

History of the College Community School District

July 1, 1953 -December 31, 1984

As prepared by Glenn E. Selzer

This history will cover approximately the first 31 years of the College Community School District's existence. The writer is using, as a resource, the minute books of the School Board Secretary (which records the official actions taken at each school board meeting) combined with his 29 years of service as the School Board Secretary/Business Manager during that period of time. He is also utilizing his memory of the time served as the school board president of the Fairfax Township School District, which later became a part of the College Community School District and time served on the first Board of Education of the College Community School District.

Prior to the formation of the College Community School District, there were individual Township school districts in existence. In most cases the schools in these districts were one-room schools located in such a manner that students would not have to walk more than one mile to school. The country school buildings were located in an area called a sub district within the Township. These school buildings housed the students living in that sub district for grades one through eight. This meant that there were generally nine country schools in a rural Township. This is the way that schools were arranged when Iowa was first settled. In subsequent years as towns grew, country schools located close to the nearest town were sometimes closed and the students were sent to that school. If a high school education was to be available for students in those days, it was generally located in the nearest town. In these rural areas it was not common to go beyond eighth grade. It was also common, after the high schools were started, for the rural students to reside with some family within the town where the school was located during the days school was in session.

In the geographical area that later became College Community School District there were basically three townships involved in the discussion leading to reorganization. These were Fairfax Township, College Township and Putnam Township. In the Fairfax Township area there was a school building within the town of Fairfax. When it was constructed, in approximately 1923, it was designed as a Primary grade through 12th grade building. (Primary was the word originally used that later was replaced by the word Kindergarten). It was a two-story building with two classrooms at the lower level and two classrooms in the upper level that could be made into one large room with a folding door. At the basement level was a furnace room and a large storage room. Sometime during the 1920s, the Fairfax school was changed to include only primary through 10th grade. During World War II it was determined to house only primary through eighth grade in the Fairfax building. The high school students' tuitions were paid to the Cedar Rapids School District or to the Walford Consolidated School District.

Prior to 1950 College Township consisted of only one-room country schools. The high school students in that area generally attended, on a tuition basis, high schools in Cedar Rapids, Mount Vernon or Shueyville. Around 1950 the College Township school board decided to close all of the country schools in College Township and house them in a new building that they intended to construct near the center of the district and south of the Cedar Rapids city limits, which would house their kindergarten through eighth grade students.

Their voters approved a bond issue and a grade school building was constructed and was placed in operation for the 1953-54 school year.

Putnam Township, in 1953, consisted of country schools and a school building located in the town of Ely. High school students from this area were attending Cedar Rapids, Mount Vernon, or Shueyville schools. There were still some country schools in operation in Putnam Township.

In the early 1950's the state legislature of Iowa passed a law that was to encourage the formation of larger school districts in the state. Schools in the state did not rapidly adapt to this law, as there was a resistance to losing the country schools, which had served so well for so many years. There was also a strong resistance to losing small town high schools. There was a strong loyalty to the small town school athletic teams, usually consisting of basketball and baseball.

In the early 1950s the Cedar Rapids school board sent an official notification to the school boards of Fairfax Township, College Township and Putnam Township. This notification indicated that the Cedar Rapids School District would no longer accept tuition students from its neighboring school districts. They indicated that they would be quite willing to merge the neighboring school districts into the Cedar Rapids School District, and thus the students would be able to continue high school in the Cedar Rapids buildings, as they would then be a part of the Cedar Rapids School District. In order for any merger of this type to occur, it would be necessary for the residents of the districts concerned to vote favorably in favor of the merger. The feeling in the school boards of Fairfax, College, and Putnam was that this was an ultimatum to merge or else. Resistance developed rather quickly. The College Township school board took the initiative to invite the Putnam and Fairfax Township school boards into a discussion about the problem. The College Township school board had a man named Sam Wiley functioning as its superintendent of schools. Sam and some of the school board members from College Township attended meetings with the other school districts to discuss the possibility of a merger, with the mission to be the construction of a new high school in the general geographical area of the three districts.

The three school boards favorably considered the possibility of a merger. In order to merge it would be necessary for the voters of each of the school districts involved to vote favorably to merge. In areas such as Fairfax Township it was necessary to conduct meetings of explanation in each of the rural country schools with the parents. In the Fairfax Township area there were three possibilities of merger: to merge with Cedar Rapids, or Walford and Norway, or College Township and Putnam Township. The College Township question was whether to consider a merger with Cedar Rapids or a merger with Putnam and Mount Vernon or a merger with Putnam and the Shueyville district or a merger with Fairfax and Putnam. Putnam Township was considering a merger with Mount Vernon or with College Township and Fairfax Township or with College Township and Shueyville. Since many of the students in these rural areas had gone to high school in Cedar Rapids, there was a favorable feeling in many people's minds that the merger should go with Cedar Rapids, but the atmosphere of an ultimatum from the Cedar Rapids School District did not sit favorably with many of the citizens.

