

History of
The
Rose Tree Media
School District



C1980

1983

The Rose Tree Media Tricentennial Committee

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ROSE TREE MEDIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

901 North Providence Road, Media, PA 19063
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Henry T. Nacrelli
Superintendent of Schools

April 26, 1983

Mr. Frank Lees
39 E. Front Street
Media, PA 19063

Dear Frank:

Enclosed is a copy of our recently published
"History of the Rose Tree Media School District." We
appreciate the invaluable information you provided us
to complete this project and we hope you will enjoy
having a copy of the booklet for future reference.

Thank you again for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Nacrelli', is written over the printed name.

Henry T. Nacrelli
Superintendent of Schools

HTN:mw

Enclosure

PREFATORY NOTE

A cursory reading of the following pages will reveal omissions of names, facts, and events which many will feel ought not to have been omitted. Those who served on the committee to draw this history together are well aware of the hiatuses that exist. They are aware of the many men and women whose names are not mentioned who gave years of dedicated service to the Rose Tree Media educational system - parents, teachers, administrators, and board members. To list all their names would require more pages than this work contains. Though unnamed, they are not forgotten nor unappreciated.

It was the intention of the committee from the outset simply to present a modest history of the school district.

The works of Jane L. Carter and David Swayne Pierce were immensely helpful in providing material relating to Edgmont and Middletown. Ashmead's early work was also indispensable. Their works are listed in the bibliography and will prove worthwhile for those seeking fuller treatment of specific township material.

Thanks go also to Lenore Dunn, Shirley Lees, and William Kaufman for information they provided or material they graciously lent.

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Edgmont Township



Hanna Carr Elementary

The history of education in the Rose Tree Media School District began in the same manner for all the communities that compose the district: Edgmont, Middletown, Upper Providence, and Media, for each is a township or a borough in southeastern Pennsylvania; and it was in this state in 1683 that William Penn, to whom this land was granted by the King of England, set a fine of five English pounds for parents who failed to have their children "able to read the Scriptures and write by the time they attain twelve years of age." This educational requirement by Penn early in the history of the Commonwealth could well have been the cornerstone of Quaker education that gave us Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore Colleges and the University of Pennsylvania.

Obeying the law, parents themselves often taught their children. Soon, however, Quakers built additions to the meetinghouses where they worshipped and school was conducted in these structures by full-time teachers. Three or four of these schools existed in Edgmont Township. In those early days, qualifications for teaching in a Quaker school included good moral character, capability, and membership in the Society of Friends. Parents paid tuition of a few shillings a year, but children of indentured servants and slaves were admitted free.

In the first decade of the 1700's, there were two schools in operation: one, known as High Bank, was located on Delchester Road, and the other on Valley Road. Both existed for only a short period of time. In 1749, Joseph Pennell of Edgmont leased a quarter acre of ground to a group of Friends for a period of 999 years. On this land in the Central District (also known as Big Edgmont), a school was built in Gradyville in the area of the present Hanna Carr School. In 1809, the original school was torn down and replaced by another stone structure soon known as Edgmont Seminary. This remained until 1870 when it, too, was replaced.

Isaac Wood was the first teacher in the second school. Among later teachers were John McMullen, John Kinsie, Hezekiah Burns, Caleb Hoopes, Jehu Broomhall, Joseph Plankinton, William Vodges, James Sill, Jr., and Samuel L. Smedley.

In May of 1825, Homer Eachus, William and James Sill were elected trustees of schools by the people of Edgmont Township. With the passage in 1834 of new school laws for Pennsylvania, Dr. James Aitkin and Homer Eachus were appointed inspectors of the public schools by the Court of Delaware County until directors were elected.

In 1835, the schoolhouse erected in 1809 was transferred to the elected directors of the public schools. After this transfer, Samuel Lewis was the first teacher and was succeeded by Pierson Pike, Levi Baker, James M. Smith, and others.

Another early school was built about 1760 in the eastern part of Edgmont Township near the Upper Providence line. Thomas Hammer was the schoolmaster of that school. In 1860, this building was torn down. Twenty years later, the township lines were changed and the lot on which the school had stood was now in Upper Providence.

In September of 1841, a stone schoolhouse was built on a parcel of land purchased from Isaac Yarnall. This building, located in the southwest part of the township, was used for only eight or ten years.

Though buildings once used for schools no longer exist or have been converted to private homes, their existence can be verified from maps of Edgmont in the late 1800's. These show school lots on Providence Road not far from Route 3.

Pupils in the Southern District attended School #3, a stone structure built in 1843 on Sycamore Mills Road on ground purchased from George Bishop. This building was used until 1875 when a new school was built about 300 yards away on land acquired from Jesse Green and Isaac Sharpless. Schoolhouse #1 in the Western District was built in 1867 on Valley Road on land formerly belonging to George Eppright. Another school, also designated #1, was located on Providence Road. This structure is now the home of Herbert Sperry.* Edgmont School #2, at that time also called Central School, served pupils living in the Gradyville area. This school was replaced shortly after the Civil War by a larger one-room schoolhouse, the standard State structure in rural areas.

During the school year 1926-27, the three schools in Edgmont were consolidated. All grades now met in School #2 (familiarily known as the Gradyville School) to which two rooms were added. While the construction of the additional rooms was taking place, classes for grades one and two were held in the old Gradyville Hotel. Following consolidation, a privately-owned bus was used to transport the elementary children.

On August 15, 1944, fire destroyed Gradyville School and all textbooks, supplies, and records were lost. A new school was urgently needed, but construction was delayed by World War II. Until a new school could be built, classes for the primary grades were held on the stage of the Lima School. Two years later, the primary grade pupils were transferred to Union Independent #3. The intermediate and upper grade pupils were taught on the second floor of the Glen Mills Public School until 1946 when they were moved to the Thornton School.

In 1948, all classes resumed in the rebuilt Gradyville School. Five years later, Edgmont became a part of the Central Delaware County Joint School District, but withdrew from the group in less than a year because of differences in philosophy.

In 1955, three classrooms and a multi-purpose room were added to the 1948 Gradyville school building. Despite these additions, increased enrollment made it necessary to use two rooms in the basement for classes.

In September of 1969, the Gradyville School was renamed the Hanna M. Carr School in honor of the woman who had taught 44 years in Edgmont.

Buildings alone do not constitute an educational system. Without pupils and teachers, the buildings mean nothing. Edgmont, like the other districts, had its share of devoted teachers. The earliest of these were predominantly

*School numbers are somewhat confused and existing information is inadequate to resolve the confusion.

Quakers, although by the last half of the nineteenth century, being a Quaker was no longer a prerequisite for teaching in the district.

An early teacher in Edgmont School #2 was Lydia Peoples who taught from 1870 until 1880. Exact records are lacking, but it is known that Frederick Windle, the last traditional Quaker teacher, taught in the same school in 1888 and 1889. In 1908, Rachel Hudson taught there. Other teachers were Hettie Thomas and the Baker sisters: Amy, Anna, and Emma. In the early 1920's, Mrs. Clara Agnew was a popular teacher at Edgmont School.

The work of the teacher demanded more than a grounding in the fundamentals of the curriculum. The early teachers (many were graduates of West Chester Normal School) were responsible for keeping the school neatly swept, making sure that the stove was properly attended, and performing other duties to ensure a pleasant atmosphere. Their salaries varied over the years. In 1861, the records of Thomas G. Sill, Treasurer of the Edgmont School Board, indicate that teachers received \$28.00 a month. A woman teacher, Maggie Roney, was paid \$84.00 for teaching six months, roughly half the salary men teachers received.

Conditions were still spartan in Mrs. Agnew's time. Steel pens had replaced goose quills, and pencil and paper had replaced chalk and slate. Pencils, however, were used only for temporary work such as spelling and arithmetic. Ink was used for any work of a more permanent nature. Outhouses were still in use, water came from a well, and desks, uniform in size, were bolted to the floor. The teacher's desk rested on a platform, and a bench at the front of the room accommodated reciting students. Heat was provided by a pot-bellied stove, though a hot-air furnace replaced this during Mrs. Agnew's tenure. There were, of course, no school buses. The three R's were the mainstay of the curriculum.

Recess provided some respite from the long hours in the classroom. Children played a variety of games during this break in the academic routine: tag, tickle-eye over, hopscotch, and marbles. In spring they picked wild flowers, and in the winter they ice-skated on a nearby pond or sledged on neighboring fields.

Attendance was irregular. In winter, deep snow kept many of the younger pupils at home; in planting and harvesting time, the older boys stayed home to help on the farms.

For several years, children graduating from eighth grade were required to take an examination prepared by the County Superintendent's Office. Then, because Edgmont Township had no high school, those who passed the examination had the option of attending Media, West Chester, or Marple-Newtown High Schools. Students who went on to high school had to provide their own transportation.

Hanna Carr (for whom the Gradyville School was renamed in 1969) was the only pupil in her eighth grade class to take the high school qualifying exam. Her choice for high school was West Chester. After finishing high school, she attended West Chester Normal School and in two years earned her teaching certificate. By the time Hanna returned in 1927 to teach at Gradyville School, the one she herself had attended as a girl and where she had been taught by Mrs. Agnew and the Bakers, two rooms had been added.

Elsie Carr, Hanna's sister; followed a similar path and began teaching in Gradyville in 1932. Sarah Yarnall, a pupil in one of Elsie's first graduating classes, returned to teach with the Carrs' at Gradyville in 1943.

Hanna Carr retired in 1969 and Elsie in 1970. Together, they had devoted 82 years to teaching in the district.

Middletown Township

Glenwood Elementary



Roosevelt Elementary



Penncrest High School



The schools of Middletown span nearly two and one-half centuries. Many of these were private schools maintained by Quakers. Our knowledge of the earliest school in the Middletown district comes from Painter's, Reminiscences of Delaware County, wherein we learn that in 1740, Thomas Yarnall and Thomas Minshall gave an equal portion of land on each side of a common property line to be used for a schoolhouse. In this school, George Dibble, as schoolmaster, kept things well in hand.

In 1749, a stone schoolhouse was built on Edgmont Road near the Presbyterian Church. This was School #3 and stood until 1835.

In 1783, the Friends of Middletown established a school at their meeting-house which continued until 1827 when a schism occurred and the school came under the control of the Hicksite branch of Friends. Jehu Broomhall was a teacher in this school during the years 1815 and 1820. (This was the same Jehu Broomhall who had taught in Edgmont Seminary--Edgmont School #2). While the Hicksites continued the education of the young in the same location, the Orthodox Friends kept their school in a private home near Emlin Mill. After completing their own meetinghouse in 1836, they built a schoolhouse on the same property and schooling continued there.

In the late 1700's and early 1800's, indentured boys and girls were not unknown in Middletown Township. In keeping with the mandate of William Penn, it was required that they be given some education. To this end, their indenture agreement stated that a certain number of days schooling be given an indentured child each year during his term of service. That this schooling was frequently sparse or even neglected entirely is seen from the endorsements found on the indenture contract of Isabella Griffith. Among these endorsements, we find P. Wade's certification that he taught Isabella two quarters and nine days in 1798-99. D. Bayle endorsed having taught her twenty-seven days in 1800; J. Spencer recorded teaching her eleven days in 1802; and J. McCloghlin certified that he taught her one month in 1803. The final endorsement is that of C. W. Matson who states that he taught the girl one and one-half months in 1806-07.* There are no endorsements for 1801, 1804, and 1805. It is surmised that Isabella received no instruction in these years. During the ten years that instruction is noted, the child received little more than one full year of schooling.

Young people who did not have to survive by becoming indentured servants were schooled on a more regular basis in one of the several schools in operation in the township. One of these, a private school known as William Smedley's Schoolhouse, was located where Rose Tree Road meets Middletown Road. In 1835, it was accepted by the School Board and became District School #2 and remained in use until 1839.

When the school law of 1834 passed, William Fairlamb and Minshall Painter were appointed by the court as inspectors until lawfully-elected school directors could replace them. It was 1836 before the township accepted the law. In May of that year, a committee was appointed to find suitable land for a schoolhouse. Unable to reach an agreement and discouraged by extravagant prices being asked for lots, the committee requested that it be relieved of its obligation.

*Ashmead, p. 617.

In 1835, the school directors had purchased a one-half acre lot from Peter Hill for \$50.00. The deed was received in 1837, and a school was built on the land. Also in 1837, Nicholas Fairlamb offered to sell one-half acre of his farmland bordering Edgmont Road. The school directors agreed to his price of \$100.00. Feeling that this ground was more suitably located for a school than the Hill property, the School Board approved its use for a new school. When completed, the building was designated as School #1, the William Smedley School as #2, the Middletown Friends School as #3, and the schoolhouse built on land acquired from Hill as #4.

The schools of Middletown Township were to open as public schools in December of 1837, and four more teachers were needed. These were to be hired according to public notice. Five people applied for teaching positions, were examined, and hired for three months at a salary of \$25.00 per month each. The fifth applicant, William Smedley, was to teach in a house, designated as School #5. (One wonders about his being hired in light of only four positions being advertised.) School #5 was relocated in a regular schoolhouse in June of 1840.*

As the community prospered and the population increased, additional facilities for education were required, and in March of 1839, the school directors purchased one-half acre of land from Joshua Sharpless. Jared Darlington built a schoolhouse on this site for \$400.00. In 1841, Thomas Reece built a schoolhouse on land purchased from George Smedley. This structure, at the "Barrens" as the area was called, was used until 1868. In April of 1868, Isaac Flounders was contracted to build a stone schoolhouse at the same location for \$2,193.00. This school was known as the "Barrens" or District #8.

By October of 1848, School #3 was overcrowded, and the school directors rented a room nearby for \$40.00 a year to accommodate the pupil overflow. School records at this time indicate that School #6 was built in July of 1849.

Sixteen years after passage of the Pennsylvania Public School Laws, school records from Middletown provided the following information:

Number of Schools	6
Number of Months Taught	7
Number of Male Teachers	4
Number of Female Teachers	2
Number of Male Pupils	192
Number of Female Pupils	288
Average Number in Each School	70
Tax Collected	\$1,015.43
Instructional Costs	\$1,008.00

*This first Darlington School was built on a lot purchased from the Christian Pitts estate. Thomas Shoemaker was contracted to build it for \$398.00, but he reneged; the school was then contracted to John Eves who built it for \$370.00. Located on the east side of Darlington Road, about one hundred yards north of New Darlington Road, this building was used as a school until 1905.

In June of 1853, School #7 was built for \$500.00 on a lot near Knowlton Road. Space was still inadequate, and a hall was rented at Spring Hill. In 1858, the school directors accepted Samuel Riddle's offer of a room to be used as a school and named it the Glen Riddle School. Neither this nor School #7 was in use in 1869.

In 1861, land was purchased at Lima from the Directors of the Poor (as administrators of the Fair Acres property were called at that time) for \$120.00. It was here that new #7 was built for \$1,560.00.

Three years later, three-quarters of an acre of land was purchased from Samuel Riddle for \$175.00, and another stone schoolhouse was built on this land for \$2,384.00.

In the latter half of the decade, from 1861 to 1870, Schools #1 and #4 were remodeled, and School #2 was moved to another location. In June of 1868, the district schools were renumbered. These were the new designations: School #1, near Habbersetts; #2, near Johnson's; #3 and #4, at Parkmount; #5, Darlington; #6 and #7, at Lima; and #8, the Barrens.

The diligent research of Henry Swayne Pearson facilitated the bringing of the history of these schools into the twentieth century. According to his work,* the Barrens School was in use until 1914. While it existed as a school, it was referred to as Harmony School and officially as District #8.

School #2, built in 1867 at the intersection of Mt. Alverno and Glen Riddle Roads, was closed in 1921. Its more familiar name was Mount Pleasant School.

Darlington School #2, located on the east side of Valley Road, just south of Darlington Road, was in use from 1905 until 1918.

In 1916, a one-room brick addition was made to the stone school built on the land purchased from Riddle in 1864. Further alterations were made to this school at Parkmount in 1936. In 1945, the school was closed.

*Henry Swayne Pearson, History of Middletown, pp. 177 ff.

Upper Providence Township

Springton Lake

Middle School



Rose Tree Elementary



Education Center



Upper Providence parents, like those of the other communities, provided for the education of their children before the State mandated that they do so. One of the earliest schools found in Upper Providence was the Blue Hill School on Providence Road, erected on the site of one of the old buildings which had been set aside for the education of young children. It is definitely known that a school was maintained there in 1777.

James Turner, owner of a house and lot on Providence Road known as Blue Hill, willed this land in 1787 in the manner quoted:

I give, devise, and bequeath to George Miller, the son of my cousin, George Miller, my house and lott of ground, situate in Upper Providence, afore-said, commonly called the Blue Hill...to hold to him, his heirs and assigns forever, upon special trust and confidence, nevertheless, and to and for the uses, interests, and purposes hereinafter expressed, mentioned, and declared and none other; (that is to say) for the use of the Society of Protestants commonly called Quakers, of and belonging to the Monthly Meeting of Chester, for the erecting of one or more school-houses thereon for the teaching and instructing youth therein, and all necessary conveniences thereto belonging, under and subject to the rules, regulations, and order of the said monthly meeting for the time being forever.*

The remainder of his estate was willed to Jacob Minshall for the use of the school. Jacob Minshall and George Miller, being individual trustees of these two pieces of ground, conveyed the land specified in the Turner will in trust for the Blue Hill School and in 1794, George Miller granted one acre and two square rods of land in trust for use by the Society of Friends, as Turner's will had stipulated. A stone schoolhouse was built by subscription prior to Miller's death in 1797. By 1872, this school had become so dilapidated that it was necessary to rebuild it at a cost of \$2,500.00. To meet this expense, the court, in June of 1873, authorized the directors to sell land which had belonged to the Turner family. The sale of this land netted \$1,333.15.

The Blue Hill School passed into the possession of the school directors of the district of Upper Providence in 1837, three years after the enactment of the Pennsylvania School Law.

In 1836, the Board of Directors purchased one-half acre of land on Providence Road near Rose Tree Road and erected on this property a schoolhouse which was used until 1870. Another half acre of ground adjoining the school was purchased, and a brick building was constructed to replace the old building. This new school was designated Sandy Bank #2.

Prior to 1872, a school had also been maintained in a house belonging to Samuel Bancroft. That same year, his lot was purchased by an Englishman

*Quoted by Ashmead, p. 668.

who decided to return to England before he had paid for the property. During his homeward journey, he was lost at sea. His heirs finally paid for the land, and in 1872, a brick schoolhouse, 27' by 40', financed by this money, was erected. This school was known as District #1. The building is still being used as a private dwelling and can be seen on Orange Street south of the Media train station.

In 1825, Thomas Cassin, Isaac Smedley, and George Miller, Jr., were elected school trustees for Upper Providence. It should be noted that Isaac Smedley and George Miller were trustees of the Blue Hill School, the only school known to have been in the township at that time.

