown, Jr.

GEORGE M. LYNCH ELEMENTARY 1958

Named as a Memorial to Capt. Lynch, Superintendent 1929-35

Architect: Dykema
(Built on a circle with rooms grouped in dispersed pods)

Builder: Dean
Cost: $221,783
Site: 10 Acres
1958: 12 Classrooms
16 Teachers
461 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
22 Teachers
619 Pupils
Principal: Miss Margaret Lynch 1958-60
Mrs. Lillie H. Laird 1960-62

IT WAS APPROPRIATE for the Board to appoint Margaret Lynch to open this unique school and serve as its principal for two years, as she is a daughter of former Superintendent Lynch for whom the school is named. She is now a reading specialist.
The idea of a junior college in St. Petersburg offering top quality instruction to Negro youth of a wide area was spawned by the late George W. Perkins, noted Negro educator of Pinellas County.

Acting on his mentor’s dream, John Rembert “took the educational pulse” of the Tampa Bay area, discovered a great need for the college, discussed it with other school officials and leaders, and happily saw Perkins’ dream come to reality when the first phase of construction was completed in 1958. A second phase has about doubled the size, and a third phase will soon give Gibbs a million dollar plant.

Faculty members have come to Gibbs from outstanding universities, and students have registered from 70 high schools located in a dozen states and Africa.

Emphasis in the curriculum has been toward the liberal arts, and the strongest feature of Gibbs College is its quality of instruction.

Gibbs’ musical groups are gaining national recognition.

HIGH POINT SCHOOL is less than a mile east of U. S. 19 and ¼-mile south of State Road 686, not far from the airport. Horace G. Tabor, pictured just above the school, has been principal since High Point opened.

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Clearwater Construction Co.
Site: 10 Acres
Cost: $236,313 (16 Classrooms)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>1958</th>
<th>1962</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classrooms Used</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupils</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

last year entertaining more than a million via stage, radio, and TV. In sports, Gibbs has been outstanding in basketball and fencing.

PARKLAND SPECIAL EDUCATION 1958
Devoted to Making Trainable Children Self-Reliant

VARIED ACTIVITIES at Parkland help children learn useful skills. (A) Main classroom building. (B) Greenhouse, which junior high students helped to build. (C) Large outdoor garden area provides instruction in agriculture, exercise, and food for school lunches. (D) Parkland pupils learn to make things, and some develop skill in ceramics. These girls are admiring some of the glazed pieces. (E) Boys develop a fondness for growing things in and out of the greenhouse. Some have obtained jobs at nurseries. (F) Tomato plants in the greenhouse grow clear to the ceiling.

January 19, 1958. The greenhouse was later built in similar manner. The Special Education Administration Building nearby was completed Nov. 7, 1960.

The 80 to 95 children being taught at Parkland are getting training that will enrich their own lives and help to ease the lives of their dear ones. Paul B. Stephens, Jr., special education coordinator, serves as principal.
RIDGECREST ELEMENTARY 1958

Architect: Chas. L. Colwell
Builder: Barstone
Cost: $181,500
Site: 10 Acres, Baskins Corners
Community
Dedication: November 9, 1958
Chairman Ches. E. Helman, Jr.
Making Dedicatory Address
1958: 8 Classrooms
8 Teachers
184 Pupils
1962: 8 Classrooms
11 Teachers
319 Pupils

THIS ATTRACTIVE SCHOOL has inspired teachers, pupils, and citizens to strive for the best in education. James C. Rembert, principal since Ridgecrest opened, is pictured, right.

SAN JOSE ELEMENTARY 1958

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Chilton
Cost: $237,757
Site: 10 Acres on San Roy Drive, Dunedin
Dedication: Feb. 3, 1959
1958: 12 Classrooms
14 Teachers
340 Pupils
1962: 22 Classrooms
19 Teachers
522 Pupils

A SMALL PART of San Jose School can be seen in this photo; it is of dispersed design and rapidly growing. Carlos Taylor, at left above, has been principal throughout the school's short history.

SHORE ACRES ELEMENTARY 1958

Architect: Johnson
Builder: Paul Beck
Cost: $225,411
Site: 12 Acres in East St. Petersburg
1958: 12 Classrooms
11 Teachers
250 Pupils
1962: 16 Classrooms
17 Teachers
450 Pupils

NOT FAR from Tampa Bay, Shore Acres is another school having steady growth because of residential developments. Mrs. Mary N. Jenkins, shown at left of her school, has been principal from the first day, almost four years ago.