The three school boards finally agreed that an election should be held seeking the approval of the voters to merge Fairfax Township, College Township and the western half of Putnam Township including the town of Ely. (Voters in eastern Putnam had already indicated their preference to merge with Mount

Vernon.) Before the legal document was drawn up spelling out the boundary lines of the proposed new district, three farmers who lived in Jefferson Township, in Johnson County on the southern edge of the Fairfax Township school district petitioned for their land to be also included in this new district. This election was held during the spring of 1954 and carried easily in all three districts.

As quickly as possible, thereafter, an election was held to select the school board members for the proposed new school district. A meeting was held on June 11th, 1954, called by the Linn County Superintendent of schools, Walter Shupp, for the purpose of legally forming the new school district, which was to go into existence on July first. The name selected for the new school district was College Community School District. The new board members elected and sworn in by Walter Shupp were Kenneth E. Stahle, Leo A. Modracek, Louis P. Dolezal, Milton Chadima and Glenn E. Selzer. Charles Sladek had been elected to serve as treasurer of this district. Frank Zahradnick was selected by the school board to serve as the School Board Secretary. The board hired Sam Wiley to serve as the Superintendent of the new College Community School District.

It is interesting to know how the Township of College was named. In the early days of settlement in the state of Iowa there was a small independent college located in the area that was later to be named College Township. This college was named Western College and it was located in the area where a hamlet called Western, after the name of the college, came into being. There was no railroad at the time, but the developers of Western College expected a railroad to be built from the city of Cedar Rapids through the hamlet of Western to Rock Island, Illinois. When the railroad was finally built it did not go through the hamlet of Western, but went through the town of Ely located five miles east of Western. Because of the difficulty in reaching the Western College due to dirt roads and horse and buggy transportation, it was ultimately moved to a location in Illinois. The little hamlet of Western still exists.

Heights 1953

1954

At one of the first meetings of the new College Community school board held in July of 1954, Sam Wiley recommended to the board that all of the country schools be closed immediately. He indicated that all of the students involved could be housed in the three main buildings, that is, College Township Elementary, Fairfax and Ely. He said it would be necessary to purchase two new 60-passenger school buses that could be put with the existing buses previously owned by the College and Fairfax Township school districts. These buses would be used to transport the children from the rural area to one of the three centers. Closing the country schools in Fairfax Township and Putnam Township had not been considered when the talk of reorganization was occurring. After lengthy discussion the Board of Education agreed that it was a sound educational idea. When the news of this change hit the press there was considerable dissent in the community. A special school board meeting was held at which the public was invited to attend. A large delegation of parents was present, some to object to hauling students several miles to school while others objected to the cost of buying school buses. By the end of the meeting a majority of the people seemed to be satisfied, particularly after they were told that the proposed changes were provisional and could be altered if need be.

The decision was finally made to keep all of the kindergarten through ninth grade students in the new College Community School District buildings. Kindergarten, 1st, second and third grades were to be housed in the Ely and Fairfax buildings and fourth through ninth was to be housed in the College

Township building. Tuition would be paid for the 10th, 11th and 12th grade students to go to high school in any neighboring school district.

Due to failing health Frank Zahradnick was forced to resign as the School Board Secretary. At a September meeting in 1954, George Davis was selected by the board to serve as the School Board Secretary.

In October, the school board started serious work towards the ultimate construction of a new high school building. Several committees were formed to advise the Board of Education on the community's feelings in the specific areas. Committees were: Adult Education, Curriculum, Boundary lines, Building Site, Public Relations. 10 to 15 citizens were appointed to each of the committees. It was apparent from the interest shown in serving on these committees that the community was fully behind the development of a new high school.

At an October meeting the board selected the Leo Daly Co., an architectural firm located in Omaha, Nebraska to serve as the high school architect. This choice was made after the board had interviewed several local architects. The main reason for selecting an out-of-town architect seemed to be that they were the only firm that had done recent school building construction. Very few new school buildings had been constructed during the time of World War II and the few years thereafter.

In December of 1954, after considering the recommendations of the site committee, the board selected a site that was across the road from the College Township elementary building and a few hundred yards west. Later negotiations ended in the successful purchase of these 40 acres of land, with an option to purchase the remaining 40 acres of this 80-acre farm.