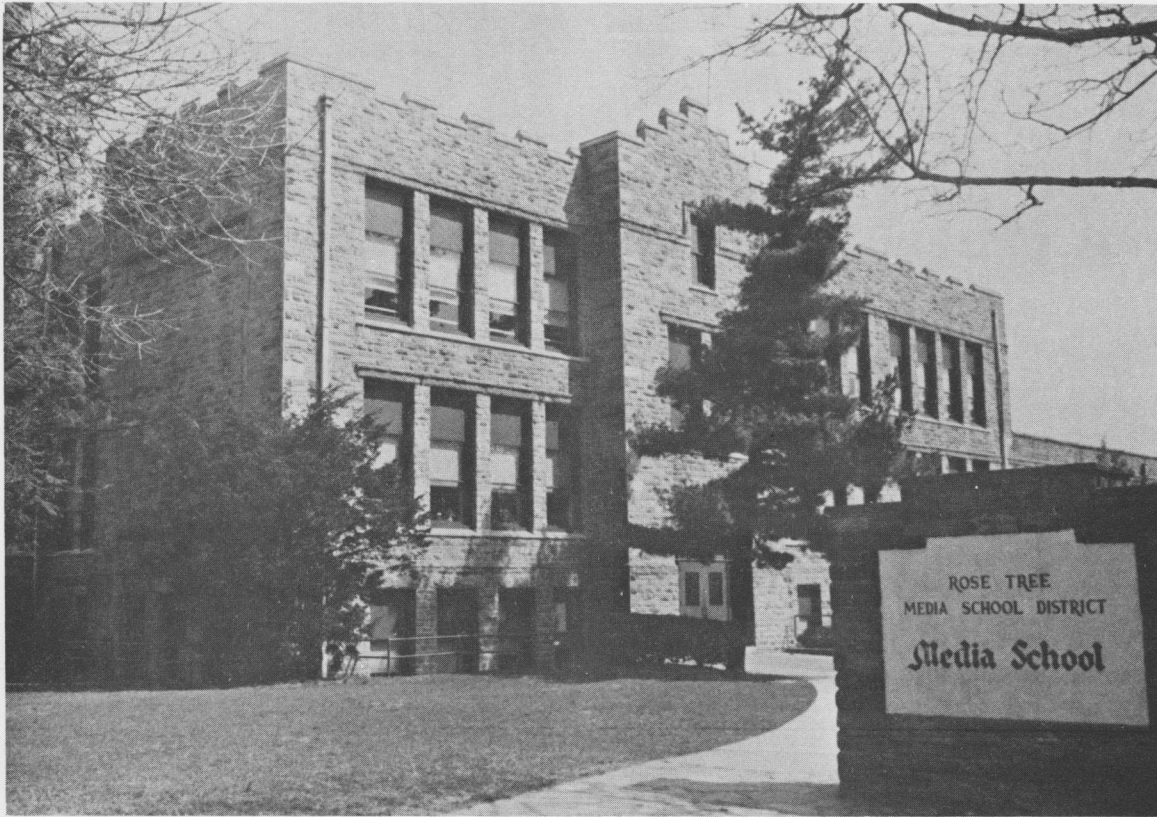
With the passing of the school law, George Miller, Jr., and Ezekial Norman, Jr., were appointed inspectors of the public schools until directors could be elected. The school law requiring the maintenance of public schools minimally eased the tax burden which this law placed on communities by appropriating some money to the school districts. In 1835, the State appropriated \$138.57 to Upper Providence for school purposes.

In 1905, a four-room stone school was built on the lot at the corner of Sandy Bank and Providence Roads. An addition in the same architectural style was constructed in 1926. Grades one to eight were housed there. In 1927, a kindergarten was added, one of the first held in a Delaware County public school.

In 1947, the population in the district had increased to the extent that another building was necessary. The first section of Rose Tree School was built. Future planning included the possibility of a merger with Media and the Rose Tree School becoming the proposed district's junior high. In view of this contingency, sufficient land was purchased to accommodate a regulation-size football field at the back of the building.

The Economy League surveyed the plans, the predicted school population, and related factors, and decided that a merger was not necessary. Media and Upper Providence, consequently, remained separate districts, and the majority of Upper Providence pupils in grades seven to twelve attended Media School.

Media Borough



Media Elementary

In 1690, William Penn sold the land which now includes Media to Peter Taylor for 10½ cents per acre. The land was so poor that the tract was called "Poor Providence." (The area to the north, consequently, was known as Upper Providence and that to the south as Nether Providence.)

The Commissioners of Delaware County, in 1850, selected this central spot to be the county seat and bought 48 acres from Upper Providence Township. There were a number of buildings on this land, including the county poorhouse (at that time located where the school building at State and Monroe Streets now stands); however, there was no schoolhouse.

Before 1856, children living in the borough area attended school in Upper Providence at "Sandy Bank" and the old schoolhouse which stood on the east side of Providence Road at the end of Jefferson Street. The earliest mention of a public school system in Media is found in a newspaper item dated May 20, 1853, quoted in Ashmead:

Commendable -- The school directors of Upper Providence have contracted to erect a suitable building to be occupied as a public school in the Borough of Media. It is to be hoped that a house worthy of the place will be built.*

A small brick schoolhouse was erected during the year, the first in the town incorporated only three years earlier.

Media became a separate school district in 1856. This meant that the borough, no longer under the jurisdiction of Upper Providence, had to have its own school directors. H. Jones Brooke, William F. Pierce, D. R. Hawkins, Samuel P. Rush, Thomas F. Williams, and R. H. Smith were elected as the first directors of the fledgling district and held their first meeting at the brick schoolhouse on March 29, 1856.

These men, on May 1, 1856, awarded a contract of \$267.00 for the construction of a frame schoolhouse which was completed in June of the same year. The directors also hired two teachers: Ellen Valentine for the primary school situated on Lemon Street north of State at a salary of \$22.50 per month, and Edmond Cheyney for the grammar school at Providence and Beatty Roads at a salary of \$30.00 per month.

In 1859, the Board secretary's report of a visit he had made to the schools was not an encouraging one. The primary pupils, he stated, were making little progress; pupils in the grammar school were attempting too much at once; the books were not well cared for; and, worst of all, the study of Latin had been introduced without Board consultation. Despite his pessimism, the schools continued to function and to thrive. The same year this less than salutary report was made, a lot was purchased at Third and Olive Streets and a contract entered for a new school large enough to accommodate 300 pupils. The cost was \$3,140.00. The tax rate that year was four mills, plus two mills for the buildings.

*Ashmead, p. 20.

The cornerstone of this one-story, 55' by 75' school building was laid on October 31, 1859. Deposited with the stone was a tin box containing a roll of the 69 grammar school pupils and their teacher, Joseph Addison Thompson; the primary roll of 71 pupils and their teacher, Sue Pearce; a list of county and borough officers; and various newspapers.

D. R. Hawkins, R. H. Smith, and R. Jones Brooke were still serving as directors; the other original directors had been replaced by Charles D. Manley, Ralph Buckley, and William T. Inness.

The new building was completed April 25, 1860, and the old brick school and the lot on which it stood were sold to Charles R. Williamson for \$550.00. A month later, classes began in the new structure and continued there nearly a quarter of a century. Enrollment had been increasing and, in spite of being twice remodeled, the building was no longer adequate. In 1884, therefore, it was torn down to provide a site for the proposed new high school building which was to contain twelve rooms, all well lighted and equipped with modern apparatus.

As the population of the new county seat grew, the number of school children also grew and, once again, the existing school proved inadequate to house them. In 1883, Mr. Isaac N. Flounders received a contract to build a new, more spacious structure. The building Flounders provided at a cost of \$18,000.00 was a two-story, 70' by 80' structure.

In addition to providing buildings to house pupils, there were many other areas that the Board considered to be within its domain. Among these was the devising of curriculum. In 1870, the Board decided to add natural philosophy to the already replete list of courses offered in the grammar school. Students were expected to cope with this new course as well as with grammar, orthography, reading, writing, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, geography, history, botany, astronomy, and Latin.

The Board, working so assiduously for the educational welfare of the community, had, in 1874, made history as having among its members Mrs. Malvina Fairlamb, the first woman on the local Board as well as the first woman school director in Delaware County.

The year Malvina became school director, taxes still averaged four mills; nevertheless, each month the tax collector presented to the Board for its approval a long list of "exonerations." The usual reason given for the request to be excused from the tax was "too poor." The State was already appropriating some money to the schools, and Media received \$48.12 from Harrisburg that year.

Demand was growing for a school in east Media, the one there originally having been closed and sold in 1858 following a slight jurisdictional dispute over it with Nether Providence. Acceding to this demand, the Board approved the construction of a new two-room school in that part of town to be erected for \$6,100.00.

Over the years, the Board did its part to promote community affairs by handling various requests. The request of the Media Town Band to practice

in the school building was tabled. The request of the Loyal Temperance Union to hold meetings in the building was granted with the proviso that the Temperance Union pay the costs of the janitorial services and the gas. The request to borrow books from the school library to help start the Media Free Public Library in 1901 was granted.

In 1903, two women attended a Board meeting to promote the idea of a kindergarten; however, the Board rejected the suggestion stating that there was no space and that providing for a kindergarten would mean increased taxation. It was not until 1946 that a kindergarten was incorporated into the Media school system.

As always, there was the problem of monthly bills. In March of 1906 they amounted to \$26.55. That was the month that the school district was 50 years old. That same month, the Board dealt with a matter of leaking gas pipes in the seventh grade room and decided to supply towels and soap for the cloakrooms. Teacher salaries now ranged from \$350.00 to \$750.00 per year. Also in March of 1906, an option on the lot which is now the John K. Barrall Memorial Field was approved.

In succeeding years, the Board handled many diverse problems. They ordered a case of slates and 18 books of German poems for pupils to memorize. (The logic behind this last item has never been fathomed.) They approved a contribution of \$400.00 per year to the town library with the contingency that the School Board be represented on the Library Board. They arranged for the fumigation of the school building following a measles epidemic. Noting that some boys had too many free periods and, therefore, too much time to make mischief, the Board demanded that the boys' academic studies be increased.

In 1910, the lot at State and Monroe Streets on which the present school stands was purchased for \$26,000.00. This had been the site of the Shortlidge Military Academy.

Three years later, a contract for the construction of a building on that property was signed. The cost was set at \$70,880.00. In July, preliminary plans for the new school were adopted. The cornerstone was laid with appropriate ceremonies in April of 1914, and the building was completed and ready for occupancy in January of 1915. From that date until 1966, it served as the high school of the Borough of Media. A considerable addition was made to the 1913 building in 1929. In 1951, an entire new grade school wing was added. The building now housed, in one location, the total student population from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Not only its building programs, but also the steady increase in teaching staff attested to the growth of the Media school system. In 1856, two teachers were employed; in 1869, four; in 1877, six; in 1889, ten; and in 1898, thirteen (this number did not include the music and art specialists whom the Board employed for the first time that year). By 1900, the staff had grown to fifteen and, though the music and art instructors were still employed, they were not considered full staff members.

In 1956, a hundred years from the beginning of the school district, Media's faculty numbered seventy-eight. The staff was headed by John K. Barrall, principal of the high school, and Roy Brown, principal of the elementary school. Dr. Fred Tanger was superintendent.

There were forty students in the first school in 1856 and 1,400 in 1956.

A hundred years after the district was initiated, the following Board members met to deal with the problems of running the school: Dr. Mark Allam, president; Leedom Y. Tuckerman, secretary; Francis R. Austin; Earle O. Babbitt; Howard P. Thomas; William H. Wohnus; and James H. Wood. The minutes of this meeting ran six printed pages. Bills totaling \$6,531.91 for the month were ordered to be paid and the report of the tax collector, Crosby L. Smith, was read; no one was exonerated for being poor. Dr. Tanger reported on the preliminary work that had been done on the drawing up of rules and policies for the district and presented a tentative budget of \$570,995.00 for the 1956-57 school year. A summer school session was approved, but most of the discussion at the meeting centered on the renovation of the high school building and the attitude of the State Department of Education to such plans if the district continued independently from the other members of the jointure.* The projected cost of the renovation was \$300,000.00.

*For Media's role, see "Jointure."

The source for much of the material in this section was an address by Lenore Dunn to the Media BPW Club in 1950.

Rose Tree Media

The year 1966 was important to the Rose Tree Union for two reasons. The first was the completion, at Penncrest, of a new wing with twenty-two academic classrooms, five science laboratories, a music suite, and a girls' gymnasium. The second reason, which affected people throughout the district, was the merger on July 1 with Media Borough School District. This merger changed Media High to a junior high.

Starting in September, Media students of high-school age would attend Penncrest. For them, this change in schools meant being assimilated by an entrenched group in a strange setting with unfamiliar teachers. The strangeness was offset, to a small degree, by the presence of some teachers from Media. Secondary teachers there had been given the option of transferring to Penncrest or remaining at Media to teach at the junior high level. Most of those who had taught at senior high level chose to continue doing so. Their adaptation to the new school was eased, in a few cases, by their having the same department chairmen they had had at Media. Although some people were a bit unhappy with the new arrangements, and several never truly acclimated, most made the transition quite smoothly. Within a year or two, it seemed as though no change had ever been made.

Mr. John K. Barrall, who had been principal of Media High, remained in Media as principal of the junior high.

When the merger occurred, members of the Board of the Rose Tree Union were George W. Matters, Charles H. Meyer, Kenneth R. Meenan, Lewis M. Evans, III, Richard L. Raymond, John C. Snyder, and Joseph Walton. Dr. Stanley C. Campbell was superintendent. The Media Borough school directors were William Gross, J. Walter Hayes, Earl Scull, Benjamin Palmer, Bruce Ritz, Bennett I. Yarnall, and Elliott Bell. Dr. Tanger was the superintendent.

The Board of the newly-formed Rose Tree Media School District included men from each of the previous Boards: Evans, Matters, Meenan, Meyer, Raymond, and Snyder from the Rose Tree Board, and Gross, Hayes, and Yarnall from the Media Board. Dr. Campbell remained in the position of superintendent of the new district, and Dr. Tanger and Henry Hofmann were designated assistant superintendents.

Prior to the merger, Rose Tree Union had already faced the problem of overcrowding at the junior high school level. Dr. Campbell and the Board, aware that Media High's conversion to a junior high had alleviated the problem only temporarily, spent many hours from 1966 to 1969 planning for the construction of another junior high for the district.

At the School Board meeting of June 26, 1969, Dr. Campbell, having accepted the post of superintendent of the Indianapolis School District, submitted his resignation as superintendent of Rose Tree Media, ending an eight-year period of service. His leaving gave the Board only eight weeks to select a new superintendent. Advertising the opening, the Board soon had seventy applicants to interview. From among these it chose Dr. Joseph Lapchick, a graduate of West Point with a doctor's degree from Harvard. At the time of his selection, Lapchick was serving as superintendent of the Overbrook School Cluster in the Philadelphia Public School System.

Dr. Lapchick found himself faced immediately with a problem quite familiar to the Board - insufficient space for all the students in the district. The completion of the Penncrest addition had resolved the lack of classroom space at the secondary level, but the problem was growing at the junior high level. Media Junior High could no longer absorb the growing number of pupils in this age group. Henry Hofmann, assistant superintendent, explained that the district's junior high schools had exceeded their capacity by 946 and suggested that a new junior high building be designed to house 1,169 pupils, but that could conceivably hold 1,369 without placing any child in a sub-standard classroom; i.e., a room neither designed nor intended for use as a classroom.

To provide room for the increasing numbers of junior high age youngsters, the Rose Tree Media Board, on November 21, 1969, approved plans, on which they had worked for three years with Dr. Campbell, for a new \$6.9 million junior high school to be built on the already-owned tract of land at Providence and Sycamore Mills Roads. Additional land acquisition had brought the acreage which the school district owned in this area to 72.3 acres.*

Dr. Lapchick noted that the cost of the new building would add 10.4 mills to the current tax rate of 112 mills and come to a per pupil cost of \$4,212.00.

The school was scheduled for completion in January of 1972 and would replace Media Junior High which would become a 5-6 Center. The architects, Young and Exley of Philadelphia, designed the building to house each grade level in a series of "clusters" with four classrooms and a central office area in each cluster. This concept, in effect three mini-schools, was intended to facilitate team-teaching of groups of 120 pupils by four teachers in each cluster. Because of the clustering style of architecture, there were few windows and air-conditioning was a necessity rather than a luxury. A pool which had been rejected earlier as too costly was included; but a planetarium, which had also been suggested, was not.

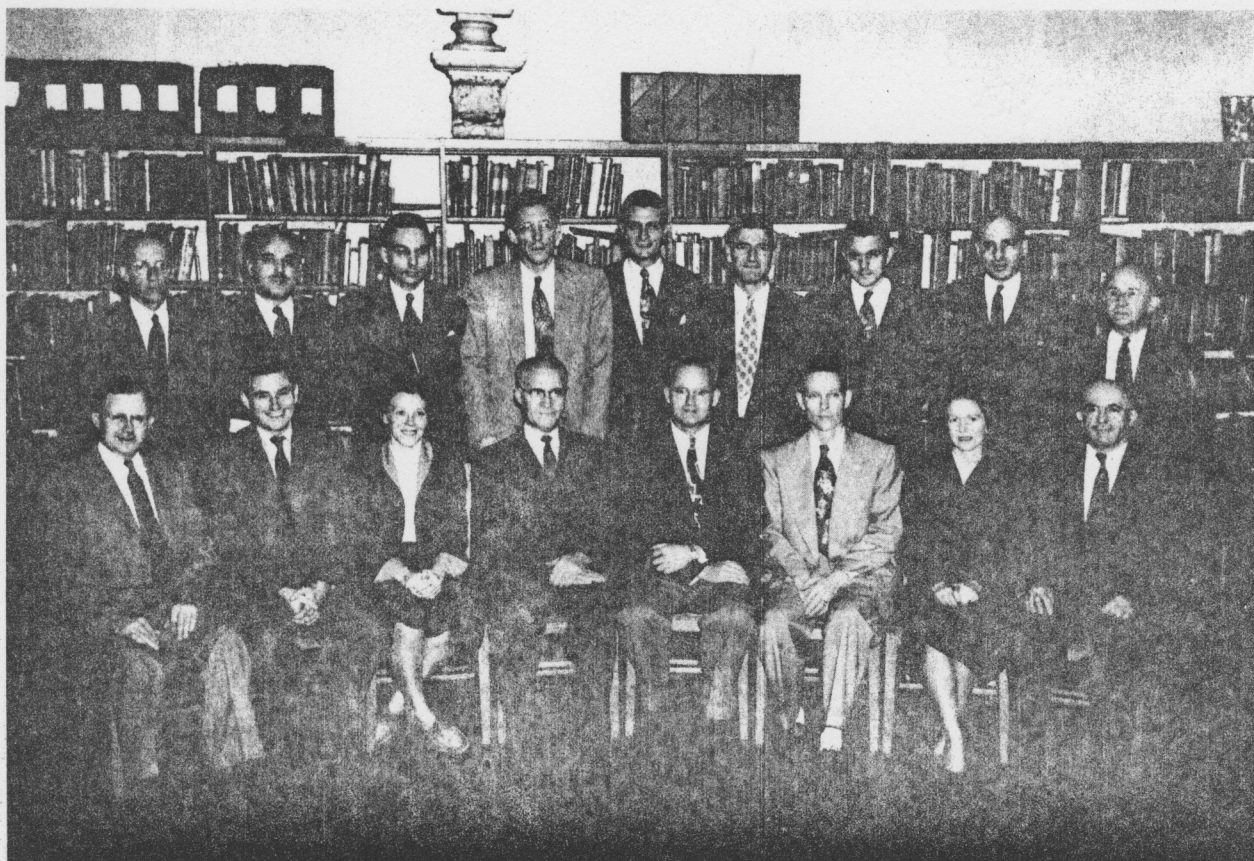
*In the future projections of the Board, this land was to be the site of a new elementary school within five years and an additional high school within eight or ten years. This was the projection in 1969; however, because of the decreasing student population, neither of these buildings has been necessary.