TYRONE ELEMENTARY 1958

Architect: Johnson
Builder: Dean
Cost: $208,881
Site: 10 Acres in Northwest St.
Petersburg
1958: 12 Classrooms
13 Teachers
375 Pupils
1962: 24 Classrooms
25 Teachers
700 Pupils

TYRONE Elementary is adjacent, but not too close, to Tyrone Junior High; both schools are east of Tyrone Boulevard. Principal Oscar E. Jackson has headed this growing school since its inception.
MADEIRA BEACH JUNIOR HIGH 1959

TWO-Story buildings were deemed advisable at Madeira Beach because of limited site. Architecture is modern, allowing for a maximum of sea-air ventilation and natural light. On Boca Ciega Bay, this school promises to present a breath-taking panorama after fills and bridge approach are finished.

DIXIE HOLLINS COMPREHENSIVE 1959

Named for Pinellas County's First Superintendent of Schools

Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Knowles
Cost: $1,122,020
($7.99 per Sq. Ft.)
Site: 40 Acres, Northwest of St. Petersburg
1959: 60 Teachers
1,065 Students
1962: 88 Teachers
1,482 Students
Principal, H. Bentley Lawson 1959-62+

Dixie Hollins was Pinellas County's first comprehensive high school and the first in this part of Florida. Being comprehensive, this high school includes in its curriculum not only the regular academic and college preparatory courses taught to high standards, but also a wide variety of vocational and technical courses.

In three years Dixie has firmly established itself as a major high school.

GEORGE W. PERKINS ELEMENTARY 1959

Named for a noted Negro educator, this school has, in addition to a regular elementary curriculum, a program of special education for handicapped children. The two-story building has been a boon to the community. Photo shows only back of one wing. Principal Fred Burney is shown at left.
LINCOLN HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY 1959

Architect: Dykema
Builder: Bailey
Cost: $61,047
Site: 6.3 Acres on Elm Avenue in Safety Harbor
Size: 4 Classrooms, 121 Pupils
The history of Negro education in Safety Harbor prior to 1959 is told in "Schools of the Past" section.
Principal, Mrs. Lucille T. Lewis 1959-62

SUNSET HILLS ELEMENTARY 1960

(Building Occupied Jan. 4, 1960 after Four Months of Double Sessions)
Architect: Colwell
Builder: Batstone
Cost: $266,137
Site: 10 Acres in Tarpon Springs
Size: 12 Classrooms, 277 Pupils
Design: Ligh-color brick; clusters of four classrooms.
Principals:
Norris T. Brooks 1959-61
Harold V. Gourley 1961-62

BELCHER ELEMENTARY 1960

(Building Occupied Jan. 4, 1960 after Four Months of Double Sessions)
Architect: Dalzell
Builder: Batstone
Cost: $283,227
Site: 10 Acres Southeast of Clearwater
1960: 12 Classrooms
12 Teachers
336 Pupils
1962: 20 Classrooms
17 Teachers
497 Pupils
Photo shows Principal John W. Dileo with aerial view of Belcher School.

PINELLAS PARK JUNIOR HIGH 1960

(Building Occupied September 1960 after Year of Double Sessions)
Architect: Colwell
Builder: Dean
Base Bid: $634,481
Site: 20 Acres West of Pinellas Park
Features: Multi-purpose rooms; dual-purpose stage; dispersed design.
1960: 16 Classrooms
26 Teachers
615 Students
1962: 28 Classrooms
48 Teachers
1110 Students

JAMES MATTHEWS, principal, and ultra-modern “School in the Woods,” already a mecca for hundreds. Matthews’ father was Board Chairman, 1931-32.

STARKEY ELEMENTARY 1960

(Building Occupied September 1960 after Year of Double Sessions)
Architect: Bruce & Parish
Builder: Nadal Baxandale
Base Bid: $256,869
Site: 10 Acres, South of Largo
Features: Rooms in “Community” Pods of Four; sliding doors to patios.
1960: 12 Classrooms
13 Teachers
396 Pupils
1962: 20 Classrooms
24 Teachers
736 Pupils

N. LOUIS SAMAHA, principal, and aerial photo of another interesting “School in the Country.”
OAK GROVE, pictured here with Principal N. G. Mangin, won the Freedoms Foundation Pilgrimage Award its first year. Last year Oak Grove started with 630 students; now there are 748.