1955

At a meeting held in February of 1955, the Board of Education announced a contest to be held to select the name for the new high school building.

In March of 1955 the School District sold \$479,000 in bonds for the construction of a new high school building. This bond sale had been approved by an earlier school bond election. Since there were legal limitations on the amount of bonded debt, based upon the property valuations within the district, the district was limited to \$479,000 debt.

In March of 1955 the board selected the name Prairie High School for the new building. Following is a copy of the winning entry.

(Kathleen Booth, a student during the 1954-55 school year wrote the following.)

"In the year 1673, two French explorers, Marquette and Joliet sailed down the Mississippi River. They stopped along the West Bank of the River, which is now the east boundary, Iowa. As they looked over the Rolling Plains dotted here and there with small groves of trees, they saw a beautiful view. They used the French word prairie, meaning meadow, for this rolling plain. Since that time the word prairie has been used in describing Iowa. In fact, Iowa is known as the prairie state.

When our forefathers arrived in this community, they used the word Prairie in the naming the largest Creek, which flows through the area. They also used this word in naming several of the rural schools in this vicinity.

This black, rich prairie soil brought the courageous pioneers from the east in the 1830s. They made this one of the richest rural communities in Iowa. We likely would not have our new school if it were not for the rich, fertile soil of the open prairie.

As our new high school will be built on the open prairie away from the busy streets, I am in favor of the name Prairie High."

In July of 1955 Katherine Worley was appointed to serve as the School Board Secretary.

In August the school board was to find out, when the bids were received, that there was not enough money available to construct a complete high school building including a gymnasium. Over a period of time it was finally decided to build the classrooms for the high school and to eliminate the gymnasium section for the present time. It was also decided to build a separate building for industrial arts.

In December of 1955 the board was advised that Katherine Worley had accepted a position as a teacher in the Cedar Rapids school district. Glenn Selzer offered to resign his position on the school board and indicated that he would accept an appointment as the School Board Secretary. This was acceptable to the board and William Faltis was sworn in as a board member to replace Mr. Selzer.

1956

In the March 1956 school board election, Thomas Hartley was elected to replace Kenneth Stahle.

It was about this time that the Board of Education determined that the school district, during the 1956-57 school year, would provide an educational program in the School District buildings, for all of the kindergarten through tenth grade students. The district would offer a 1/2-day Kindergarten program. Newell Lash was employed as the first principal of the elementary grades.

In July of 1956 David Neuhaus became the School District Treasurer. He was to be re-elected to this position every time his term of office was to expire, until many years later, when the law then was changed to allow the District Secretary to be appointed by the School Board to also serve as the Treasurer.

At the start of the second semester of the 1956-57 school year, the high school building was open for occupancy and students in grades 8, 9 and 10 moved into the building. Howard Strong was the first principal. At this time the superintendent's office was also relocated to the Prairie High School.

High School

Additional bonding capacity was now available and the School Board directed that an election be held for the purpose of approving the sale of \$166,000 in school bonds. The announced purpose of this bond issue was to build the gymnasium that had been omitted. The election carried by a wide margin.

1957

In February of 1957 the school board selected the architectural firm of Crites and Peiffer of Cedar Rapids to replace the Leo Daly Co. for the purpose

of planning and constructing the new gymnasium. (It had proved difficult to work with an architect located so many miles away from the site.)

In March of 1957, at the regular school board election, Robert Krob was elected to replace Louis Dolezal.

The new gymnasium was constructed in such a manner that it could be divided in half with a curtain. This would allow two Physical Education classes to be held at the same time in this space. The stage was constructed to cover one side of the gymnasium and it had a 50 ft. opening. At the time of construction, this was probably one of the largest high school stages in the state. Folding bleachers were placed at the opposite side of the gymnasium from the stage.

During 1957, the school board authorized a football and basketball program to be provided, and also authorized the construction of a running track to be included with the football field along with purchase of the necessary equipment to provide a wrestling program. That fall the board was to begin consideration of another bond issue for an addition to the College elementary building. The board engaged the architectural firm of Crites and Peiffer for this planned addition. The voters approved a bond issue of \$110,000 in January of 1958.