The completed school would house seventh and eighth graders from Media and ninth grade pupils from Penncrest. Final plans for the new junior high school were completed and ground was broken in the early months of 1970.

In September of 1972, the new school, named Springton Lake Junior High, was ready for occupancy, and on the sixth of that month, 950 pupils arrived to begin classes. Media Junior High became a 5-6 Center according to plan, and Henry T. Nacrelli, the principal of Media Junior High, moved to Springton Lake as its first principal.

On October 19, 1972, a time box containing memorabilia of the current era was placed beneath a bronze plaque in front of the Springton Lake building. Official dedication took place November 12, 1972.

Jointure



Seated: Mr. A. Darlington Heyburn, Mr. Edward W. Mathews, Vice President; Mrs. Margaret Cowdright, Secretary; Dr. Leedom Y. Tuckerman, President; Dr. Robert F. Engle, Mr. George W. Matters, Treasurer; Mrs. Martha VanDyke, Mr. H. Letcher Cooper, Standing: Mr. William L. Willits, Dr. William G. H. U. Fager, Mr. David H. W. Dohan, Mr. Harold A. Hormann, Mr. O. Jack Burkland, Mr. Walter O. Hoffman, Mr. George W. Feldmann, Dr. Fred Tanger, Superintendent, Mr. Earle O. Babbitt. Not shown Mr. Leon U. Lovell.

JOINT COMMITTEE

The Central Delaware County Joint School System consists of seven school districts: Bethel Township, Chester Heights Borough, Concord Township, Edgmont Township, Media Borough, Middletown Township, and Upper Providence Township. Their school boards together are known as our Joint Board.

To all intent and purposes, the Joint Committee is the "board" for the operation of all schools in our jointure. Its membership is made up of two representatives from each local school board. These fourteen members have spent long hours in attempting to make the best education possible available to the boys and girls of our jointure area.

We are grateful both to them and all other members of the Joint Board for their fine efforts.

At a meeting at Lima, June 20, 1952, Dr. Carl Leech proposed a seven-district jointure as recommended in the survey made by the Pennsylvania Economy League. The purpose of the jointure was to provide a unified administration to carry out common objectives and policies in the school program, kindergarten through twelfth grade. On July 15, 1952, Dr. Leech set forth plans for the jointure to include Media, Chester Heights, Bethel, Concord, Edgmont, Middletown, and Upper Providence.

Members of the Jointure Committee were to be Leedom Tuckerman, Media; William Willits, Concord; George W. Feldman, Bethel; Harold Hormann, Edgmont; Robert F. Engle, Middletown; John Burkland, Upper Providence; Mrs. Oleta Ramage, Supervising Principal, Concord; Dr. Fred Tanger, Superintendent, Media; J. Earl Mast, Supervising Principal, Middletown; and Donald Snively, Supervising Principal, Upper Providence.

At this July meeting, Dr. Leech called attention to a chart which indicated that the population of the area according to the 1950 census was 21,934: 1,960 were of elementary school age, 672 of junior high school age, and 484 of senior high school age. The projected school figures for 1956 were 1,030 junior high pupils and 763 senior high pupils.

As the seven-district committee studied the cost of a new high school, lack of accord among the members of the committee became increasingly apparent, and Upper Providence went on record as favoring a jointure with Middletown even if the other five districts failed to reach an agreement.

On April 21, 1953, at Media High School, the master agreement involving 2,600 pupils in seven districts was signed. With this signing, the largest school unit in Delaware County - the Central Delaware Joint School Board - was officially inaugurated.

A week later, this joint Board elected as its officers Leedom Tuckerman, Media, President; Robert Engle, Middletown, Vice President; and Mrs. Margaret Cowdright, Secretary.

In June of 1953, the tentative budget for the jointure was \$832,714.00, and the final budget adopted three weeks later was \$898,650.00. Dr. Fred Tanger was named chief administrator of the Central Delaware County Joint Schools, and Earl Mast, Donald Snively, and Oleta Ramage were named administrative assistants.

The purpose of the jointure proposed by Dr. Leech was a unified administration. This seemed to have been achieved. Economic efficiency obviously was not a major concern of Dr. Leech. The joint Board, however, expressed their concern when the members learned that it would cost \$25,000.00 more per year to operate the combined districts than it would to operate seven separate districts. Despite this realization, the Board continued with plans for a new high school, and in August of 1953, the Ballinger Company was commissioned to design a high school building.

In September, the go-ahead was given for preliminary plans for the high school, and in November of 1953, the Pennsylvania Department of Education approved Project 614, as the school proposal was called in Harrisburg. The

Department set a cost limit of \$2.5 million with a room schedule for 1,000 students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve. The cost was acceptable to the Board, and an authority was formed to finance the construction of the new building. (At this time, the Central Delaware County Joint Schools employed 105 elementary teachers and fifty-three secondary teachers.)

The smoothness with which the jointure was proceeding ended in April of 1956 when a controversy arose concerning the site for the new school. Chester Heights refused approval on the basis that a gas line ran beneath the proposed area. Difficulties increased in May, and the jointure was in serious trouble. Finances seemed to be the major stumbling block.

Middletown, Upper Providence, and Edgmont members of the jointure began to talk of the possibility of continuing as a unit without the other four districts. By June, the jointure seemed headed for dissolution. Edgmont, Middletown, and Upper Providence, certain that they could continue successfully, attempted to save the authorization to build a high school for themselves. In July, the request of the three-district group received tentative approval from the State, and G. Baker Thompson, the County Superintendent of Schools, and J. Earl Mast, the Business Administrator of the Central Delaware County Joint School District, went to Harrisburg and there received permission to proceed with the high school plans pending changes in room schedule and a revised financial program.

The remaining four districts made plans to withdraw from the jointure which was now operating illegally because of its failure to pass on a budget. Media, though still one of the seven-member jointure administration, now operated as an independent unit. It was the only district with its own high school; pupils of high school age in the other six districts attended Media High or other neighboring high schools. This means of educating high school students continued until Penncrest High School (serving Edgmont, Middletown, and Upper Providence) and Garnet Valley High School (serving Chester Heights, Bethel, and Concord) were built.

After the withdrawal of Media, Chester Heights, Bethel, and Concord from the jointure, Edgmont, Middletown, and Upper Providence, through the agency of the Ballinger Company, submitted revised high school plans for State approval. Project 614 (still its official designation) was again approved on September 21, 1954, with the deletion of the proposed auditorium and the reduction of the cost limit by \$0.5 million.

The disintegration of the jointure enabled Middletown to put into action what had been planned provisionally as early as 1953, to join officially with Upper Providence. Because of the rapport established with Edgmont, Middletown and Upper Providence agreed to include that township in the smaller jointure. The citizens of Middletown, delighted with the position Harrisburg had taken regarding Project 614, and to show their approval of the action of their Board members, spurred a drive to ally the township with Upper Providence and Edgmont in a three-district jointure by signing the agreement to dissolve the seven-district jointure. The Middletown Board voted four to one to join with Upper Providence and Edgmont.

EMU was selected as the alphabetical designation for the newly-formed Central Delaware County Joint School District, and the acronym now identified the new jointure. Mast, appointed to head the new district as supervising principal, noted that the emu is the second largest bird in the world, native to Australia and, though characterized by its lack of flight, is very fast on its feet.

Principals in the new district were Florence Shields, Edith Cooper, and Hanna Carr. The task of coordinating all seventh graders was assigned to Mary Smyth.

Although the jointure had been reduced to three members, contention over the site for the new high school continued. Some members of the jointure Board wanted to institute condemnation proceedings since the Balderston's, owners of the land, had posed objections to its use. It was decided to continue negotiations rather than to move on condemnation. The Balderston tract was approved as a site on October 9, 1953. On November 16, State approval was extended to May of 1955, and in October of 1954, forty acres of this land were purchased for \$46,000.00.

On March 12 of the following year, Henry Hofmann was appointed principal of the proposed new school.* Five days later, the EMU Board approved the plans for the junior-senior high school and the hiring of teachers for the district at a starting salary of \$2,850.00. Final plans and specifications for the school were approved by the State on March 16, 1955, and contracts were awarded on May 17, two weeks before the State-set deadline. The groundbreaking took place on May 26 with Harold A. Hormann representing the Edgmont Board, Andrew McClure representing the Upper Providence Board, and John W. Kriebel representing the Middletown Board.

The fall of 1955 saw EMU junior-senior high students housed at the Lima School. The 377 students in grades seven, eight, and nine were taught by eighteen teachers. (The thirty members of the first senior class to graduate from Penncrest in 1959 were ninth graders at this time.) The courses of study were the traditional offerings of college preparatory, business education, general education, plus homemaking and industrial arts.

In November, parents and pupils chose Penncrest to be the name for the new school despite the Balderston's protest that this was the name of their estate and could not be used. According to George Thompson, the EMU solicitor, there were no legal grounds for the Balderston's objection, and, consequently, Penncrest became the official school name.

The architect assured the Board in December that Penncrest would be completed in time for occupancy in the fall of 1956.

On September 7, 1956, a caravan of trucks and cars was organized to transport furniture, books, laboratory equipment, and other impedimenta needed in the process of education from Lima to the partially-completed Penncrest

*This did not conflict with Mast's position inasmuch as the duties that he performed were those of superintendent.

building to prepare for the arrival of the 750 students in grades seven to ten, inclusive. (The 1957-58 enrollment was to include grade eleven for a total of 950 and the 1958-59 school year, with the first senior class, the enrollment would total 1,100 students.) Four weeks later, the building was still unfinished, and the Board warned the contractors to complete the work by October 22 or be in default.

On April 7, 1957, the date of Penncrest's dedication, EMU already faced classroom shortages at all levels. The thirty-nine classrooms, shop facilities, library, gymnasium/auditorium, and cafeteria had been planned to house 1,000 pupils, and the projected enrollment figures far exceeded that number. One thousand, two hundred, and thirty-two pupils in grades seven to twelve was the number released by Mast for the school year 1958-59, and officials, he said, estimated that the 1959-60 enrollment would be 1,500.

In May of 1958, the Board of Directors of the Rose Tree Union School District* maintained an educational system comprised of 3,200 pupils and a faculty of 142. Their responsibilities included five elementary schools and one junior-senior high (Penncrest). The junior-senior high enrollment was 1,400 housed in a building meant for 1,000.

Concerned by the need for more classroom space, the Board appointed a committee to recommend an architect for a new junior high school. The name of an architect was submitted and, moving rapidly, the Board approved him and his plans for a building with thirty-two teaching stations, art, shop, and music facilities, a library, and a gymnasium. The building was to accommodate 700 pupils and to cost an estimated \$2 million. Bids went out and the construction of the new school at the corner of Middletown Road and Indian Lane was soon under way.

To alleviate the problem of overcrowding while the new junior high was being built, it was necessary to hold double teaching sessions at Penncrest during the 1958-59 and 1959-60 school years. Class size was held under thirty and there were six periods of instruction during each session. Senior high students met from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and junior high students from 12:30 to 5:00 p.m.

*On April 4, 1957, the proposal that EMU become the Rose Tree Union School District received favorable consideration from the Edgmont Board. Middletown had already agreed to the idea, but it was not until August that Upper Providence approved the proposed union. The proposal also provided for the reduction of the number of Board members from nineteen to seven over a period of several years. Meetings were scheduled to permit discussion of the pros and cons of a union district, and residents voted in favor of the issue on November 5, 1957. After five stormy years as members, first of an ill-fated, seven-district jointure, then a three-district one, Edgmont, Middletown, and Upper Providence had become Rose Tree Union, a third-class district with a tax rate of 39 mills.

In May of 1959, the number on the Board was still nineteen, but by 1963 had reached the goal of seven, set six years earlier. One director was elected from Edgmont, one from Middletown, one from Upper Providence, and four were elected at large. All directors were elected for six-year terms.

Two principals were to share this experience: Cyrus Rothberg and Louis Scott. In 1958, Hofmann, named Director of Secondary Education, relinquished the principalship of Penncrest to Rothberg; a year later, Scott became principal of the school. His appointment to this position was an excellent one as twenty-five years of uninterrupted leadership have attested.*

In the first years as principal, he had no assistants; but as the school population grew and his responsibilities increased, he was able to find and to retain able men as assistants. At the present time, Daniel Loose is Assistant Principal for Instruction; Ronald Fertel, Assistant Principal and Dean of Eleventh and Twelfth Grades; and Foster Nowell, Assistant Principal and Dean of Ninth and Tenth Grades. Their assistance, however, does not relieve him of over 100 evening events a year which he attends, events which stretch many of his work days to ten hours.

During his years as principal, Scott has seen Penncrest change from a junior-senior high to grades nine through twelve, to ten through twelve, and back to nine through twelve. Attitudes of the students changed too, reflecting changes occurring in society. The years which proved most difficult were the early '70's when, across the nation, students were going through a period of unrest.

The pendulum has swung once again to relative stability and conservatism, and Mr. Scott has come through the difficult years unscathed, his sense of proportion, sense of humor, and belief in young people intact.

* * *

Building progress of the junior high continued according to schedule and in September of 1960, plans were made to move into the new structure on October 12. The name Indian Lane was adopted by the Board, the cornerstone was ready to be set, and on December 1, 1960, school opened with all thirty-two rooms in use and housing the 781 pupils that had been bused with their homeroom teachers from Penncrest. After room assignments were completed, teachers and pupils were given a tour of the building. Following the tour was an assembly which formally initiated them into their new venture. Double sessions were at an end.

The official dedication of Indian Lane took place December 5, 1960. Cyrus Rothberg, who had been hired as a social studies teacher for the junior-senior high in 1956, was named Indian Lane's first principal, a position he held until his untimely death in November of 1969. Rothberg nurtured a love for the school in most of his staff, and they respected him as a principal and as a friend.

His death left Indian Lane without a principal, and David Leibig was named to serve as temporary principal. He performed the duties of principal until September of 1970 when he relinquished them to Foster Nowell. With

*Attrition rate among secondary school principals is high, and in Delaware County, few other principals can count more than fifteen years' service in the same school.

Nowell principal of Indian Lane, Leibig served as assistant principal, and so things remained until Springton Lake was built.

On the tenth anniversary of Indian Lane's opening, a portrait of Cyrus Rothberg was unveiled and presented to the school in his memory. This portrait now hangs in the Penncrest library.

In the elementary grades, a similar situation of overcrowding was remedied without double sessions by the addition of fourteen rooms to Roosevelt School in 1958. To minimize the dislocation of pupils in the elementary and secondary programs, the Rose Tree Union Board planned the following building program: (1) Rose Tree Elementary School was to be enlarged by the addition of six classrooms and a multi-purpose room at an estimated cost of \$313,000.00. Completion was set for September of 1960. (2) An entire school (Glenwood) consisting of twelve classrooms and a multi-purpose room, was to be built in the Lenni-Riddlewood area. (3) Consideration was to be given to the enlargement and improvement of the Edgmont School.

Aware that the junior high building just completed would not meet future needs if the census projections were reliable, the Board approved the purchase of twenty-seven acres of ground between Providence Road and Sycamore Mills Road at a cost of \$80,000.00. This land was to be the site of a future second junior high.

* * *

In May of 1972, Hofmann, who had been Penncrest's first principal and had served the district in a variety of other positions, submitted his resignation. He was leaving to accept the post of superintendent of the Garnet Valley School District.*

When his resignation became official in August, J. Preston Barry became Assistant Superintendent for Instruction (Hofmann's post at resignation), and John K. Baillie, a newcomer to the district, filled Barry's prior position as Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services. Three years later, the Rose Tree Media Board appointed Henry T. Nacrelli, then principal of Springton Lake, to replace Baillie who was going to the Morgantown School District as superintendent.

The appointment of Nacrelli was another step upward for a man who had devoted his educational career to Rose Tree, a career he began in 1961 as a social studies teacher at Media High School, following his discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps. He became a guidance counselor and later assumed the duties of principal of Media Junior High when Donald Meehan left that post. In 1972, Nacrelli transferred to Springton Lake Junior High as its first principal.

Needing a new principal for Media Junior High, the Board moved Foster Nowell to this position from Indian Lane where he had been principal since

*In June of that same year, the district lost another administrator, a veteran of twenty years; Edith Cooper, who had come to the district as principal of Roosevelt Elementary School in 1952, retired.

1970. David Leibig, Dean of Student Affairs at Indian Lane, was named principal there on Nowell's departure. For three years, Joseph Haviland (now Assistant to the Superintendent for Instruction) was assistant principal at Indian Lane, and William Gamble, during these same years, assisted Leibig in various capacities.

It was also in 1972, at their January meeting, that the Board adopted an educational design calling for six K-4 grade schools: Carr, Lima, Glenwood, Roosevelt, Media, and Rose Tree; and two 5-6 Centers: Glenwood and the former Media Junior High.

* * *

In the very years that Springton Lake Junior High was under construction, and during the next decade, population patterns across the nation were changing. The "baby boom" of the '40's and '50's had ended and sociologists were using a new catch-phrase, "Zero Population Growth," to explain the phenomenon of the declining birth rate. Rose Tree Media School District mirrored what was happening in the rest of the country. In fact, the first signs of a declining birth rate in the district had been noted by astute administrators as early as 1971. In September of that year, pupil enrollment in the district was 6,096, a drop of 117 from the previous year. Kindergarten was down by eighty-five; the first grade by fifty-one.* Through the decade, enrollment continued to drop from a high of almost 6,300 in 1969-70 to approximately 3,400 in 1981-82.

The decrease in enrollment, noticed in the early '70's, set into motion a domino effect that was soon felt throughout the district. It was apparent to members of the community that the school district no longer needed the same number of buildings to house and educate a diminished number of pupils. To study the problem and to make recommendations, FUCOM I was devised in 1977. This Facilities Use Committee, composed of community residents, faculty representatives, and administrative personnel, considered the current educational needs of the community and the way in which the buildings could be used to meet these needs. After weeks of examining the question and possible answers, the committee presented its findings to the community during a School Board meeting. These findings were debated during scheduled public meetings and resulted in these changes in building use. The Board voted in 1978 to: (1) close Lima Elementary School and sell it, (2) close Indian Lane Junior High School and rent it, and (3) consolidate parts of the Media building for rental purposes.