(Occupied January 3, 1961, after Double Sessions at Madeira Beach)

Architect: Johnson
Contractor: Felix
Base Bid: $89,943
Site: 6.1 Acres South of Largo
Note: Existing building on site, used as Gym Village community center and church, was remodeled for administrative areas. Classroom wings are new.
1961: 6 Classrooms
197 Pupils
1962: 12 Classrooms
235 Pupils

TWO views of the Orange Grove School show it to be light and airy. Mrs. Margaret Abbott, left, is principal.

SKYVIEW ELEMENTARY 1961

(Occupied January 30, 1961, after Four Months of Double Sessions)

Architect: Dykema
Contractor: Earl Lamb
Base Bid: $278,993
Location: North Pinellas Park
1961: 12 Classrooms
433 Pupils
1962: 18 Classrooms
719 Pupils
Principal, Clinton S. Hackney

BEAR CREEK ELEMENTARY 1961

(Occupied Sept. 5, 1961.
Dedicated Nov. 7, 1961.)

Architect: Colwell
Builder: Lamb
Base Bid: $255,968
Location: Southwest St. Petersburg
Size: 12 Classrooms
313 Pupils
Principal, Helen L. Travis

DUNEDIN COMPREHENSIVE HIGH 1961

(Occupied Sept. 5, 1961.
Dedicated April 1, 1962.)

Architect: Dalzell
Builder, Setteca & Chilura
Base Bid: $987,780
Size: 34 Classrooms
775 Students
Principal, H. R. Danford

THREE small views of a huge plant — the county's second comprehensive high school. Dunedin High will grow as more vocational shops are added. True to its ancestry, this new school is carrying on the Scottish motif.
JANUARY 1, 1962 WE START ANOTHER 50 YEARS!

OAKHURST ELEMENTARY: FIRST SCHOOL OF THE SECOND HALF-CENTURY

You have just completed a “tour” of our “Schools of the Present” — those in operation as Pinellas County celebrates her 50th birthday.

But even on her birthday there is no pause for prosperous Pinellas. The up-curve in population, business, industry, and wealth springs from a solid foundation. Education should not “tag along” but should lead the way. The people of Pinellas — those here now and those destined to arrive — will require more, more, and even better educational facilities.

As Pinellas serves this slice of birthday cake (memories), 14 new school plants are either under construction or on the drawing boards.

The new Oakhurst School has strikingly different architecture, a good omen for the second 50 years. (A) The texture of the walls is luxuriant-looking. (B) Most noticeable feature is the half-cylinder arches covering the corridor between classrooms. (C) View from end of the arched corridor is unusual. (D) Classroom area is light and airy; note sunlight patterns from ends of half-cylinders. (E) Side of the school presents interesting design.

Architect: Glenn Q. Johnson
Contractor: Dean
Base Bid: $248,740
Location: On 137th St. between Oakhurst & Walsingham
Initial size: Eight Classrooms
Pupils: 275
Principal: Mrs. Iantha O. Byrd

CAMPBELL PARK ELEMENTARY 1962

Architect: Bruce & Parrish
Contractor: George & Gerard
Base Bid: $383,214
Location: 7th Avenue and 12th St.
South, St. Petersburg
Size: 24 Classrooms
School has been on double sessions at 16th Street School since Sept. 5, 1961, with 555 pupils.
Principal: Joseph A. Johnson

Building Occupied
In April, 1962

PALMETTO ELEMENTARY 1962

Architect: Bruce & Parrish
Builder: Ardee
Base Bid: $274,300
Location: Adjacent to Pinellas High in Clearwater
Size: 12 Classrooms
School has been on double sessions at Curtis Elementary since Sept. 5, 1961, with 228 pupils.