1958

In January of 1958 the Linn County Superintendent of Schools, Walter Shupp, called a meeting for the school districts of College Community, Walford Consolidated, Jefferson Township, Swisher Independent, Monroe Township, and the Johnson County Board of Education. This meeting was precipitated by a new state law requiring County plans to be developed for possible future reorganization of school districts in the state of Iowa. Spokesmen for the College Community school board indicated that they would be receptive to any change that would provide educational opportunities for all the children in the area, but they would not solicit any other districts for reorganization. It appeared that most of the individuals at this meeting were receptive to future reorganization of this area. Some indicated that they would prefer that it occur at a later date. Walter Shupp said that a decision among the school boards would need to be made within two months. In the next several years it would come to pass that all of the school districts involved at this meeting would eventually become part of the College Community School District.

On January 15, 1958 the first basketball game was held in the new Prairie High School gymnasium while the football field was lighted that fall.

During the 1958-59 school year, the 7 through 12 grade students from the Swisher Independent School District attended the College Community Schools for the first time on a tuition basis. During that same year, all of the first grade students in the district were housed in the Ely school building, second grade students in the Fairfax building, third through seventh in the College Township elementary building while grades eight through twelve were in the high school building.

During this year a new program was initiated in which selected high school boys were employed as custodian assistants to work before or after school hours. The same opportunity was offered for selected high school girls to work in school offices. This was a unique program in the United States and received national recognition.

1959

At the March, 1959 school election, Robert Langridge and Kenneth Stahle were elected to replace Leo A. Modracek and Thomas Hartley.

During the balance of 1959, a determination was made to construct a new junior high school building and construct an addition to the existing high school shop building as well as an addition to the high school itself. Bond issues were successfully passed and contracts were let so that construction would start in the spring of 1960. The board purchased 15 acres of land, immediately south of the Prairie High School site for the purpose of constructing the new junior high school building.

Board action authorized the acceptance of the Jefferson Township eighth through twelfth grade students to attend the Prairie High School on a tuition basis during the 1959-60 school year. The board officially named the new building Prairie Junior High School.

1960

A request by community leaders in neighboring districts for a merger with the College Community District led to an election on June 21st 1960 for the formation of a new school district. The following districts voted separately on the question of whether to form a new School District comprising all of the separate districts involved: College Community, Swisher Independent and Jefferson Township. The election easily carried in all of the districts involved and the new College Community School District went into existence on July 1, 1960. An election was then scheduled for the selection of school board members to serve on the new reorganized College Community School District board. Members elected were James Manville, Robert Langridge, Elmer Grissel, John Vondra, Robert Krob, James W. Bowersox, and Milton Chadima.

In January of 1960, voters approved \$125,000 in school bonds for the purpose of completing the junior high school building and additionally approved \$15,000 in school bonds for the purpose of building a bus garage.

At the beginning of the 1960-61 school year, James Barger and John Ferree were appointed as principals of the elementary buildings. Newell Lash was reassigned to become the curriculum coordinator.

1961

During the spring of 1961 the board purchased 25 acres of land located immediately east of the Prairie High School site for the purpose of building a new elementary building. The architectural firm of Kohlman, Eckman & Hukill of Cedar Rapids, Iowa was selected for the proposed new elementary building. In June of 1961 the School District issue \$300,000 in bonds for the purpose of constructing this new building.

The new Prairie Junior High School building opened in the fall of 1961 and that same fall, the school board sold the Fairfax school building to the St. Patrick Church Corporation in Fairfax Iowa.

1962

The administrative lineup for the 1962-63 school year was as follows: Sam Wiley, Superintendent; Newell Lash, assistant superintendent; Clarence Bergman,

high school principal; Robert Purcell, junior high principal; James Barger, elementary principal; John Ferree, elementary principal; Howard Strong, elementary principal.

In March 1962 a petition was submitted to the Board of Education signed by residents of the Walford Consolidated School District requesting that their district be annexed to the College Community School District. No action was taken at this meeting.

That spring the board determined that the new elementary building would be known as the Prairie Intermediate school building. At this point the four existing buildings would all have the name Prairie as the key part of their name.

By this time a problem began to surface concerning the handling of the sewage from the buildings. After consultation with engineers, a sedimentation pond was constructed on the southeast portion of the campus, which would serve all four buildings. An additional 20 acres of land was purchased for this purpose.

At the September school board election in 1962, Clifford Leonard was selected to replace James Manville, who had chosen not to run for re-election.

In November of 1962 the Board of Education received a petition requesting a vote to be held for the purpose of authorizing the sale of \$190,000 in school bonds, the purpose of which would be to build an addition to the Prairie Junior High School building. An election was set for December and the election carried in favor of the bond issue. The architectural firm of Leo Peiffer and Associates of Cedar Rapids, Iowa was selected to serve for the Prairie Junior High School addition. In February of 1963 it was discovered that the law of Iowa had a taxable limitation on the taxation of property for the purpose of paying off bonded debt and interest. This meant it would be impossible to sell \$190,000 in school bonds and still remain within the legal limit. Thus, the board decided to sell \$120,000 worth of bonds and to use \$45,000 of existing moneys in the 2 1/2-mill levy fund. The additional \$70,000 in school bonds would be sold at a later date.