The changes which FUCOM I brought about could not help affecting pupils and teachers. With the closing of Indian Lane, all junior high pupils attended Springton Lake; elementary pupils from Lima now attended one of the remaining elementary schools. Indian Lane teachers, with preferences taken into account, were reassigned to Springton Lake or to Penncrest; Lima teachers, to other elementary schools. Administrators were assigned to the same positions they had held in the closing schools when these positions existed in the schools to which they moved; when they did not, new duties were assigned to them.

*Hofmann attributed the decline to the birth control pill which had become popular five or six years earlier.

In September of 1981, the district was reorganized into a pattern of five K-5 schools: Rose Tree, Roosevelt, Glenwood, Hanna Carr, and Media; one middle school, (grades six to eight) Springton Lake; and one high school, (grades nine to twelve) Penncrest.

A continued decline in enrollment occasioned the commissioning of FUCOM II in the fall of 1982. The committee, again composed of community citizens, Board members, and administrators, once more studied the perennially decreasing school population and recommended that the five elementary schools be consolidated to two by 1985. Hanna Carr and Roosevelt were to close by 1983-84, and Media Elementary in 1984-85. Springton Lake Middle School would add all fifth grade pupils, and Rose Tree and Glenwood would remain as K-4 elementary schools.

* * *

In the course of the two centuries of education in the district, academic offerings, at first limited to reading, writing, arithmetic, and spelling, expanded to include subjects found in nearly every high school in the country. The most recently introduced tool for teaching has been the computer.

The district has always adhered to a policy of providing a curriculum which met State mandates and served the needs of the community. It was in keeping with this policy that the Board, in 1962, created the position of Superintendent for Educational Programs. The primary duty of the person holding this position was supervising curriculum development in the district.

Despite efforts of administrators to provide the best possible curriculum, an occasional misunderstanding can arise concerning a particular subject or the manner in which it is taught. A law suit was once filed against the school district charging that it failed to comply with the laws of the Commonwealth in the teaching of U. S. History and Pennsylvania History. The litigation was dropped when the district was able to show that, although specific courses in State and U. S. History were not offered in the way that earlier generations of students had studied them, this material was still being taught, sometimes at age levels differing from the traditional ones.

Concomitant with changes in courses of study were those changes which took place in other areas. New programs were instituted in sports; the number of different sports was increased, and this increase enabled more students to participate. Offerings today include football, baseball, basketball, soccer, track, cross-country, tennis, skiing, swimming, wrestling, gymnastics, and golf.

In addition to the large number of opportunities to take part in competitive sports, the district inaugurated, in 1973, a program called New Horizons designed to afford a chance for students, in limited numbers, to test themselves by participating in two- or three-day expeditions such as canoe trips, rock climbing, cave exploring, camping, bicycling, cross-country skiing, and similar events. The purpose of this program is to develop skills and confidence which the participants may lack.

Always alert to the needs of its students, the school district agreed to two other programs in 1973. It allowed a group of academically talented students to meet in evening seminars once a week. Motivated by sheer interest (no grades were given for the work), these students presented for critical discussion papers based on their readings and research. These relatively informal courses proved so successful that they became part of the regular high school curriculum.

The second program addressed the needs of students who, for one reason or another, were unable to work successfully in the day program. For them, the district approved the creation of an Alternative Evening School at Penncrest. Unlike the evening seminars, the Alternative Evening School gave its participants, who met twice a week, a chance to earn credits and to graduate.

Perhaps one of the more important changes which has taken place in the Rose Tree Media School District in the last score of years has been the setting up of chairmanships on a K-12 basis. Within each school, a building coordinator or head teacher serves as liaison between chairmen and other staff members. For the most part, busy with curriculum concerns, textbook selection, and other tasks involved with running a department, chairmen did not teach in the classroom. That situation has changed, however; at the present time, many chairmen teach one or more classes per day at some level in the system.

In July of 1982, Henry T. Nacrelli became Superintendent of the Rose Tree Media School District, replacing Joseph Lapchick, who chose not to seek another contract. Mr. Nacrelli is the first superintendent of the district who has come from its own ranks.

* * *

Though it is not the purpose of this history to spotlight particular individuals engaged throughout the two centuries in the educational process in our school district, not to include John K. Barrall beyond a brief mention of his being principal at some time would be remiss.

When Media merged with Rose Tree in 1966, John had already spent thirty-three years of his life in education, twenty-seven of them as teacher of Latin and department chairman. In 1941, he was named principal of Media High School and remained in that position until 1966, the year Media High ceased to exist. He became principal of the newly-created Media Junior High and filled this role until his retirement in 1968.

Mr. Barrall's interest in youth extended beyond the classroom. He was an avid sports fan, had played championship tennis, and encouraged a vigorous sports program in the school. A firm believer that an educator has a responsibility to his community, John was a member of the Media Rotary Club, the Board of Directors of the Media-Upper Providence Library, superintendent of Church School, and Elder and Clerk of Session of the Media Presbyterian Church. Although he had all these commitments, he found time to attend Media High's athletic and other extracurricular events as well as those at the Media Boys' Club.

Teachers who were on the faculty under John's principalship will aver to his fairness in dealing with them and with students. His mild manner and soft speech put even the novice at ease. Chaucer's words admirably suit Mr. Barrall:

He never yet any vileness said in all his life
to whatsoever wight;
He was a truly perfect, gentle knight.

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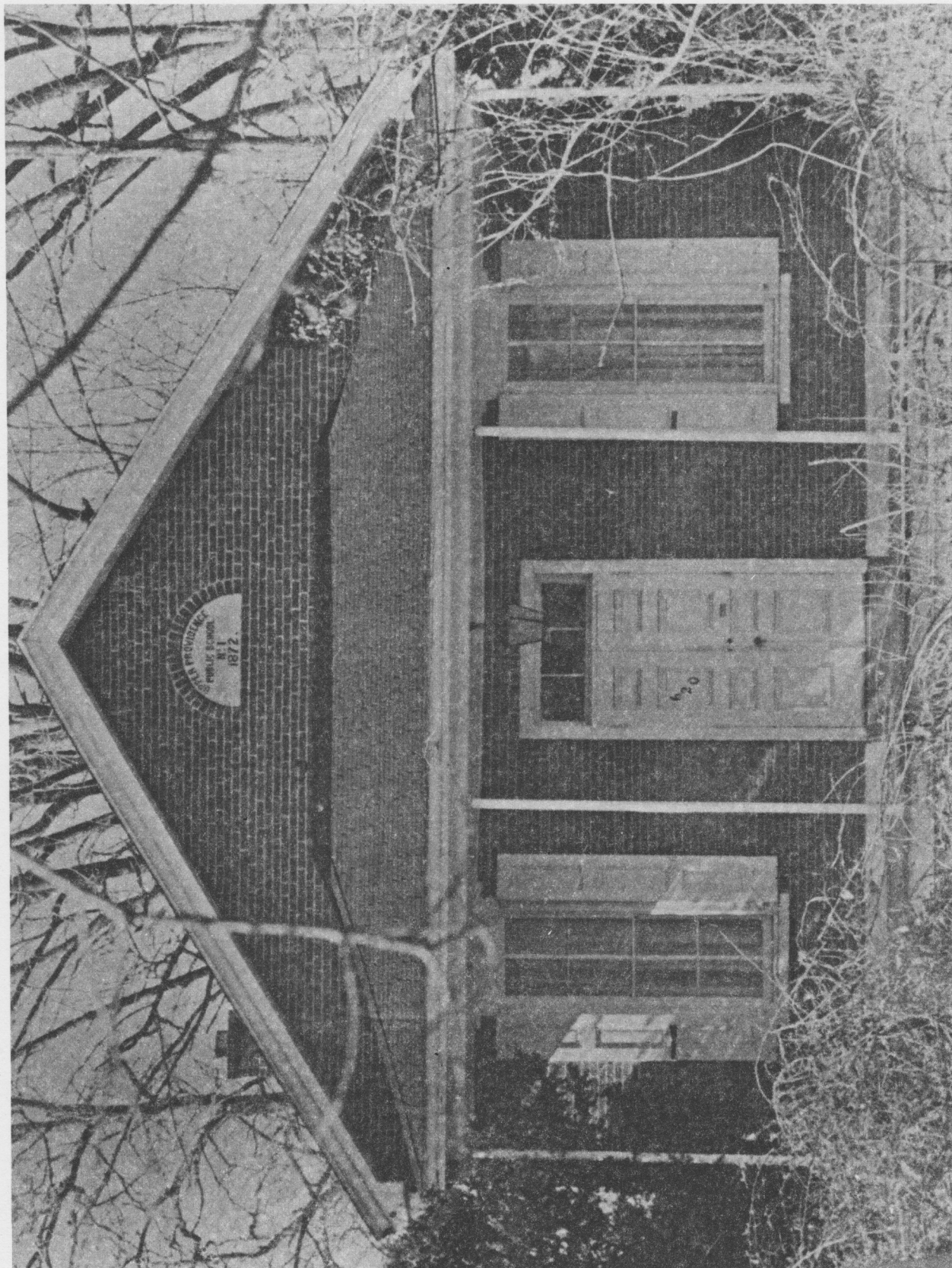
Media Semi-Centennial Booklet.

Palmer, Charles, History of Delaware County, National History Association, Harrisburg, 1932.

Pearson, Henry Swayne, History of Middletown Township, (Notebook form, Middletown Library).

APPENDIX

UPPER PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL



SAMUEL M. DUNSMOOR,

DEALER IN

WALL PAPER, WINDOW SHADES, &C.

NO. 18 EAST STATE STREET, MEDIA, PA.

Orders by Mail Promptly attended to.

GEO. C. WEBSTER,

→*APOTHECHARY,*←

20 EAST STATE ST., MEDIA, PA.

Call and try Webster's Soda.

W. C. FORT,

MATRESS MAKER and UPHOLSTERER,

South Ave., Media, Pa.

Samples gladly shown and

Estimates furnished.

**W. RUSSELL,
CLOTHING,
HATTER**

AND

FURNISHING GOODS DEALER.

MOORE'S RESTAURANT

AND

ICE-CREAM SALOON.

SOUTH AVE., BELOW INSTITUTE HALL.

Ladies' Saloon, 2nd floor.

BURDSALL & ADAMS

MANUFACTURERS OF HAND-MADE CIGARS.

Largest Assortment of goods in our line.

28 STATE ST., MEDIA, PA.

Phonograph the best 5¢. Cigar.

PROGRAMME

OF THE

MEDIA PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMMEMORATIVE

AT

INSTITUTE HALL,

ON

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 10TH, 1886.

Doors open at 7 O'clock. Commence at 7.45.



MEDIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

TEACHERS.

Principal, E. J. Brewster,
 Assistants, High School, } C. W. Hughes,
 } A. M. Braden,
 B Grammar, E. C. Clark,
 A Intermediate, L. W. Worley,
 B Intermediate, M. I. Mattis,
 A Primary, S. J. McDermott,
 B Primary, } T. C. Fairlamb,
 } C. Cowperthwaite.

GRADUATES.

Mary E. Bensted,
 Mary W. Donnelly.

1. MUSIC, Overture, "Diadem," Orchestra.
2. PRAYER, Rev. DeWitt C. Byllesby.
3. ESSAY AND SALUTATORY, "Determination a Factor in Success," Mamie Donnelly.
4. MUSIC, Waltz, "Fedora," Orchestra.
5. HISTORY OF THE YEAR, (Author, Albert Amet,) Ellis Hannum.
6. RECITATION, "The Ghost," Hannah Ellis.
7. MUSIC, Gavotte, "Stephani," Orchestra.
8. SCHOOL JOURNAL, Part First, Annie Aikley.
9. DECLAMATION, "How Tom Sawyer Whitewashed His Fence, William Ridley.
10. MUSIC, Waltz, "Little Tycoon," Orchestra.
11. DECLAMATION, "The Black Horse and His Rider," Morton Pearce.
12. PROPHECY, (Author, Bessie Miskey,) Annie Hayden.
13. RECITATION, "The Angels of Buena Vista," Rebekah Schofield.
14. MUSIC, Duet, Cornet and Clarinet, Orchestra.
15. DECLAMATION, "Our Minister's Sermon," Benj. Osborne.
16. SCHOOL JOURNAL, Part Second, Isaac Johnson.
17. MUSIC, Pot Pourri; Popular Airs, Orchestra.
18. PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS, Rev. S. A. Helmer.
19. ESSAY AND VALEDICTORY, "Commencement," Mary Bensted.
20. MUSIC, March, "Imperial," Orchestra.
21. BENEDICTION, Rev. Wm. R. Patton.

**COURSES OF STUDY IN THE MEDIA
HIGH SCHOOL.**

Media, Penna.

Adopted 1914.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Joseph E. Quinby, President,

Ernest L. Green, Secretary,

Henry C. Snowden, Jr.,

Ulysses G. Realey,

Frederick Fairlamb.

William C. Joslin, L. H. D., Supervising Principal.

Which Course Shall a Pupil Pursue?

The intelligent choice of a course is a very difficult matter ; and it is as important as it is difficult. No boy or girl should attempt to make this choice alone, unaided, not even though he be fully determined upon his career. Boys and girls and parents are urged to consult freely and frequently with the principal and teachers concerning the courses and studies to be pursued. Perhaps the most frequent, certainly the most absurd, reason for choosing a course or a subject, is that some one else is taking that course or subject.

Every course is planned, necessarily, to prepare for something beyond, either work or further study. And some notion, or assumption, at least, of what a pupil is to do after high school, is necessary for an intelligent choice of a course. And in trying to decide which course shall be chosen, the first and most important question is, which course will do the most for this particular boy or girl at this time? Sound education is fundamental. After this is laid the superstructure may vary in its details.

Every Media boy and girl ought to be ambitious to complete some course in the Media High School ; many ought to continue their studies further. Not every one of these should go to college. Just as we have a variety of courses in our high school to meet the varied needs and inclinations of all pupils, so beyond the high school there are various institutions adapted to the advanced training of every kind of talent and interest.

It will be the great privilege and pleasure of the teachers to advise with students and their parents concerning this further educational training.

THE LATIN-SCIENTIFIC COURSE.

First Year.	
English	5
Arithmetic and Concrete Geometry	5
Algebra	5
Latin	5
Second Year.	
English	5
Plane Geometry	4
Grecian and Roman History	4
German	3
Latin	5
Third Year.	
English	5
English History	3
Solid Geometry and Trigonometry	5
German	4
Latin	5
Fourth Year.	
English	4
Constitutional History U. S.	5
Mathematics	4
Physics	4
German	5
Latin	5

Figures at the right indicate recitation periods per week.
Music and Drawing throughout the Course.

THE ENGLISH COURSE.

First Year.	
English	5
Arithmetic and Concrete Geometry	5
Algebra	5
Physical Geography and Civics	5
Second Year.	
English	5
Plane Geometry	4
Grecian and Roman History	4
German	3
Commercial Geography and Science	5
Third Year.	
English	5
English History	3
X Solid Geometry and Trigonometry	5
German	4
Book-Keeping and Spelling	5
Fourth Year.	
English	4
Constitutional History U. S.	5
Mathematics	4
X Physics	4
German	5
Book-Keeping and Spelling	5

Figures at the right indicate recitation periods per week.
Music and Drawing throughout the Course.

FOREWORD

Pupils will be admitted to the High School upon completing the Grammar School Course, or its equivalent.

The High School offers three courses of study, the Latin-Scientific, the English, and the Commercial. Each of these covers a period of four years.

The Latin-Scientific Course gives preparation for any college. While this course, primarily, is considered as preparing for the higher institutions of learning, yet it is entirely adapted to the needs of those who are at once to enter upon their chosen life-work. For this reason it is advised equally with the English as giving a comprehensive, secondary education. This is especially so in case the pupil is by nature scholarly and has the hope, even without definite plan, of further advancement.

The English Course presents a thoroughly well-rounded scheme of studies, and is designed for those boys and girls who, not proposing to carry their studies beyond the high school, wish the very best preparation for general business and for the varied activities of life.

The Commercial Course offers not only an entirely adequate business course as given in our Business Schools and "Colleges," but also several of the essential cultural elements of the English Course. It is designed first of all, however, to fit pupils to enter directly into commercial and productive industries.

THE COMMERCIAL COURSE.

First Year.	
English	5
Arithmetic and Concrete Geometry	5
Algebra	5
Physical Geography and Civics	5
Second Year.	
English	5
Plane Geometry	4
Grecian and Roman History	4
German	3
Typewriting and Stenography	5
Third Year.	
English	5
English History	3
German	4
Stenography	5
Book-Keeping, Typewriting, Spelling	5
Fourth Year.	
English	4
Constitutional History U. S.	5
Typewriting	5
Book-Keeping	3
Stenography	5
Business-English and Spelling	5

Figures at the right indicate recitation periods per week.

Music and Drawing throughout the Course.

In the State Archives can also be found individual annual reports of high schools throughout the State. This is the report for Media High School for the year 1898 (the first one found in the Archives).

Principal: Leon Watters
Course of study: three years
School term: ten months
Male students enrolled: 21
Female students enrolled: 27
Number graduated: male - 5; female - 7
Male teachers: 1; female teachers - 1

Courses offered: Literature, American and English Rhetoric, Elocution, Etymology, Music, Civics, Pedagogy, Psychology, History, General, English, Modern, French, Roman, Grecian, Latin: Caesar, Virgil, Cicero, Greek Lessons: Anabasis, Homer, German, French, Higher Math, Commercial Math, Elementary Algebra, Higher Algebra, Plane Geometry, Solid Geometry, Trigonometry, Mensuration, Surveying, Physical Geography, Physiology, and Hygiene, Physics, Botany, Geology, Zoology, Chemistry, Astronomy, Manual Training, Bookkeeping.

Number of students enrolled in the various courses:

35	Rhetoric	12	Plane Geometry
48	Music	13	Solid Geometry
35	Civics	13	Trigonometry
13	General History	23	Geography
12	Latin	23	Physiology and Hygiene
13	Caesar	12	Physics
23	Higher Math	13	Botany
23	Elementary Algebra	12	Bookkeeping

In 1899, Watters was still principal. Two male students and four female students graduated. One male teacher and one female teacher were employed. Fifty-two students were studying American literature and fifty-eight were studying English literature.

In 1900, three male students and one female student graduated.

The graduating class of 1980 held 410 students.

MEDIA ANNUAL REPORTS

A glance at a few of the annual reports for Media Borough will indicate how much and how swiftly things changed within a few decades. The earliest annual report to be found in the State Archives is the 1897 Annual District Report for Media Borough, year ending the first Monday in June 1897.