Building Occupied
In May, 1962

LEONARD SUMMERS, pictured above, is principal of the two-story Palmetto School nearing completion.
In This Section a Brief Look at

SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE

BAY POINT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Scheduled to Open September 1962
Architect: Charles Colwell
Builder: Earl Lamb
Location: 2200 62nd Avenue South, East of Sunshine Skyway Entrance, South St. Petersburg

Cost: $560,333
Facilities: 21 classrooms, three science rooms, homemaking suite, industrial arts suite, library, music room, cafeteria, etc.
Principal: John W. W. Patrick

BAY POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Cost: $277,316
Facilities: 12 classrooms, library, administrative suite, cafeteria with dual purpose kitchen to serve both schools.
Principal: Mrs. Wilda Harmon

MELROSE ELEMENTARY

Architect: Johnson
Builder: Dean
Base Bid: $271,441
Location: 18th St. at 14th Ave.
South, St. Petersburg
Facilities: 12 classrooms, library, cafeteria, etc.
Principal: Mrs. Sallie Davis

SEPTEMBER 1962

SAFETY HARBOR JUNIOR HIGH

Architect: Bruce & Parrish
Builder: Gerrits, Inc.
Base Bid: $612,000
Facilities: 15 classrooms, 3 science rooms, homemaking suite, general shop, choral room, band room, cafeteria, library, and gymnasium.
Principal: Joe C. Eldon
TARPON SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH

Architect: Charles L. Colwell
 Contractor: Batstone Construction Co. Inc.
 Base Bid: $812,261
 Facilities: Twelve classrooms, three science rooms, industrial arts suite, homemaking suite, two commercial rooms, arts and crafts room, band room, vocal room, auditorium, cafeteria, library, gymnasium, etc.
 Principal: Gus Sakkis

SEMINOLE SENIOR HIGH

Architect: Dalzell
 Builder: Dean
 Base Bid: $778,201
 Total Cost: $944,979
 Facilities: Same as for Tarpon Springs High (above)
 Principal, W. Stanley Moore

THE NEW GIBBS EDUCATIONAL CENTER

(Picture is Architect’s Rendering of High School & College Facilities)

Architect: Johnson
 Contractor: R. E. Clarson
 Base Bid: $933,740
 Facilities: 12 classrooms, 4 science laboratories, homemaking suite, building trades laboratory, commercial suite, DCT room, band room, choral room, etc.
 Principal, Emanuel W. Stewart
St. Petersburg Junior College, shown in aerial photo above, caters to all Pinellas County high school graduates. But what was once considered a large campus has been expanded almost to the limit. Therefore, an up-county branch is a necessity; and it will be more convenient for hundreds of students. Construction will begin, near Drew and Coachman in Clearwater, as soon as state funds are available. On the drawing boards of Dalzell and Dalzell plans are now being made for the most up-to-date junior college plant in the country.

MORE NEW SCHOOLS AND ADDITIONS ARE "IN THE WORKS" TO MAINTAIN A HIGH DEGREE OF PROGRESS IN PINELLAS

THIS DESIGN, which is not compact enough for air conditioning and thus will not be used, was the idea of Harvey R. McClelland, advertising art instructor at Tomlinson Adult Education Center. He also drew the cover for this Golden Anniversary report.

OTHER SCHOOLS NOW BEING PLANNED

- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL "R" near Dixie Hollins High School to relieve overcrowding at Westgate Elementary and other schools in the area. Size: 12 classrooms.

- JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL "X," St. Petersburg, approved by the voters in last November's millage election. Size: 29 classrooms plus other facilities.

- NEW JUNIOR HIGH in Clearwater. Similar to "X" above.

- ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS urgently needed at dozens of existing schools.

INDUSTRIAL-TECHNICAL CENTER BEING PLANNED FOR HIGH POINT

Enlightened by discussions with area industrial leaders and school administrators, the Pinellas County Board of Public Instruction recognizes the need for a well-staffed and equipped center to give unique kinds of industrial or technical training to qualify ambitious adults of various ages for specialized positions in shops, laboratories, or electronics plants. Such instruction will be in demand the year around; hence, an air-conditioned school of economical, compact design is being planned. Architects are Dalzell and Dalzell. Estimated cost is $335,000.

The courses to be taught will not duplicate or supersede any of those in the adult or vocational programs or the junior colleges. Certain courses will be tailored to fit the specific needs of local plants serving the missiles industry so that in the future more and more local people will be employed and fewer specialists imported.

This new center will initially have eight classrooms, two electronics labs, two drafting labs, one science lab, a machine shop, a library, and offices. It will be centrally located on a site near the High Point Service Center.