1963

At a December, 1963 board meeting it was announced that the School District had been awarded \$3000 worth of audiovisual equipment as the result of an entry submitted by Kenneth Marsh, the school district audiovisual director, in which he suggested new ideas in the audiovisual field.

1965

In April of 1965 Howard Strong submitted his resignation so that he could accept a position in the Linn Mar School District, as its junior high principal and the district's curriculum consultant. John Ferree had also submitted a letter of resignation earlier in the spring. These resignations required a change in the administrative assignments. Gene Holthouse would serve as principal for the first through fourth grades in the Prairie elementary building, James Barger as principal at the Prairie intermediate building housing fifth and sixth grades, Newell Lash as the principal of the Ely, Shueyville and Swisher school buildings (as well as assistant superintendent for curriculum coordination.) In July of 1965 Newell Lash resigned to accept a position as assistant superintendent in the Cedar Rapids School District. Robert Purcell

also left his position as junior high principal to accept a position in Missouri. James Jennings was assigned to be principal of the Prairie Junior High School building.

During that summer the school board was advised that a new federal program called Head Start had been approved for the 1965-66 school year. Federal funds would cover 90 percent of the cost of a program that would be for children of preschool age and was designed to better prepare these children for entry into kindergarten.

In July of 1965 John Vondra resigned from the Board of Education because he was moving from one director district to another. Lloyd Williams was appointed by the board to replace him until the next regular school election. At that September election Lloyd Williams was elected to fill the position for the next three years

In August of 1965 it was reported to the Board of Education that the State Department of Public Education had approved an elementary guidance program and that the state would provide 90 percent of the cost. Guidance programs at the elementary level were rare in the state.

At about the same time, the school board authorized all students from the Monroe Township School District in Johnson County to attend the College Community School District schools on a tuition basis. This was an indication of a future reorganization of the Monroe Township School District with College Community.

Leo Peiffer and Associates architectural firm was selected to plan for additions to the Prairie High School building and the Prairie intermediate school building in the fall of 1965. In December an election in the School District authorized the sale of \$300,000 in school bonds for the Prairie intermediate school addition.

1966

Milton Chadima resigned from the board in March of 1966 and John Vondra was appointed to fill out his unexpired term.

Joint board actions of the Walford Consolidated school board and the College Community school board finalized a merger of the eastern part of the Walford consolidated school district with the existing College Community School District. The patrons of the Walford Consolidated School District had decided among themselves where the boundary line would be that would divide the Walford School District between College Community and the Norway Consolidated School District. This change would be effective on July 1, 1966. The western half of the Monroe Township district was attached to the Amana School District at this time, and the eastern half was attached to the College Community district.

1967

During the winter of 1966 - 67 discussions were held concerning the need for additions to the Prairie High School building: more classrooms, additions to the library, cafeteria, industrial arts department, music department, physical education areas, and the construction of a new lecture hall. An election was scheduled for February 14, 1967 to seek approval of a \$340,000 bond issue for these Prairie High School additions. The voters easily approved this bond issue.

Clarence Bergman submitted his resignation as high school principal effective at the end of the 1966-67 school year, to accept a position in Colorado. Larry Zenor was subsequently employed to replace Mr. Bergman.

Sam Wiley submitted his resignation as superintendent to be effective June 30th 1967. Mr. Wiley became a consultant for the State Department of public instruction, where he served with distinction until his retirement. Sam Wiley had been an outstanding leader in bringing several communities together to form one of the more progressive school districts in the state. The writer remembers that one of Mr. Wiley's beliefs was that in order to make progress in the public sector at least 20 percent of the population must be unhappy with the proposed changes. It was this philosophy that led the College Community School District to become one of the leaders in educational changes. He had also provided sound leadership in the planning and construction of the additional physical plant as the district grew rapidly in population due to its proximity to the city of Cedar Rapids, which extended into the College Community School District.

That fall the Prairie High School football field was officially named the John W. Wall field in recognition of a Prairie High School graduate who was killed in action during the Vietnam War. The dedication ceremony was held on September 15th 1967.

Mr. James Bayne was employed by the Board of Education to become the superintendent of schools effective July 1, 1967. In August of 1967, Robert Langridge announced that he was moving from the School District on August 1st and would therefore have to resign. The board appointed Carl Heil to fill out the unexpired term of Robert Langridge. In the September 1967 school board election Milton Chadima was elected when John Vondra decided against running for re-election. Fred Stigers was elected to replace Carl Heil.