June 1897

Number of schools	11
Number of male teachers employed	1
Number of female teachers employed	11
Average salary per month--male	130.00
Average salary per month--female	51.36
Male scholars in all schools in the district	276
Female scholars in all schools in the district	258
Cost of each student per month	1.60
Number of mills levied for school purposes	3
Mills levied for building purposes	1.5
State appropriations for the year ending 1898	3,447.26

Expenditures

Total amount (Not all items listed)	15,293.48
Furniture	7.75
Teachers' wages	7,490.00
School text books	319.17
School supplies--maps, etc.	264.54
Fuel and contingencies	501.43
Debt and interest paid	5,171.75
Repairs	237.37
Institute pay (conference attendance money)	120.00
Janitors' salaries	760.00
Liabilities in excess of resources	6,895.35
Receipts	
Taxes	9,390.20
State appropriation	3,447.26

Annual Report for 1901 (abbreviated in form)

Number of schools	12
Male teachers	1
Female teachers	13
Male teachers' salary per month	150.00
Female teachers' salary per month	52.31
Male students in all schools	271
Female students in all schools	274
Mills--same as in 1897	
Total expenditures	16,467.59
Total receipts	16,592.64
Tax income	9,689.95
Text books	548.22
Other supplies	461.36

Annual Report for 1906 (abbreviated form)

Male teachers	1
Female teachers	13
Male salary	163.16
Female salary	57.08
Total wages	9,300.00
Mills levied	4
Text books	401.02
School supplies	311.66

Annual Report for 1911

Male teachers	2
Female teachers	15
Male salaries	126.075
Female salaries	67.368
Mills levied	5
Books	373.69
Supplies	451.06
Tax receipts	11,345.26

Annual Report for 1916 (first breakdown into elementary and secondary)

Male secondary teachers	3
Female secondary teachers	4
Female elementary teachers	11
Male salaries	126.31
Female salaries	84.21
Mills levied	9.5
Text books	576.52
Supplies	740.26
Number of secondary students	154
Number of elementary students	459

The budget for 1982-83 was \$16,636,370.00. The November 1, 1982 enrollment was 3,247.

MEDIA PUBLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
From its Founding to its Closing
 (1856-1966)

Edmond Cheney	Apr. 1856 - Oct. 1856
Peter Sherwood	Oct. 1856 - Dec. 1856
George Alsop	Dec. 1856 - May 1857
J. Addison Thomson	May 1857 - Jan. 1862
Wallace Sevett	Jan. 1862 - Apr. 1862
David Harlin	Apr. 1862 - Dec. 1863
James Leys (not naturalized)	Dec. 1863 - Jan. 1864
Daniel Lewis	Jan. 1864 - Mar. 1865
Alice A. Moore	Mar. 1865 - June 1865
Miss A. L. Boulter	Sept. 1865 - June 1866
Anna M. Walter	Sept. 1866 - June 1872
Ruth Sharpless	Sept. 1872 - June 1874
Silas C. Delap	Sept. 1874 - Feb. 1875
Benjamin N. Lehman	Feb. 1875 - June 1879
Wilmer N. Lamborn	Sept. 1879 - June 1881
A. G. Criswell Smith	1882 - 1885
Eliza J. Brewster	1885 - 1889
Leon H. Watters	1889 - 1908
David L. Hower	1908 - 1910
William C. Joslin	1910 - 1920
William H. Micheals	1920 - 1941
John K. Barrall	1941 - 1966

Superintendents

M. James Parsons	1945 - 1950
Dr. Fred Tanger	1950 - 1957
Dr. Carl Hassel	1957 - 1960
Dr. Fred Tanger	1960 - 1966

MEDIA HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS - 1870

LATIN SCIENTIFIC COURSE

First year:	Arithmetic English Algebra Latin	Second year:	English Latin Plane Geometry Grecian and Roman History
Third year:	English Latin German Solid Geometry and Trigonometry	Fourth year:	English Latin German Constitutional History of the U.S. Physics Advanced Mathematics

Music and Drawing throughout the course.

ENGLISH COURSE

First year:	Arithmetic English Algebra Physical Geography Civics	Second year:	English German Grecian and Roman History Plane Geometry
Third year:	English German Constitutional History of the U.S. Solid Geometry and Trigonometry Physics Advanced Mathematics (Optional)		

Music and Drawing throughout the course.

COMMERCIAL COURSE

First year:	Arithmetic Algebra English Physical Geography Civics Spelling	Second year:	Grecian and Roman History English Stenography Spelling Business Forms Type-Writing Bookkeeping
Third year:	English Stenography Type-Writing Constitutional History of the U.S. Bookkeeping Spelling Business Forms		

Music and Drawing throughout the course.

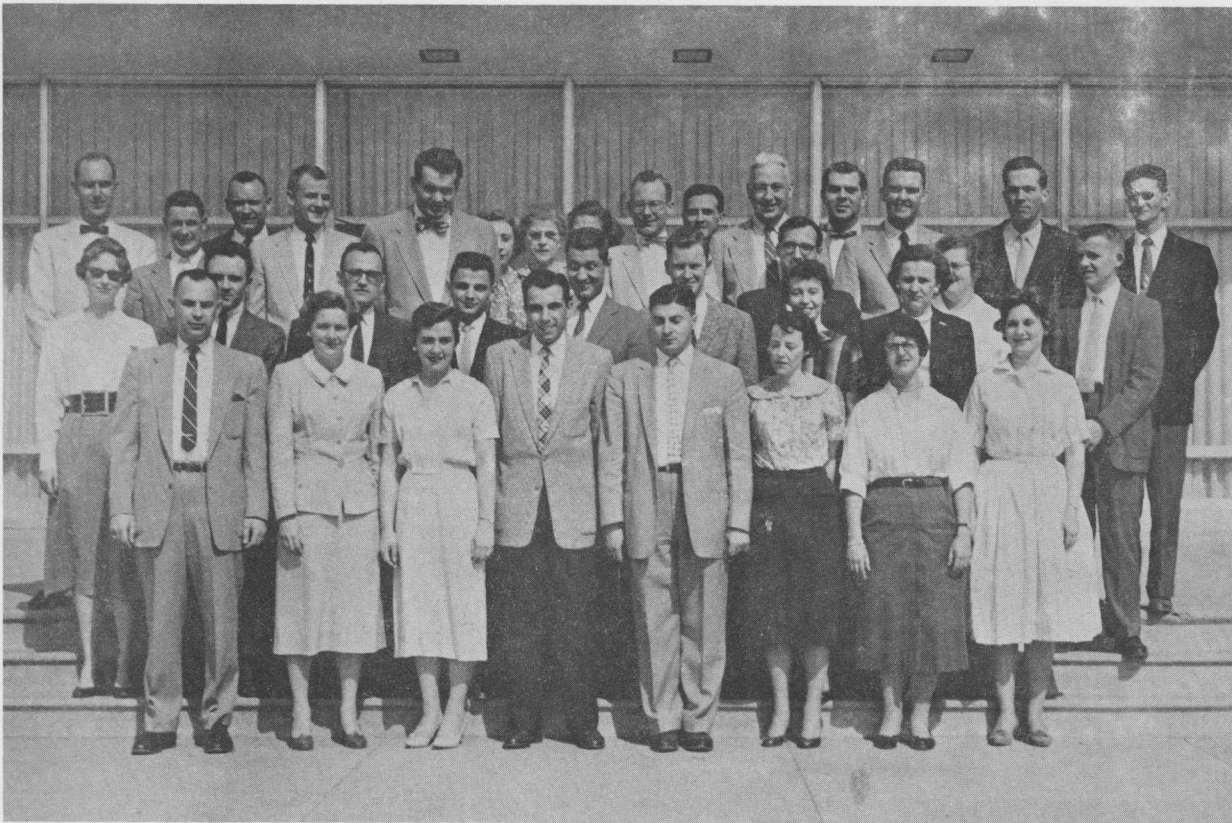
Rose Tree Dedication Ceremony



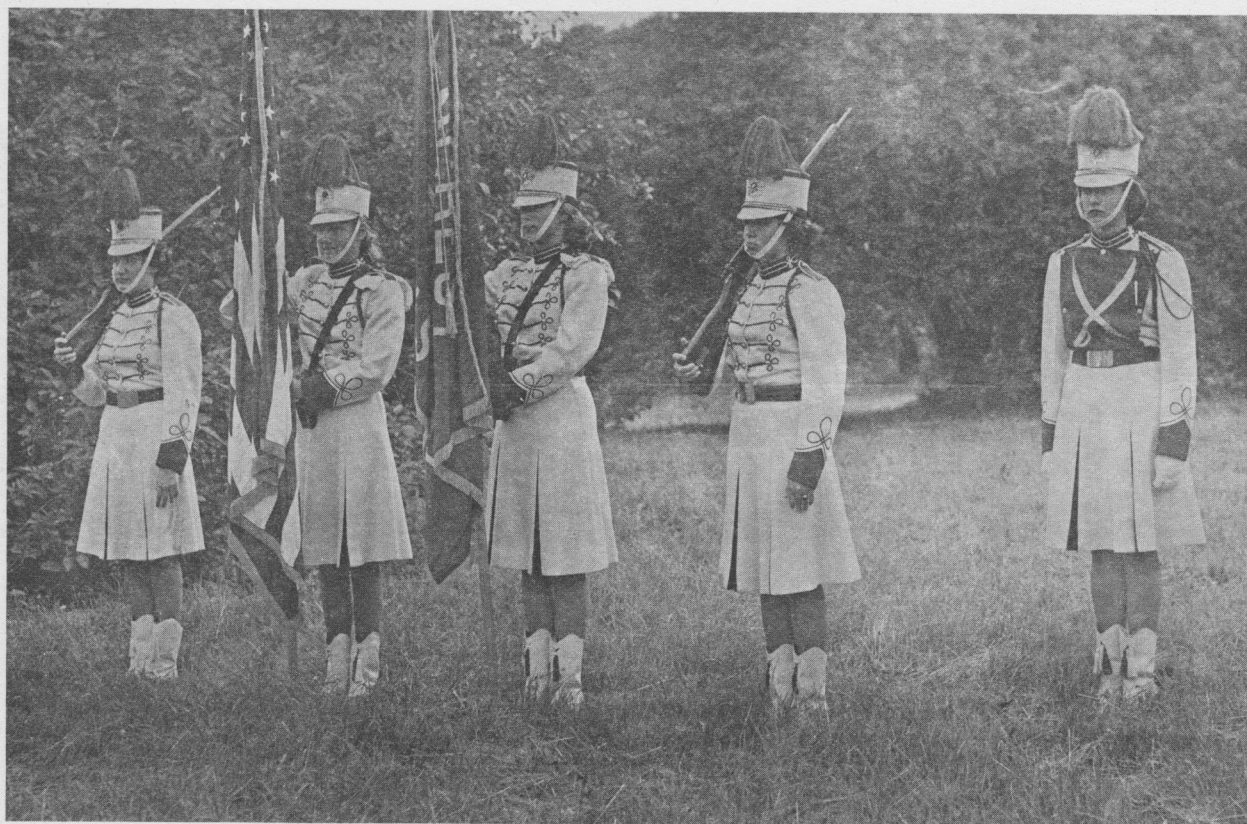
Rose Tree Dedication Ceremony



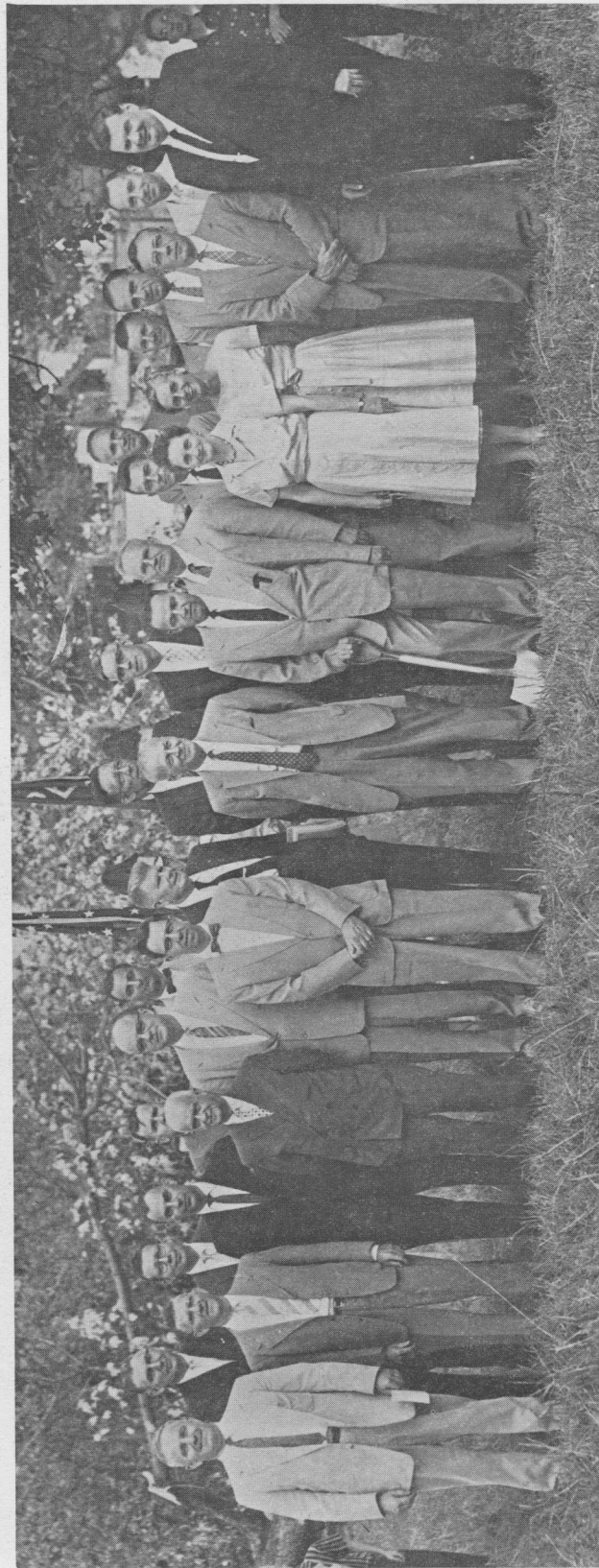
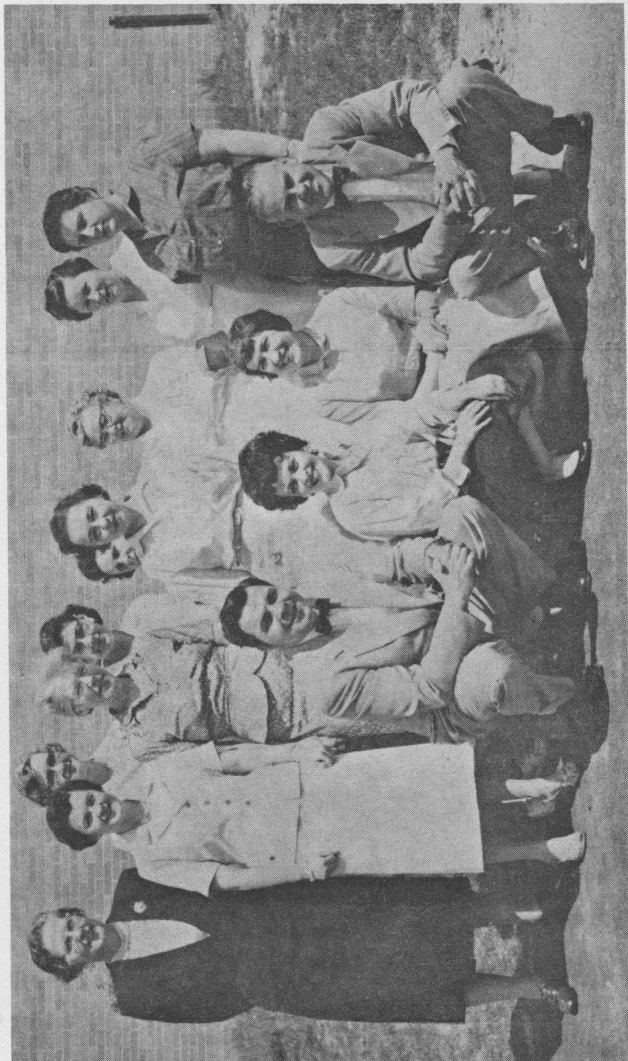
Early Penncrest Staff

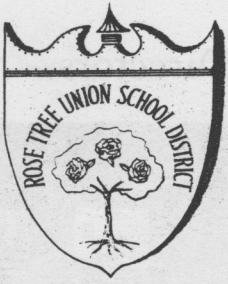


Indian Lane Dedication Ceremony



Indian Lane Dedication Ceremony





FALL PROGRESS REPORT

ROSE TREE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

DECEMBER, 1960



The New Indian Lane Junior High School

This Dedication Booklet has been issued by the Rose Tree Union School Board to acquaint you with the recently-completed Indian Lane Junior High School and the new addition to the Rose Tree Elementary School. The new buildings fit into long-range plans to provide adequate school facilities for our rapidly growing community.

Administration



Seated are: Cyrus Rothberg, Indian Lane Junior High School principal; and John Laird, Rose Tree School principal. Standing: Henry M. Hofmann, director of secondary education; J. Earl Mast, supervising principal; and Edith M. Cooper, director of elementary education.



H. John Lumsden, secretary to the Board and business manager

School Directors



Seated are: Walter O. Hoffman, Joseph H. Walton, Donald B. Harrison, Kenneth R. Meenen, Robert F. Engle Jr., and Truman W. Read. Standing: George W. Matters, L. Wayne Fox, Edward S. Green, Theodore Widing, John C. Snyder, and Robert K. Brown. Missing from photograph are: Joseph B. Grubb Jr., Jeanne M. Cotton, and Donald L. Snively.

The School Authorities

Central Delaware County Joint School Authority



From left: Robert Bell, vice chairman; Wendell Warner (non-member) solicitor; Johnson Smith, treasurer; Harold Hormann, chairman; Walter Yarnall, assistant secretary; Floyd Streater, assistant treasurer; and Nelson V. Henry, secretary.

Upper Providence School District Authority



From left: Charles Zerweck, treasurer; Donald C. Turner, chairman; Robert S. Wick; and C. Davis Wrigley, secretary. Missing from photograph is Thomas R. Price.

Indian Lane Junior High School

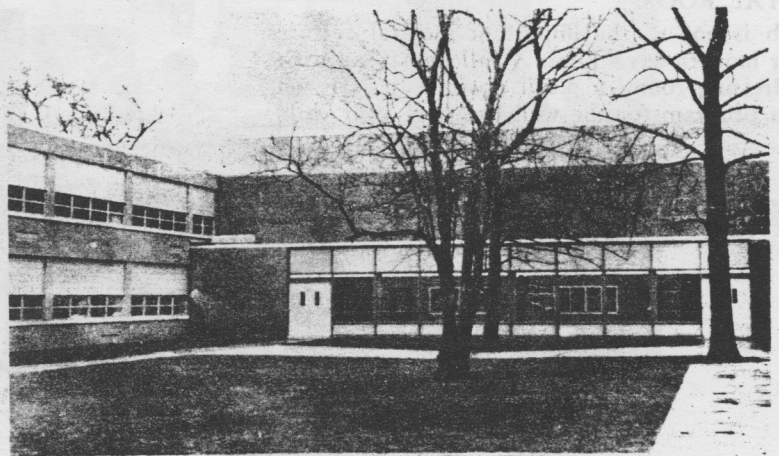


LOBBY

A Terrazzo floor and striated plywood walls will give the Indian Lane lobby a "plus" in long service and attractive appearance.