Pinellas schools had an average daily attendance last year of 95.5 per cent. This high record is the result of cooperation among parents, teachers, nurses, counselors, service groups, and visiting teachers. These people are keeping most of our children in good physical and mental health.
As Education Aims for Space Age Status, Pinellas Will Maintain ‘Blue Ribbon’ Leadership

For The Next 50 Years, All Systems Are ‘GO’!

So we had quite a history since 1912. Ups and downs we had, yes; but on the whole, we made dramatic progress.

What about the next 50 years? What will be recorded in the Superintendent’s Centennial Report of 2012? Well, not even with a crystal ball can anyone predict the amazing changes that are sure to come by then. But the near future is already taking shape.

Indications are that the most alert school systems are crossing the threshold of an exciting new era in the art and science of transmitting learning. As one of the nation’s 25 Blue Ribbon systems, Pinellas schools will be among the leaders in utilizing positive, carefully evaluated improvements in the successful transmission of ideas and skills. Here are some of the trends appearing on the eastern horizon:

- Freedom from the shackles of the traditional class concept of about 30 students dominated by one teacher.
- Use of a wide variety of communication methods to supplement books and lectures.
  - Scientific, mechanical, and electronic devices, early examples of which are recording instruments, photographic-and-sound combinations in addition to films and television, language laboratory, teaching machines, and/or programmed instruction, selective laboratory equipment in many subject areas, and automated self-evaluators.
  - Schools will not only teach people how to use advanced computers, but will use computers to discover better ways of transmitting ideas and skills.
- Emphasis on human relationships in the art of teaching while automated equipment frees the teacher from mechanical and routine tasks.
- Reorganization of instructional staffs to (a) eliminate compartmentalizing the subject areas and (b) make full use of each teacher’s highest skill or talent. (See chart.)
- Continual search and research to discover better instructional means, methods, and patterns.
- Freedom from boredom as new communication methods inspire, challenge, and stimulate the student’s intellectual ability.
- Flexibility in class sizes, in forms of student response, in ways students will study, work, or indicate progress. Such flexibility will be made feasible by more
  - Architectural innovations, forerunners of which are

BELOW is a diagram of a type of staff organization in a secondary school which departs from the traditional plan of having one chairman in each separate subject department working in isolation. This diagram may be used in schools of the future to implement effective team teaching. A number of Pinellas schools are already using team teaching with success.

Automation May Bring "Assistant Teachers"

TEACHING MACHINES, from the simple Rheem (left) to the complex AutoTutor (right), depend for success upon their internal "programmed instruction" which is fed to the student in tiny "digestible morsels" accompanied by immediate "feedback" and "reward." These programs must be painstakingly and scientifically constructed to be truly successful. A few Pinellas classes are now experimenting with programmed instruction, but as the programs are now in a developmental stage they will not be used here on a large scale until they (a) reach a high level of instructional efficiency and (b) become economically feasible. Teaching machines will never replace the teacher but will enable him to use his valuable time more effectively in ways that are distinctly human, not routine. They may serve him as automated assistants.

- Flexible, multi-purpose classrooms and teaching auditoriums with moveable or disappearing partitions;
- Individual carrels for study, listening, writing, recording, or self-testing;
- Areas especially designed for team teaching, TV instruction, group interaction or seminars, and practice of various skills;
- Learning areas arranged in circular clusters with an accessible materials resource center at the core.
- Greater efficiency, not only to make learning quicker and more effective but also to reduce the per capita cost per unit of learning.
- Use of large classes and/or television for those areas of instruction adapted to mass communica-
- Year-round and around-the-clock use of educational facilities through ingenious scheduling.
- Continual revision of the curriculum to (a) eliminate the obsolete "deadwood" and (b) to keep up-to-date with vital current developments.
- A balanced curriculum and guidance so that every normal individual will become
  - Skilled in the fundamentals of communicating and computing.
  - Imbued with a quest for continual inquiry and advanced learning.
  - Appreciative of the fine arts, with skill in at least one.
  - Well-grounded in the humanities, with respect for mankind’s eternal struggle to subdue brutal instincts.
  - Equipped mentally, physically, and morally for assuming adult responsibilities.
  - Professionally or occupationally skilled for earning for himself and his dependents a good livelihood.
**THE SCHOOL TAX DOLLAR**

**THEN**

(Graph reproduced from Superintendent's Annual Report of 1919)

Where each school dollar has gone for the period 1912-1919

---

**NOW**

1961-62

SCHOOL PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT  
25.3

INSTRUCTION 57.3

OPERATION & MAINT. & AUX. SERVICES 8.9

BONDS & INTEREST 7.7

Based on 1961-62
Total School Budgets*
Including Construction

*School construction funds from bonds, etc., were included in the bottom graph to give a comparison with the 1919 graph at the top, in which construction funds were included. In modern reports it is customary to graph the general budget only, in which case the greatest change would be in Instruction.