Construction of the Prairie High School north addition was begun in the fall of 1967 with completion the following year. This addition was designed as a circular building attached to the main building. It was to house vocal and instrumental music departments, a physical education area and a little theater/lecture hall. At the same time the Shueyville building was closed for the 1967- 68 school year and the children were reassigned to other buildings in the district. Another change made in the elementary grade levels was the addition of a grade called Junior Primary Grade that was to exist for students between kindergarten and first grade.

In December of 1967 the school board sold \$160,000 worth of school bonds to be used for a Prairie High School South addition.

During the winter of 1967 the school board met with the College Community Education Association welfare committee and the non-certified employees welfare committee for the purpose of setting out the agendas for discussion with these groups concerning the salaries and working conditions for the following school year. These agendas spelled out the areas that were subject to discussion and mutual agreement. This discussion also led to an agreement as to what would be done if there were an impasse in reaching an agreement between the board and these groups. If there were an impasse the employee group would appoint an individual from the community, the school board would appoint an individual from the community, and the employee group together with the school board would select the third member of the impasse committee. Both groups agreed with the board that "very much weight" would be given to the recommendation of this impasse committee in reaching a final agreement. It must be noted that this

board action in College Community School District preceded Iowa law in allowing collective bargaining with public employees, even though this was a meet and confer process. This, the first year of meet and confer, resulted in mutual agreement without going to impasse with either group.

1968

In April of 1968 the firm of Davis McConnell Ralston Inc. was engaged to prepare a Master Plan for the future of College Community School District. They were to provide ten-year projections in the following areas: population projections, enrollment projections and projected building needs. They were to analyze the existing facilities and the school sites and to consider possible recommendations for the securing of future sites. They were also to provide a study on the ability of the School District to finance the building needs of the future.

In October of 1968, Davis McConnell Ralston Inc. submitted the Master Plan that recommended a new elementary building along with a media center to be installed in the intermediate building and that the district should look for a new location for the audiovisual center, presently located in the intermediate building. Construction of a new bus garage and a campus maintenance building combination was also recommended, thus releasing the old bus building for the use of the high school industrial arts department. Finally, it was recommended that the district plan a two-step addition to the junior high school building in which the first phase would increase the enrollment size of the building to 800 students and the second phase would increase the size of the building to accommodate 1200 students. The board engaged Davis McConnell Ralston Inc. to continue as the educational consultants for building plans as they became necessary.

Later that year the board engaged the firm of Peiffer and Associates to develop a Master site plan for the campus, as it was now determined, that for the future, new buildings would be placed on the existing campus site.

During this period of time it was discovered that the city of Cedar Rapids was extending its city water mains to the road along the north side of the Prairie High School site. Eventually the district was to request annexation of all of the school property to the city of Cedar Rapids to take care of water needs and to get a much-improved insurance package because of the fire safety protection the Cedar Rapids fire department would provide.

The architectural firm of Peiffer and Associates was authorized to plan for a Prairie Junior High building addition and a corporation building consisting of a new bus garage combined with a new campus maintenance building.

1969

In February of 1969 the school board received a letter advising them that the St. Patrick's parochial school, located in the town of Fairfax, would be closed at the end of the 68-69 school year. Since several of the students in that school would probably attend the College Community schools, the school board immediately authorized the purchase of an additional school bus to be added to the fleet.

In April of 1969 the school board authorized, for the first time, the addition of girl's golf, tennis and gymnastics to the high school program.

Howard Strong returned to the district effective July 1, 1969 to serve as the assistant superintendent.

A school bond election was scheduled for May of 1969 seeking authorization from the voters to sell \$2 million in school bonds for the purpose of building and equipping an addition to the Prairie Junior High School, building and equipping an addition to the Prairie Intermediate school, and constructing a new elementary building. The bond issue failed to receive the necessary 60 percent approval. The feeling of the administration and the board was that the public was upset at the size of the bond issue, this being the first time the district had asked for a multi-million dollar bond approval. During its existence the College Community School District patrons had approved eleven consecutive bond issues. Since the need was still there the board would, within a few months, reschedule a new bond vote.

In October of 1969 school board adopted the Master Site Plan as submitted to them by the consultant firm.

In November a consultant from the Iowa State Department of Education submitted his review of the school district. He recommended that the school obtain more library books at the junior and senior high school levels. Areas in which the school board was commended were: its continued efforts to improve the educational program; the school district in-service activities; the second year of flexible modular scheduling at the junior and senior high school levels; team teaching in the fourth grade; the use of an assistant superintendent specifically for the instructional program; the use of a transitional first grade; and the high number of teacher associates used in the district.