COURTYARD

Attractive center courtyard offers more natural sunlight for all rooms and, at the same time, speeds up traffic time between classrooms.



STATISTICS

	Indian Lane Jr. H.S.	Rose Tree Addition
General Construction	\$ 960,235	\$181,626
Heating & Ventilating	175,052	41,885
Plumbing	96,147	24,227
Electrical	110,382	20,124
Sewage Disposal	18,590	—
Fixed Equipment	80,394	—
Total Construction	\$1,440,800	\$267,862
Site Acquisition	94,460	437
Moveable Equipment & Furniture	69,078	12,818
Authority Expenses, Printing, Etc.	46,350	3,000
Architectural, Engineering & Legal Fees	102,956	22,428
Supervision	6,000	1,000
Contingency	40,356	6,455
Total Bond Issue	\$1,800,000	\$314,000
Cost per Square Foot	17.65	18.47
Cost per Cubic Foot	1.16	1.22
Area of Building—Square Feet	81,600	14,500
Volume of Building—Cubic Feet	1,246,000	220,000
Pupil Capacity	739	231

	Indian Lane	Rose Tree
Architect—Baader Young and Schultz		
Gen'l Contractor	McClain Const. Co.	J. Marcellus & Co.

BUILDING LOG

Form filed with Dept. of Public Instruction indicating need	6/17/57	—
Appointment of Architect	11/20/57	11/5/59
Site acquired	5/23/58	—
Preliminary Plans & Specs. approved by Board	9/29/58	4/15/59
Final Plans & Specs. approved by Board	3/10/59	8/6/59
Construction bids received and awarded	4/23/59	9/17/59
Bond bids negotiated and awarded	5/6/59	10/1/59
Ground broken	6/4/59	10/28/59
Occupied	10/12/60	9/8/60

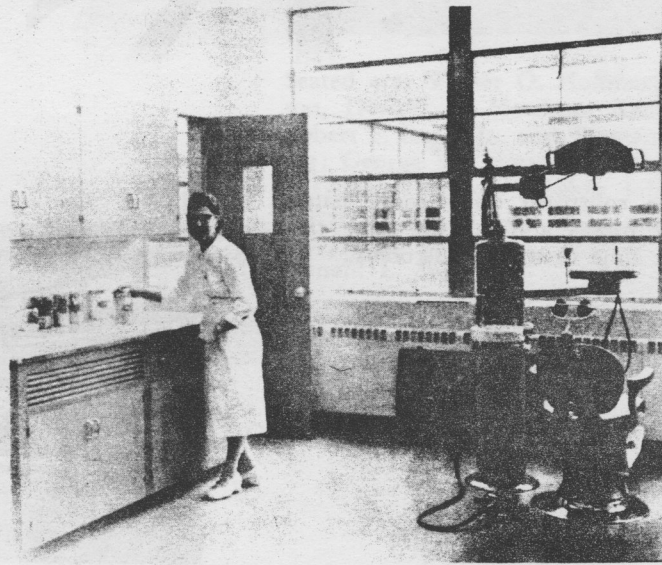


CLASSROOM

Typical Indian Lane room is adequately furnished, and well ventilated. Glass block walls diffuse the light, making even light in all rooms.

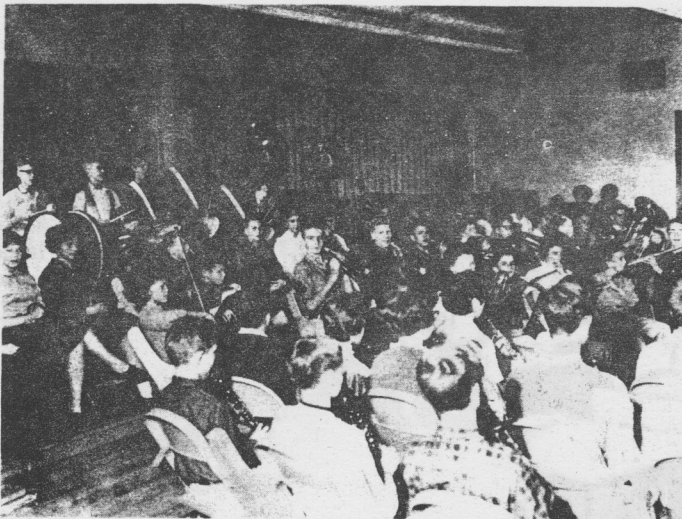
DENTAL ROOM

Health is one of the important medical features of our modern-day school. A full dental unit, cots and dressing rooms make it possible to carry out such a program for the well being of your child.



ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

Nerve center of all schools is the office. In this area at Indian Lane are counselor's rooms, conference room, teachers' workroom and communications area.

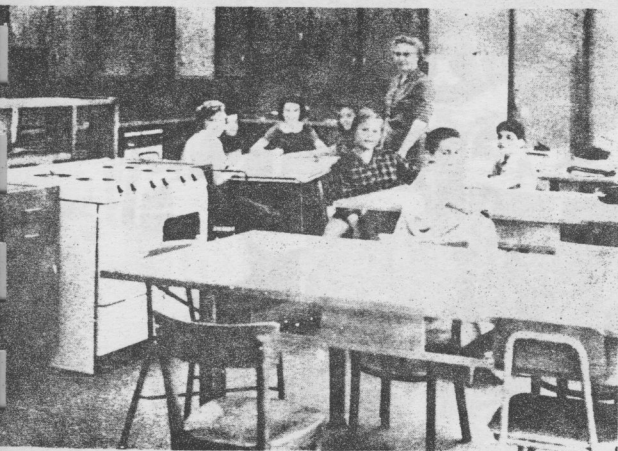
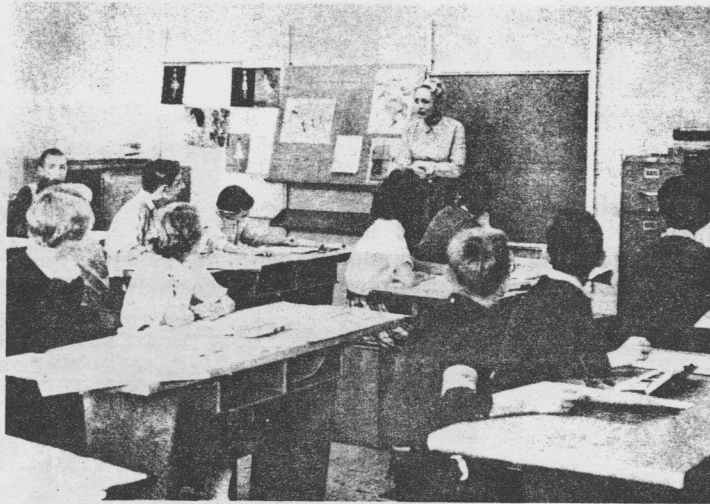


MUSIC ROOM

One of two tiered-floor music rooms is shown at left. Two practice rooms and a music library comprise this section of the school building.

ART CLASS

Rooms feature "Moduwall," a system of interchanging pegboard, tackboard and chalk board. Outside entrance to courtyard permits outdoor work.



HOME MANAGEMENT

One of two self-contained homemaking rooms is shown above. Cooking and sewing facilities offer best training for girls.



INDUSTRIAL ARTS

The well-equipped wood shop is one of the three industrial arts rooms which also include a metal shop and a planning room.

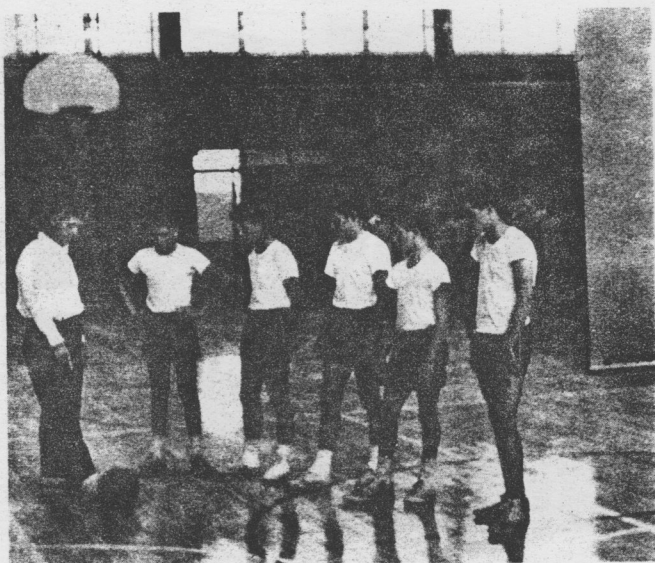
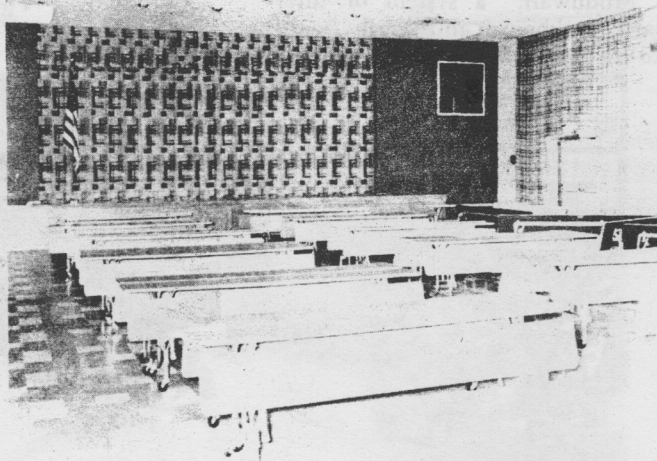


SCIENCE ROOM

Special built-in Sheldon equipment makes it possible for the teacher to set up better scientific experiments. These can be recessed into the wall and stored for future use, making it possible for students to experience a greater variety of experiments.

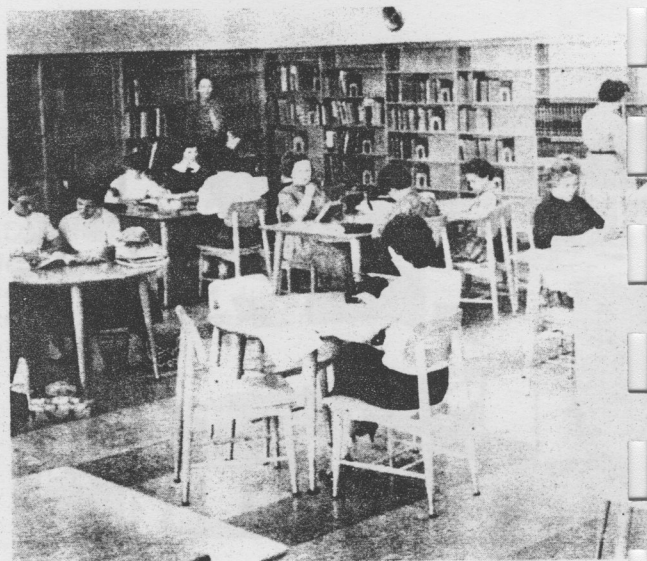
CAFETORIUM

A combination lunch room and auditorium doubles in utilitarian purpose. Features include a 250 pupil luncheon seating, 400 pupil auditorium seating, and luncheon tables which convert into auditorium seats.



GYMNASIUM

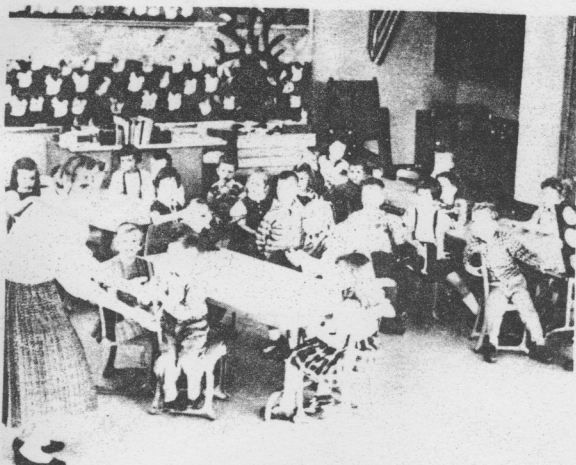
A folding door divides the large gymnasium into athletic classes when necessary. Other highlights include lockers and instructors' offices.



LIBRARY

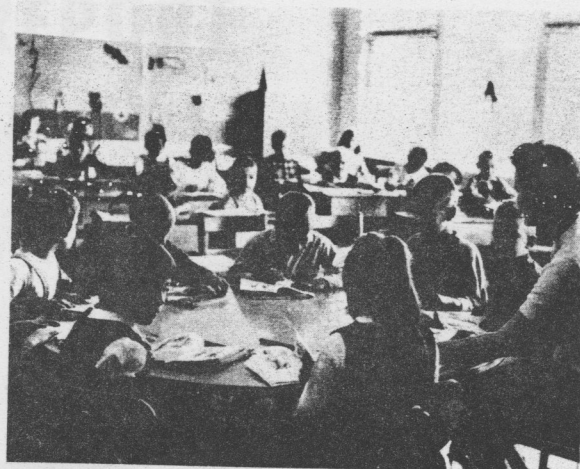
It is possible to seat 60 pupils, with proper work space, at one time in this modern library.

Rose Tree Addition



KINDERGARTEN

Well-equipped, cheerful rooms provide proper setting for the many experiences that your child needs before entering first grade. Floor heating, movable storage cupboards and lavatories in classrooms are unusual features.



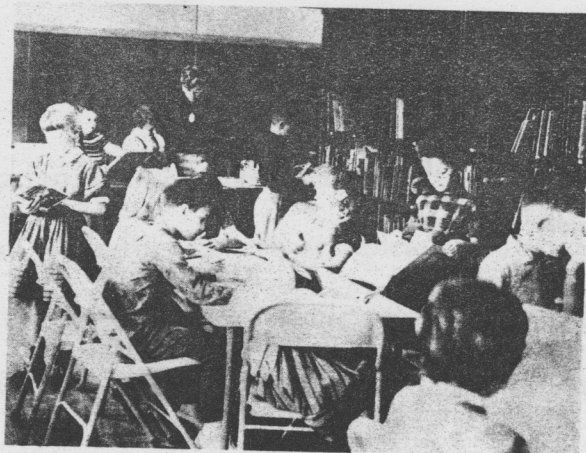
CLASSROOM

Typical room at Rose Tree shows a first-grade teacher at work with one group, while others engage in different activity.



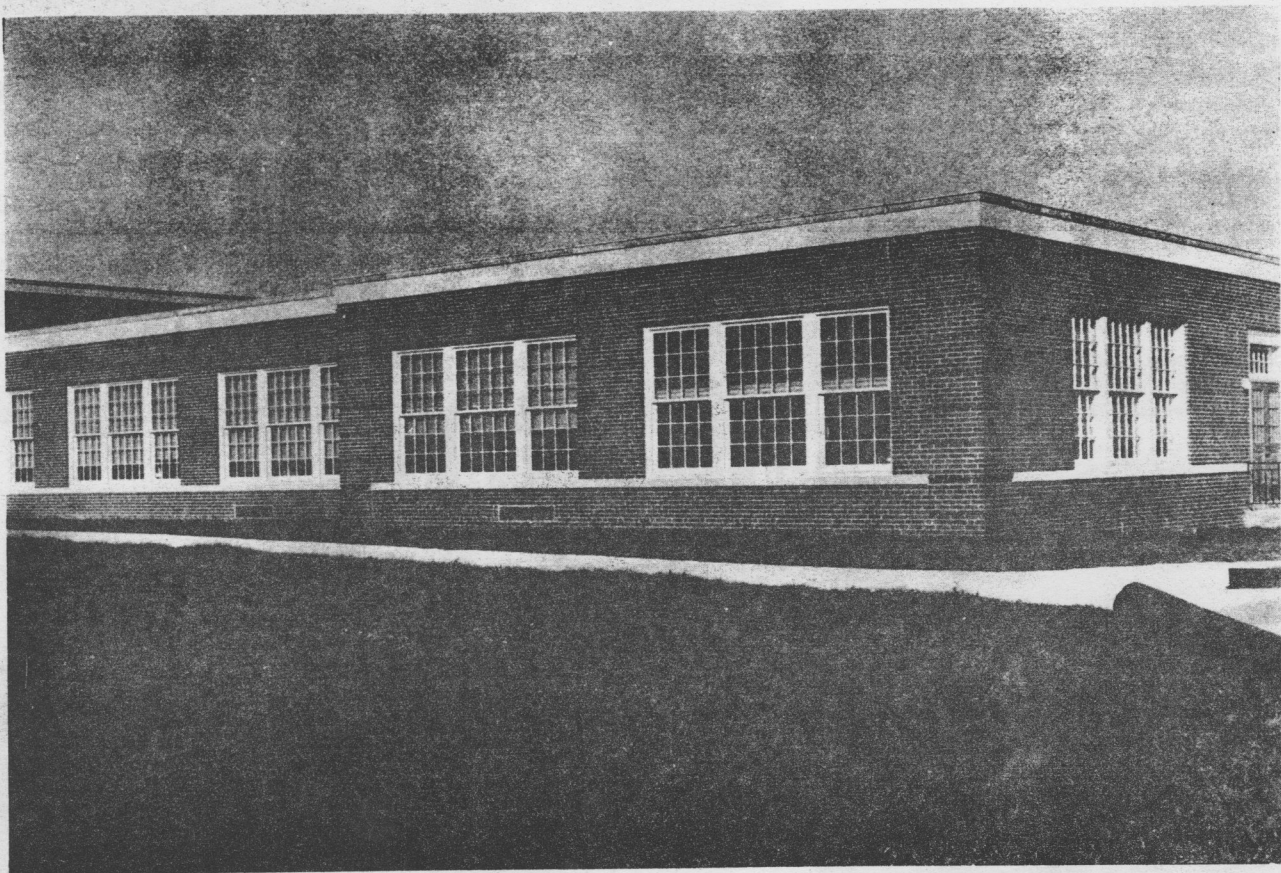
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Once again utilitarian purpose is served by this Multi-purpose Room at Rose Tree. As shown in photographs at right, the room never "sleeps."



LIBRARY

The addition at Rose Tree made it possible to move the old library into newer and larger quarters.