INSTRUCTION ACCOUNTS FOR 72.3% OF THE GENERAL BUDGET
Schools Help The Economy!

AS WEALTH, NEEDS, POPULATION EXPAND, SO DO SCHOOL BUDGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>General* Budgets</th>
<th>Change in a Decade</th>
<th>Enrollments</th>
<th>Decade's Increase</th>
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<td>1912-13</td>
<td>$121,438</td>
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<td>3,225</td>
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<tr>
<td>1922-23</td>
<td>787,985</td>
<td>+549%</td>
<td>7,693</td>
<td>139%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932-33</td>
<td>667,300</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>13,050</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941-42</td>
<td>1,020,655</td>
<td>+54%</td>
<td>15,286</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1951-52</td>
<td>5,758,680</td>
<td>+459%</td>
<td>23,439</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-62</td>
<td>23,409,984</td>
<td>+307%</td>
<td>68,911</td>
<td>194%</td>
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</table>

*General budget does not include special budgets, such as construction of bond issue schools, sinking fund, and junior colleges' budgets.

A Lesson In Community Economics

Phase One.
Community may be run-down, houses somewhat dilapidated, living standards are low partly because people are lackadaisical.

Phase Two.
A new school is built nearby with a curricular program that builds interest, ambition, and enthusiasm.

Phase Three.
Pride in the modern school results in housing projects, more jobs, better community life, higher standards, more business, and increased prosperity.
The growth of Pinellas Schools is related to the dramatic history of our country.
For The Record - See How We've Grown!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Total Enrollments</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
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<td>1936-37</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Total Enrollments</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
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<tr>
<td>1961-62</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Acknowledgements to Contributors

This Golden Anniversary publication on Pinellas schools would not have been possible without the wholehearted cooperation of many Pinellas people. The most numerous group of contributors is the principals of our hundred-plus schools. A large number of teachers have provided us with important clues, facts, and dates. Personnel in the county schools' office have given immeasurable help.

Mrs. Goldie Maxwell Seller's scrapbook, donated to the Pinellas Historical Commission, was a delightful "find." The gracious assistance of Ralph Reed, historian and clerk, and the other members of the Pinellas Historical Commission, has been invaluable. Pinellas Resources supplied important background material.

Former Superintendent Dixie Hollins provided information and photos for this book, and the treasured keepsakes of Helen Lynch, daughter of beloved Captain Lynch, provided some of the old-time pictures which were copied for this publication.

For permission to use photographs, previously published in their columns, we are grateful to the St. Petersburg Times, the Clearwater Sun, the St. Petersburg Evening Independent and the Tampa Tribune.

To the many others who helped us but are not named here individually: thanks so much and forgive us for not publishing your name on this page. There were just too many to list, but we appreciate you more than we can say.

Lowell Hawkins, Editor
The people of Pinellas, expressing themselves at meetings with others and alone with Conscience in the voting booth, have demanded that Pinellas children have better and better opportunities for QUALITY EDUCATION.

have met that demand. This school system is one of only 30 in the nation designated by the National School Board Association and the American Association of School Administrators as a

Blue Ribbon School System

We Believe That*

Moral and Spiritual Values Should Be Emphasized
Children and Youth Should Master the Basic Skills
Schools Should Operate Democratically
Education Should Help Each Individual Develop Respect for the Dignity and Worth of ALL People
Youth Should Develop Appreciation and Respect for Work that is Difficult
Able Persons Should Continue Learning Until Maximum Potentialities Have Been Developed.

—in Condensed from Philosophy of Education, Schools of Pinellas County, Florida

Instruction of the Intellect

“Education
Is the Instruction of the Intellect in the Laws of Nature,
under which name I include not merely Things and their Forces, but Men and their Ways; and the Fashioning of the Affections and of The Will into an earnest and loving desire

To Move in Harmony
With those Laws.”

—Thomas Henry Huxley, 1868