During this month the School District voters had approved by a 62.34% majority a \$2 million school bond election for the purpose of building and equipping a new elementary building and building and equipping an addition to the Prairie Junior High School building. In the month of December its consultant advised the school board that conceivably it could be impossible to sell the school bonds under a certain Iowa law limiting the amount of taxes that could be levied. The proposed bond sale was deferred until a future date.

In December the school board appointed three of its members to serve as a Meet and Confer committee to meet with the College Community Education Association committee.

1970

In January of 1970 the school board authorized its architects to proceed with planning for the construction of a new bus garage / campus maintenance facility. In February the board purchased 14.25 acres on the east side of the existing south campus to be used for the construction of the bus garage and a new elementary building.

In March of 1970 the school board hired Charles Swaney to start service as an elementary principal on July first.

In May the school board was finally able to successfully sell the \$2 million bond issue. At this meeting they authorized a contract for the construction of a new bus garage/campus maintenance building. Another contract approved that day was for a campus water system, which would be connected to the Cedar Rapids city water mains. In June the contracts were approved for the construction of a new elementary school building, which would be known as the

Prairie View elementary building, and the Prairie Junior High School addition.

At the school board election held in September of 1970, John Anderson Jr. was elected to replace Mr. Stigers. At an October board meeting it was determined that the future use of the Walford, Shueyville, Swisher and Ely buildings would be discontinued as soon as possible.

The Westinghouse Learning Corporation had developed a new system of learning which they called PLAN, Progress for Learning in Accordance with Needs. This program was designed to provide for more individualized instruction for students. In November of 1970 the school board was advised that the administration was considering recommending PLAN. The recommendation to the board followed a visit to East Aurora, Il by the Superintendent, assistant superintendent, and the elementary principals where they visited a school that had incorporated PLAN. The Board directed that the Superintendent submit a letter of intent to the Iowa State Department of Public Instruction indicating a possible future request of federal funds to incorporate PLAN in the College Community School District. This request ultimately resulted in approval by the State Department of \$360,000 to be available over a three-year period. At the next meeting the board authorized a formal request to be made for funds to support PLAN, which was to be installed in grades one through five. This program incorporated the use of computers at the Westinghouse facility in Iowa City to keep track of each student's progress. The student's progress was measured by the use of tests administered by the teacher who received a daily print out from the Westinghouse Corp. indicating the progress of each individual student. In the PLAN program there were three reading levels and multiple mathematics levels. In order for this program to work it would be necessary to purchase a multitude of learning tools.

For the second time in a 2-year period, the College Community Education Association and the school board used a Meet and Confer process to develop a working agreement for the 1971-72 school year. This process started in December 1970 and culminated in February of 1971.

1971

In March of 71, Glenn Selzer submitted to the Board of Education a proposal prepared jointly by the non-certified employees welfare committee and himself entitled " Position Classification & Compensation Plan of the Non-certified Employees of College Community School District." This proposal was developed as result of the Meet and Confer process between Glenn Selzer and the employees committee. It must again be noted that College Community School District at this time was using the meet and confer process before the State of Iowa changed its laws to allow collective bargaining with public employees.

In June of 1971 the school board directed that there be a special question on the regular school board election ballot requesting the electors authorization to sell the Ely, Walford and Swisher buildings and grounds. This question did receive approval at the September election.

In August of 1971 the school board voted to name the new elementary building, Prairie View elementary. The administrative staff of the 1971 -72 school year consisted of the following: James Bayne, Superintendent; Howard Strong, assistant superintendent; Glenn Selzer, District Secretary/Business Manager; Marvin Brase, administrative assistant and transportation director; Larry Zenor, Prairie High School principal; Robert Jennings, assistant Prairie

High School principal; James Jennings, Prairie Junior High School principal; Donald Jennings, assistant Prairie Junior High School principal; James Barger, Prairie Intermediate principal; Gene Holthouse and Robert Swaney, elementary principals.

At the September school board election in 1971 William Boland, Jr. was elected to replace Clifford Leonard and Daryl Hynek was elected to replace James W. Bowersox. The enrollments for that school year, as determined by the September count, were as follows: K-6, 1642; grades 7- 9, 665; grades 10 - 12, 548.