Addition to Rose Tree Elementary School

DEDICATION PROGRAMS

Sunday, December 4

Setting of Cornerstone

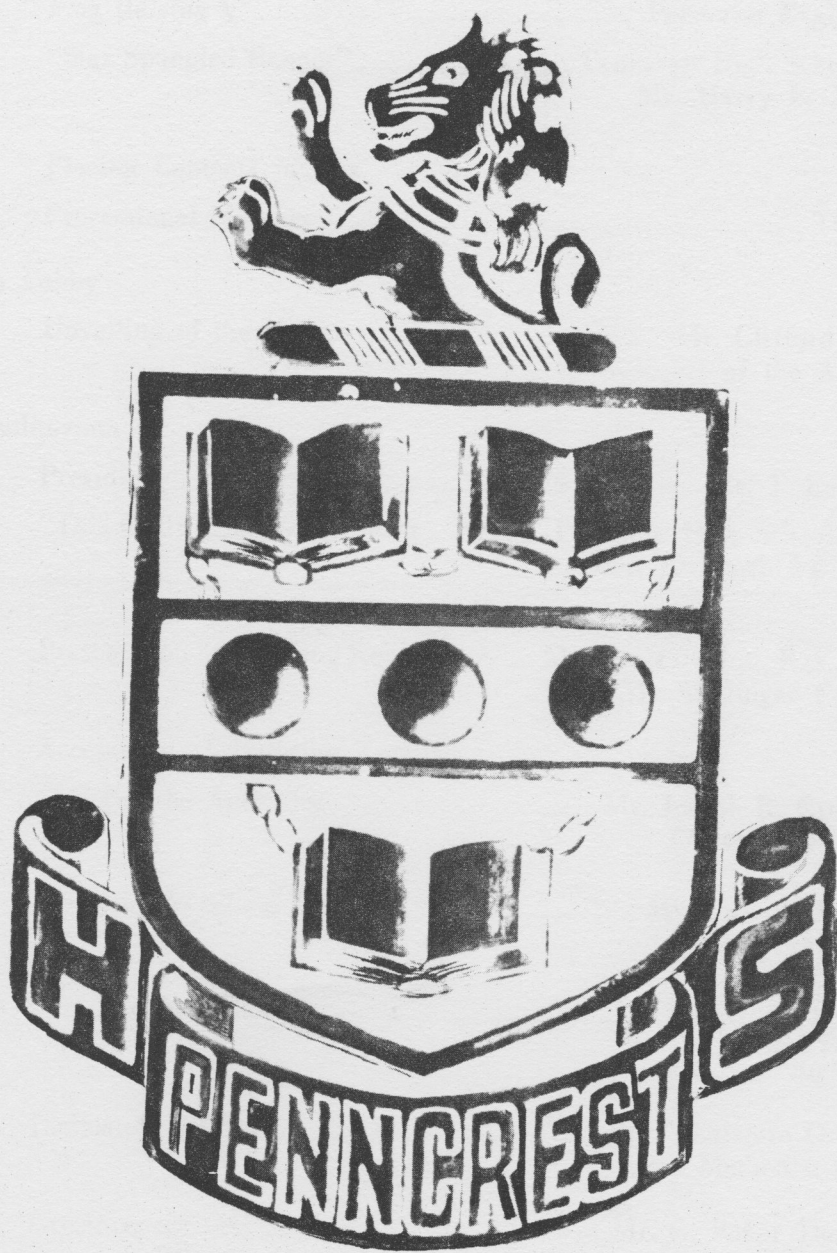
Rose Tree Addition—2:00 P.M.
Indian Lane Jr. H.S.—3:00 P.M.

Open House

2:30 to 3:30
3:30 to 5:00

CENTRAL DELAWARE COUNTY JOINT HIGH SCHOOL 1955-56

[illegible]



DEDICATION CEREMONIES FOR PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL
LIMA, PENNSYLVANIA APRIL 7, 1957 2:00 P. M.

Cornerstone Laying At Main Entrance

Greetings J. Earl Mast
Supervising Principal

Invocation Rev. Robert E. Anderson
Reformation Lutheran Church

Flag Raising Penncrest Eagle Scouts

"Star Spangled Banner" Penncrest High School Band
Mr. Harry E. Mitchell,
Director

Placing Contents in Box

Processional Marches The Band

In Lobby

Unveiling of the Plaque Mr. Clifford Garner
of the Authority

Auditorium

Presiding Mr. J. Earl Mast

"This Is My Country" Penncrest High School Chorus
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Crooks,
Director

Presentation of Building Key Mr. Louis deMoll, R.A., A.I.A.
The Ballinger Company

Acceptance of Building Key

For the Authority Mr. Joseph R. Grubb, Jr.
*Chairman, Joint School
Authority*

For the School Board Mr. Truman W. Read
*President, Joint School
Board*

For the School Mr. H. F. Hofmann
*Principal, Penncrest
High School*

Dedicatory Prayer Rev. Benjamin O. Gould
Lima Methodist Church

Greetings Mr. G. Baker Thompson
*County Superintendent
of Schools*

Directions for Tour Mr. H. F. Hofmann

Benediction Rev. Haymond Pinch
Middletown Presbyterian Church

Alma Mater Penncrest School Chorus

CREATING A NEW SCHOOL

The original conception of the school facilities now housed in Penncrest High School was an objective of the formation of the Central Delaware County Joint School Board on April 23, 1953, to provide adequate secondary schools for this area.

During the summer of 1953 the Ballinger Company was commissioned to convert the idea into design. A schedule of room needs, proposed sites, a statement of financial resources, and cost estimates for the proposal were submitted to the Department of Public Instruction. Approval of "Project 614" was granted on November 16, 1953 with a cost limit of \$2,500,000 after the "Balderston tract" was approved as a site on October 9, 1953.

Planning lagged during the Spring and Summer of 1954 while the Joint Board experienced internal difficulties which resulted in the withdrawal of Media, Bethel, Chester Heights and Concord. Edgemont, Middletown, and Upper Providence agreed to continue Jointure operation in September of that year. The realigned Joint Board submitted revised plans through Ballinger Company and had the "Project 614" approved again on September 21, 1954 with deletion of the proposed auditorium and incidentals, setting a cost limit reduced by \$500,000. On November 16, approval was extended for six months to May 1955 and plans were rushed to meet this new deadline. Forty acres of the Balderston tract were purchased in December. On January 5, 1955, the Joint Authority was re-formed for the three districts. The final plans and specifications were approved by March 16. The Authority advertised for bids which were received on April 14. Bonds were sold on April 27 and contracts were awarded on May 17 for the following:

General Construction	\$1,034,500
Electrical	128,662
Plumbing and Sanitation	138,700
Heating and Ventilating	155,051
Total	\$1,456,913

Other expenses included:

Cost of Site	47,500
Equipment	320,955
Architect Fees	101,901
Contingent Expenses	75,851
Miscellaneous	76,880

Total estimated cost and amount of Bond Sale \$2,080,000

Ground was broken on May 26, 1955 and construction began in June as bulldozers began to move earth for Penncrest High School.

VITAL STATISTICS

Capacity	1000 pupils
Square Feet in floor area	99,488
Cubic Feet in volume	1,510,050
Number of classrooms	39
Cost per pupil of capacity	\$2080

1956-57 enrollment includes 750 pupils in grades seven to ten inclusive; 1957-58 enrollment will include grade eleven for a total of approximately 950; and 1958-59 with the first senior class will probably number more than 1100 students.

So began secondary schools for Central Delaware County Joint Schools.



Photograph by NEWTON H. HARTM



BUILDING AUTHORITY

Front row: Walter G. Yarnall, Joseph R. Grubb, Jr., Clifford E. Garner. Second row: Edward W. Mathews, Wendell E. Warner, Solicitor; James W. Gordon, Jr., Harold A. Hormann.

JOINT SCHOOL BOARD

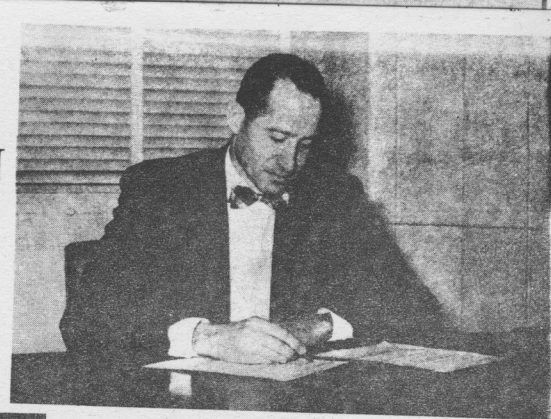
Front row: Donald L. Snively, Mrs. Jane C. Nolte, Walter O. Hoffmann, Truman W. Read, Paul Freeman, Jr., Mrs. Margaret Cowdright, George W. Matters. Back row: Robert K. Brown, H. Letcher Cooper, John W. Kriebel, Mrs. Jeanne M. Cotton, Dr. Dale T. Harroun, Donald B. Harrison, Walter H. Lawrence. Absent: James A. Cochran, Clarence Warfel, Edward S. Green.





J. EARL MAST
Supervising Principal

ADMINISTRATION



H. JOHN LUMSDEN
Business Manager

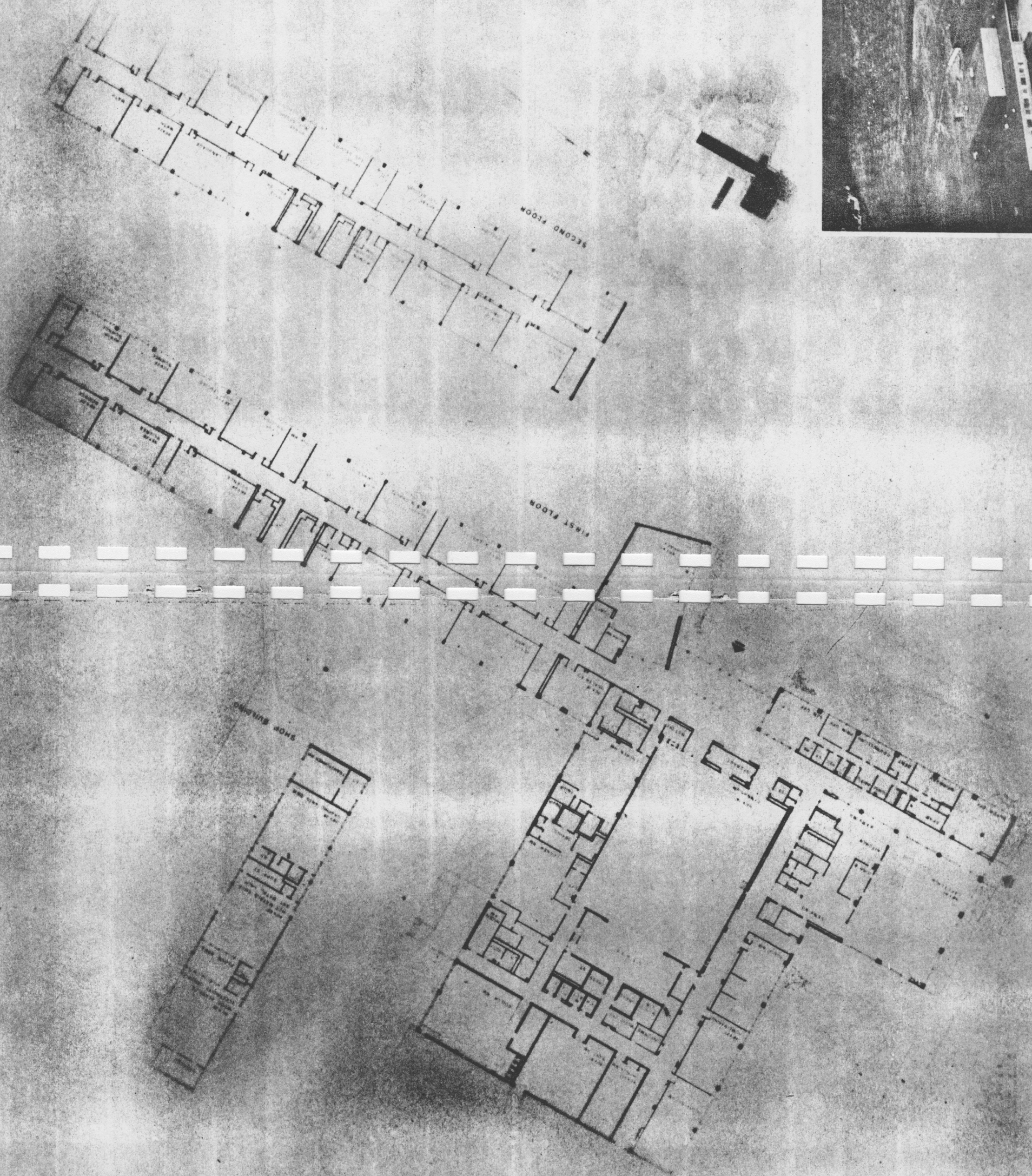
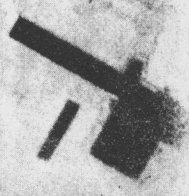
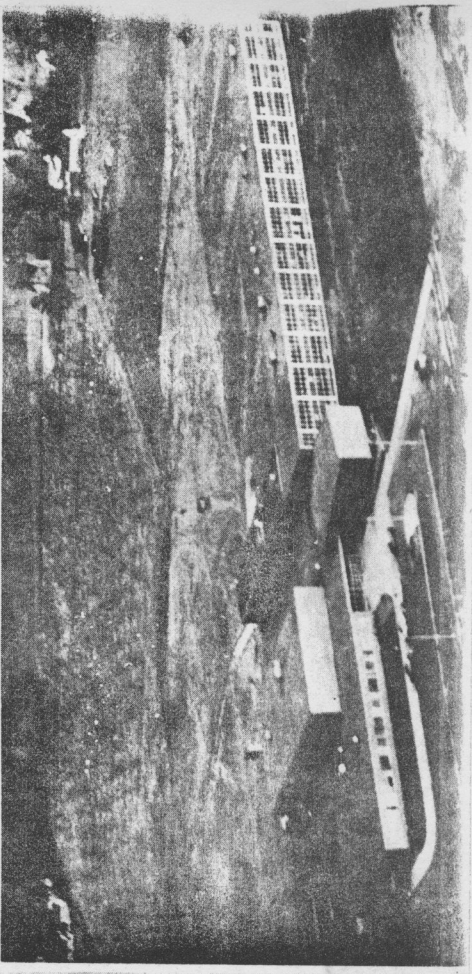


H. F. HOFMANN
Principal

FACULTY

Third row: Miss Fischer, Miss Wheatley, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Ashby, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Todd, Mrs. Crooks, Miss LaPlacca, Mr. DiSalvi. Second row: Mr. Clay, Miss Smyth, Miss Berkheimer, Miss Gysling, Schwalbe, Canty, Mr. Stone, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Cross, Miss Peters, Mr. Heacock, Miss Fricke, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Jamison, Miss Bauer. Seated: Mrs. Jay, Mr. Patrick, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Mitchell, Miss Darlington, Mr. Rothberg, Mrs. Vlachos, Mr. Davies, Miss Whitaker, Mr. Conte. Missing: Mr. Griffith and Mr. Scott.





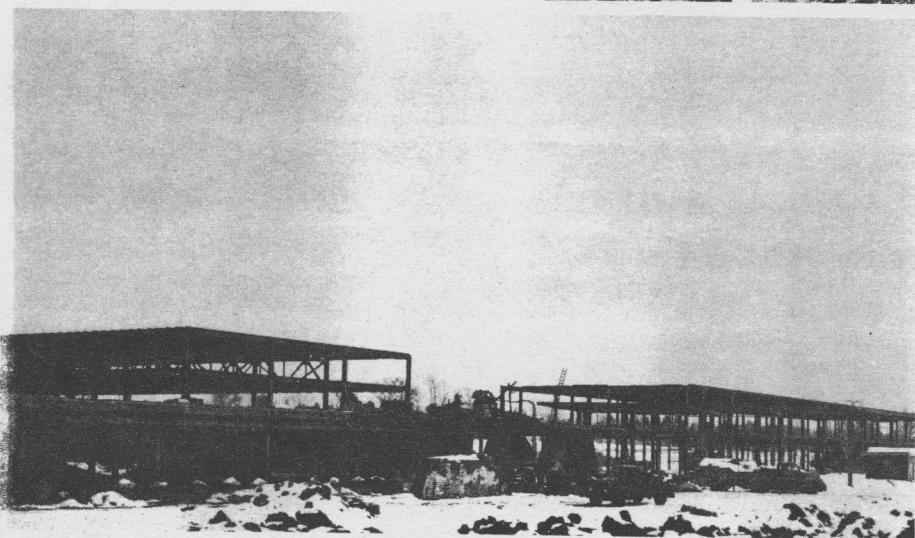
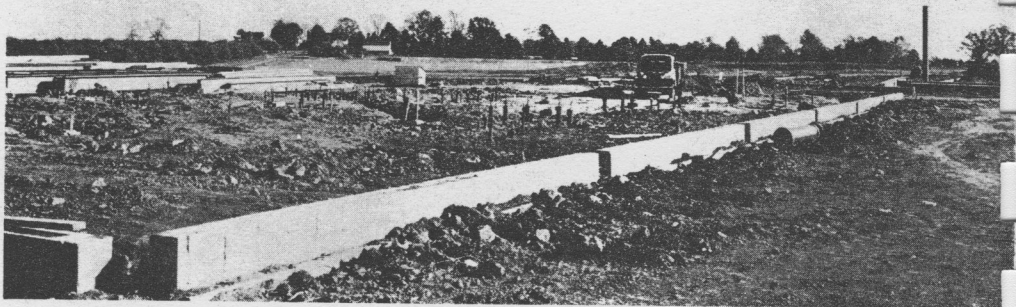


May 26, 1955
GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES

J. Earl Mast, Supervising Principal;
Harold A. Hormann, for the Edgemont
Board, Andrew W. McClure for the
Upper Providence Board and John W.
Kriebel for the Middletown Board.

October 26, 1955

Foundations poured and the first piece
of steel erected.

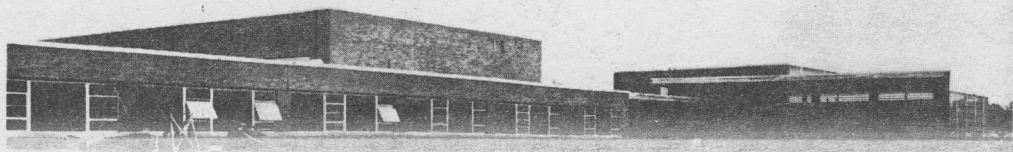


January 27, 1956

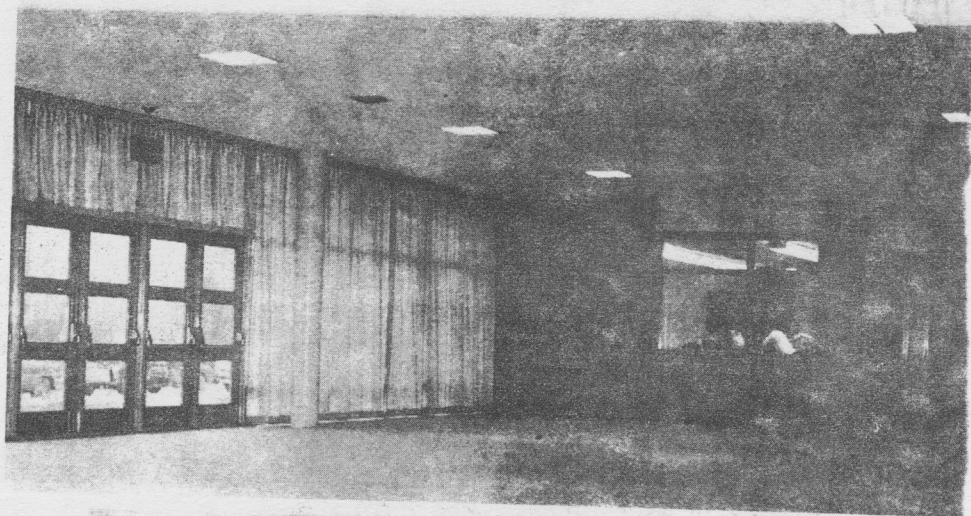
Steel erected, roof work and masonry
begun.

August 29, 1956

Paving and grading begun.

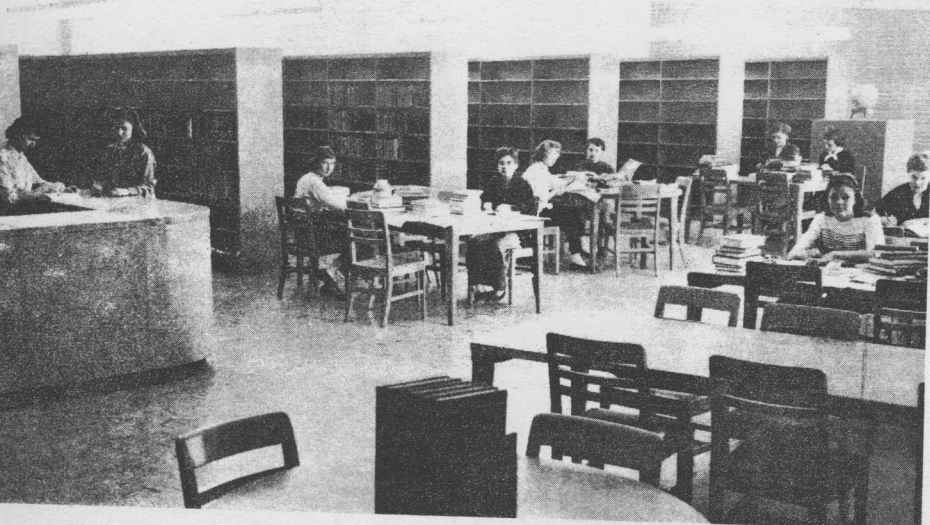


THE LOBBY



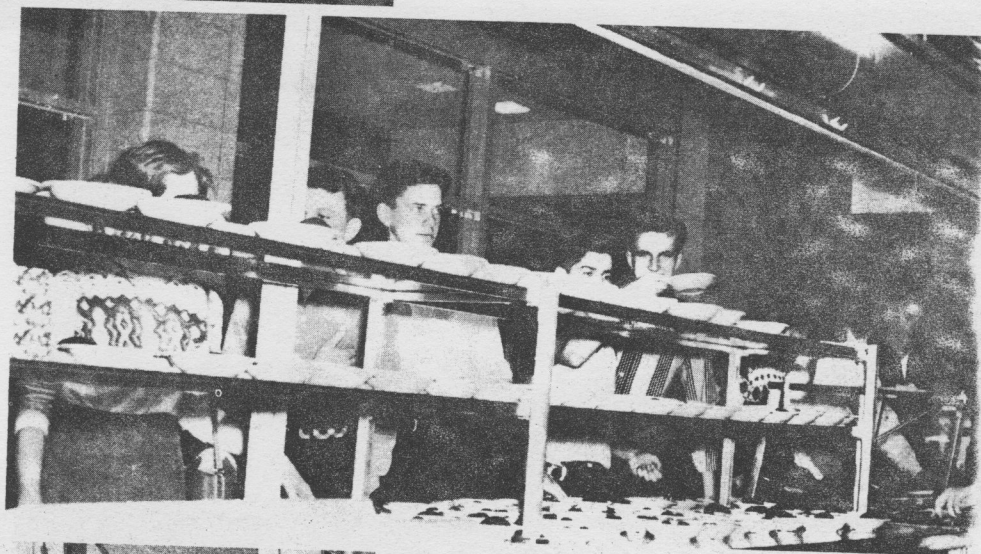
THE LIBRARY

To accommodate 10,000 volumes and 75 pupils.



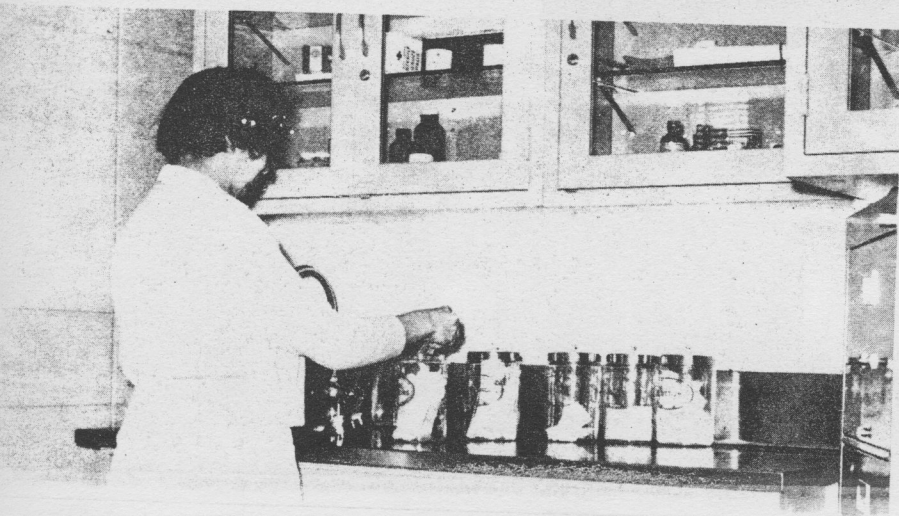
THE CAFETERIA

With its well equipped kitchen accommodates over 300.



THE HEALTH SUITE

Includes a first aid station, examination room, dental room, two wards and lavatories.





FOODS CENTER

One of the three rooms of the Home Making Suite.

CLOTHING ROOM

Adjacent to the Family Living Room.

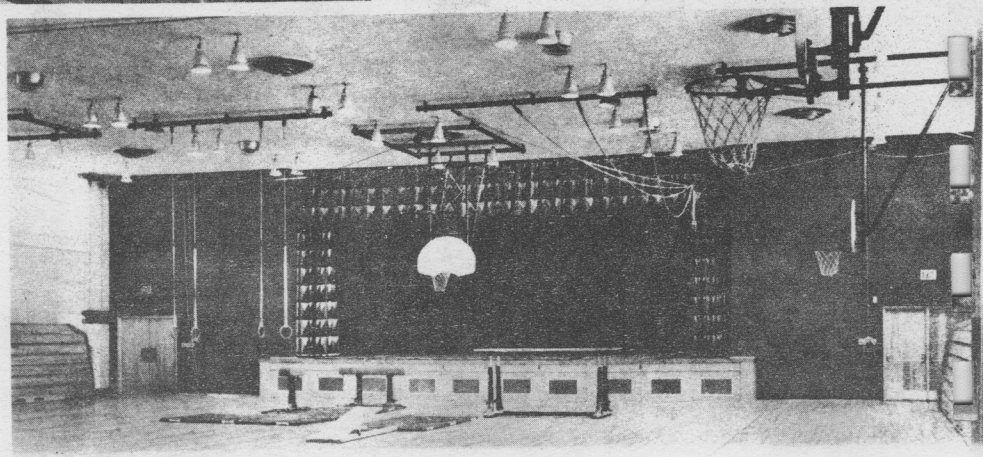


BAND ROOM

The largest room in a comprehensive Music Suite.

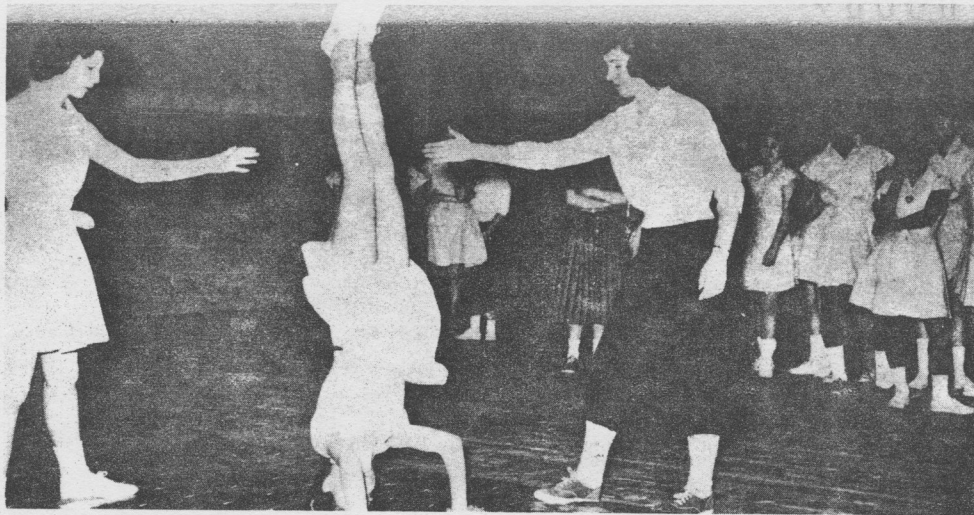
THE STAGE AND GYMNASIUM

At the eastern end of the combination gymnasium-auditorium.



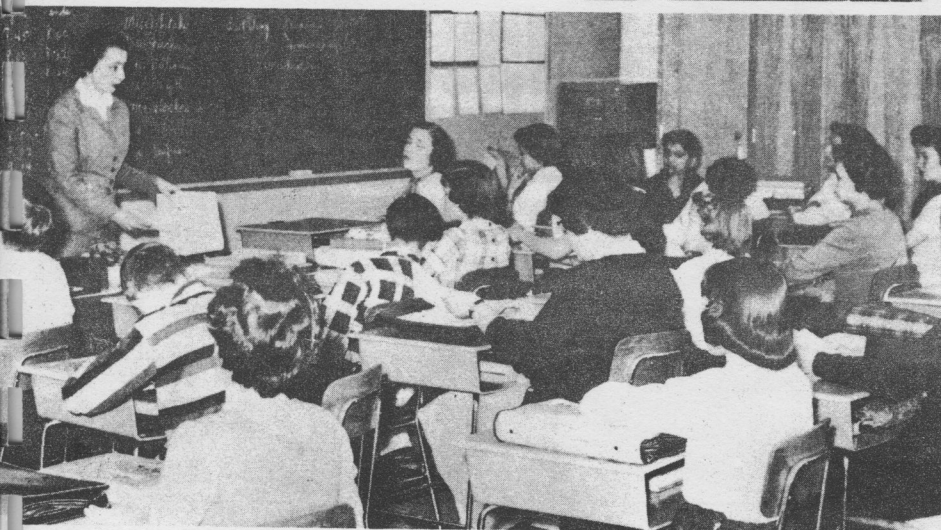
GYMNASIUM

With bleachers to accommodate over 800 spectators.



TYPICAL CLASSROOM

Of which there are 20 in three different sizes.



PHYSICAL SCIENCE LAB

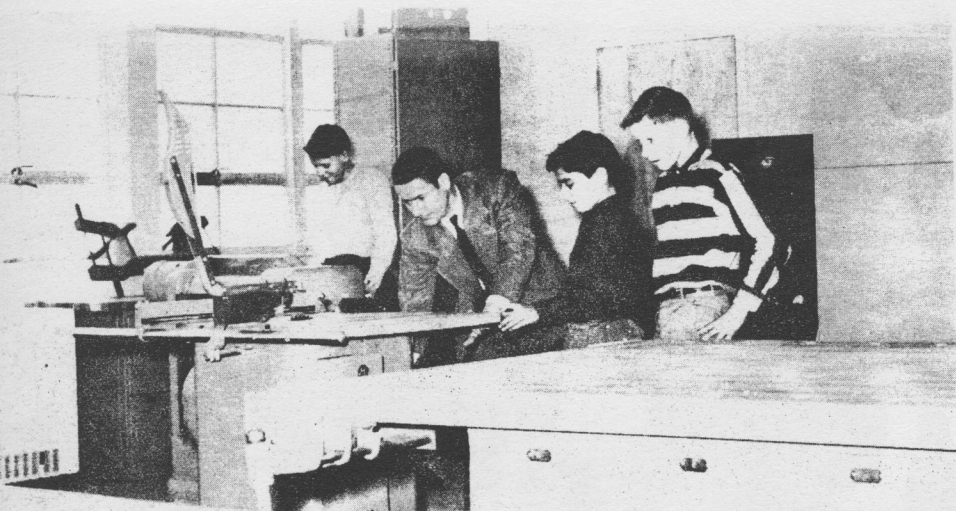
Three rooms in the suite.



BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE LAB

One of two such rooms.





WOOD WORKING AND PLASTICS SHOP

Also equipped for handcraft work.

METAL SHOP

An area in the separate industrial arts building.



ART STUDIO

One of two adjacent rooms.

BUSINESS EDUCATION ROOM

One of the four rooms designed for business education.



BUS PORT

Protected entrance through which most pupils enter each day.



COUNSELING ROOM

Stanley McKee
Home and School Visitor

BOILER ROOM

Designed to meet expanding needs.



MAIN OFFICE

Located off the main lobby.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
of the
ROSE TREE MEDIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
and the
CENTRAL DELAWARE COUNTY
SCHOOL AUTHORITY

Cordially Invite You
to the
DEDICATION AND OPEN HOUSE
SPRINGTON LAKE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1900 North Providence Road
Media, Pennsylvania

Sunday, November 12, 1972

2:00 p.m.

Central Delaware County

School

HAROLD A. HORMANNChairman
ROBERT H. BELL Vice Chairman
WALTER G. YARNALL Secretary
DONALD E. RUMPF Treasurer
STEVE P. PAHIDES....Asst. Treasurer
WILLIS J. CROSS
A. SHELBY MARTIN

Authority

DEDICATION AND OPEN HOUSE
ROSE TREE MEDIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Springton Lake Junior High School

1900 NORTH PROVIDENCE ROAD
MEDIA, PENNSYLVANIA

NOVEMBER 12, 1972

Rose Tree Media Board of

School

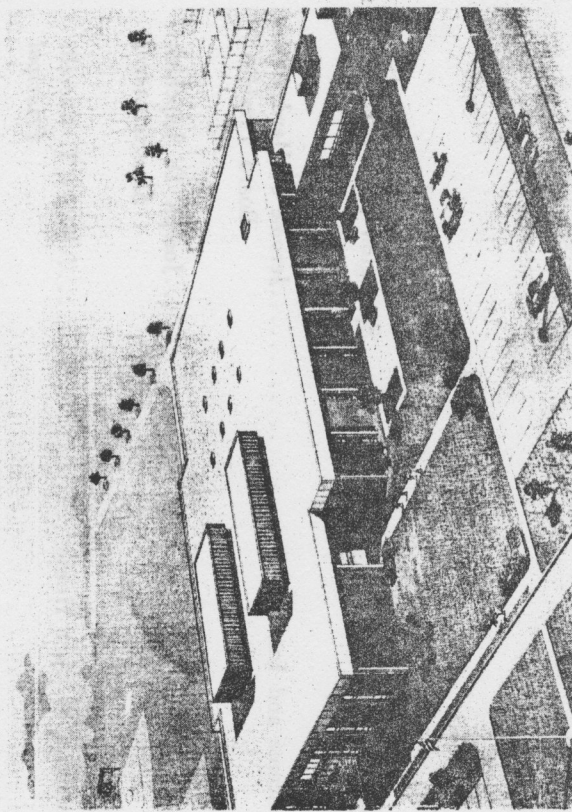
JEROME S. HARDCASTLE .. President
WARREN D. MULLOY, .. Vice President
MRS. LUCRETIA J. FLOOR

Directors

WILLIAM S. GROSS
DR. ARNOLD A. HILTZ
GEORGE W. MATTERS
DONALD H. NAUTA
WILLIAM L. STELGER
LEWIS W. WALTERS

DR. JOSEPH D. LAPCHICK, Superintendent
J. PRESTON BARRY, Assistant Supt. for Instruction
DR., JOHN K. BAILLIE, Assistant Supt. for Administration
HENRY T. NACRELLI, Principal

Architect: YOUNG AND EXLEY



Welcome to Springton Lake

Springton Lake Junior High School opened its doors to 915 students, grades 7 through 9, on September 6, 1972. Its opening marked a new step forward in school-community effort.

Staff participation in planning was maximum. The school is specifically designed to house a team teaching program in which each grade level is divided into three unique mini-schools.

Community effort and participation brought about the Springton Lake Pool. The pool will enable each District child to learn to swim during his school career. Further, it provides the only community swimming facility in Rose Tree Media's four-municipality area.

Springton Lake's total program has been designed to offer education of the highest quality along with regard for each student as an individual. Its direction is set, and students, staff and parents are working to achieve the goals.

Program

National AnthemSprington Lake Orchestra

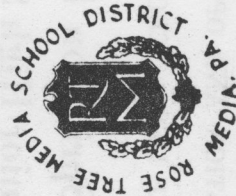
Welcome and IntroductionsJerome S. Hardcastle
Board President

RemarksJoseph D. Lapchick
Superintendent

Invitation to Open HouseHenry T. Nacrelli
Principal

America The Beautiful*Audience*
Accompanied by Springton Lake Orchestra

Open House and Refreshments in the cafeteria
will follow.



Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors

1982 - 1983



BACK ROW: John Hammond, John Snyder, Mary Ann Stuart, Donald Nauta, Philip Damiani
FRONT ROW: Ruth Bretz, Mary Jean Tomlinson, Anne Fonshell, Mario Pierpoline

DISTRICT SCHOOLS AND CENTERS
1982-83

GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
122 South Pennell Road
Media 19063
566-6170
RICHARD F. DUNLAP, PRINCIPAL

HANNA M. CARR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1000 Gradyville Road
Gradyville 19039
459-2126
RICHARD F. DUNLAP, PRINCIPAL
Robert Schultz, Head Teacher

MEDIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Front and Monroe Streets
Media 19063
566-2951
JOHN N. LAIRD, PRINCIPAL

PENNCREST HIGH SCHOOL
134 Barren Road
Media 19063
566-6010
LOUIS W. SCOTT, PRINCIPAL
Ronald Fertel, Ass't. to Principal
Daniel Loose, Ass't. to Principal
for Instruction
Foster Nowell, Jr., Ass't. to Principal

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
464 South Middletown Road
Media 19063
565-1400
HELEN M. NEWSWANGER, PRINCIPAL

ROSE TREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1101 First Avenue
Media 19063
565-2155
JAMES C. RAUHE, PRINCIPAL

SPRINGTON LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL
1900 North Providence Road
Media 19063
566-2900
DAVID L. LEIBIG, PRINCIPAL
Robert Towson, Ass't. Principal

COMMUNITY SERVICES
Robert Letcavage, Director
Penncrest
566-6010

MAINTENANCE SHOP
Media Elementary School
566-6139

ROSE TREE MEDIA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
Penncrest High School
134 Barren Road
Media 19063
566-6010

SERVICE CENTER
172 Barren Road
Media 19063

FREDERICK J. KELLER, DIRECTOR
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
565-3552

FRANK K. LOMAS, DIRECTOR
MAINTENANCE SERVICES
565-3554

CAROLE CARPENTER, DIRECTOR
FOOD SERVICES
565-3554

Our Future Is In RTM !

RTMPD483200