1972

Following voter approval of the sale of the Ely, Swisher and Walford buildings and sites, an auction was set for January 9, 1972. The Swisher building /site was sold to Herman O. Zimmerli and the Walford building/site to Regis L. Arp and Barbara R. Arp. The Ely building and site was sold to Glide B. Miller. Ultimately the Swisher Trust and Savings Bank purchased the Swisher building and site from Mr. Zimmerli, and the Bank constructed a new bank building on the site. The Arps converted the Walford building to a public dance hall. The Ely building and site was later obtained by the town of Ely for a town hall.

During the spring of 1972, the school board authorized, for the first time, girl's basketball to be offered as an extracurricular sport for the next school year. They also approved the initiation of an auto mechanics program and authorized the architect to proceed with developing a hard surfaced central bus loading area with lighting.

Clifford Leonard replaced Marvin Brase as the transportation director starting July first of 1972, as Mr. Brase expressed an interest in returning to the classroom as a teacher. Robert Bostwick was approved as the new Prairie High School principal replacing Mr. Bergman.

The official enrollment for College Community School District on September 8th, 1972 was 2959.

At the regular school board election held in September of 1972, Robert Koutny was elected to replace Lloyd Williams who chose not to run for re-election.

The school board was advised by its attorney about the new Iowa Open Meetings law that was to go into effect on July 1, 1973. This law changed many of the practices that were common in public meetings throughout Iowa and provided that almost all business be done in open session.

1973

Board actions in February and March of 1973 included the authorization for 45 to 50 elementary teachers to go to Aurora IL for a PLAN workshop and seminar. James Jennings, junior high school principal, reported to the Board of Education that plans have been made to incorporate the PLAN program at the junior high school level the next school year. The program would be installed in the mathematics and language arts areas and would be incorporated with the flexible modular scheduling in existence in those grades. Approval was given to experiment with placing kindergarten on an all-day every other day basis beginning in the second semester.

Once again the board operated on a Meet and Confer basis with the College Community Education Association, and with the non-certified employees welfare committee.

In the summer of 1973 the school board was able to purchase 24-1/2 acres of land from the Iowa State Highway Commission. The highway commission had used this land during the construction of interstate highway 380, which runs along the western boundary of the school campus. The land was located immediately south of the Prairie Junior High School site.

That fall the school board received a report from the staff involved in the outdoor education program at the junior high school. (This program was started in 1960 and has been recognized by the State Department of Public Instruction as a bellwether program. Schools from all over the United States have requested information about its operation.)

The board also received a letter from the National Educational Scholastic Foundation commending Prairie High School music students on their exemplary performance at an international music festival in Vienna, Austria.

The city of Cedar Rapids was starting to grow into the area south of the school campus. In order to serve that area, the city requested an easement along the western edge of the high school campus. The easement was granted which would allow for a road, and a sanitary sewer, water, telephone, and electrical lines to be placed underground. The agreement provided that the school district could at any time in the future hook up to the sewer line and eliminate the use of the sewerage lagoons.

In October of 1973 the school board and the Kirkwood Community College school board reached an agreement in which approved Prairie High School students could attend certain Kirkwood Community College classes. The College Community School District would pay the tuition for these advanced students.

1974

In January and February of 1974 the Iowa Legislature seemed to be headed toward establishing collective bargaining for public employees in the state of Iowa. The College Community School District Board of Education took an official position against collective bargaining and notified its representatives in the state legislature. The board pointed out that it had been extremely successful in using a meet and confer process and that the establishment of collective bargaining would only increase costs to the local taxpayer.

On March 4th, 1974 there was a fire in the Prairie high school building. The superintendent reported to the Board of Education that the damage would probably exceed \$100,000. Arson was suspected from the beginning, and later investigation established that a night watchman, provided by the security company that the school district had engaged for protection, had actually set the fire. The largest amount of the damage was smoke, which enveloped the whole building. Classes were suspended for one week while a cleanup crew performed their task.

In May of 1974 the Board of Education accepted the new working agreement reached between the classified employees and the board's designated negotiator, Glenn Selzer. This was still a meet and confer process. Conversely, the meet and confer process between the Board of Education and the College Community

Education Association had reached an impasse. Under the mutually agreed upon terms this discussion moved to mediation. There was feeling on the board's part that the teachers association was testing the waters in anticipation of collective bargaining, which was scheduled to become the law of the State on July 1.

Howard Strong, assistant superintendent, died in May and since his death had been anticipated for some time, Robert Bostwick was assigned to the position of assistant superintendent as of July 1, 1974. In June, Kenneth Steine was employed as the new Prairie High School Principal to start on July 1.

In anticipation of the new collective bargaining law, Glenn Selzer's contract as business manager was modified by removal of his responsibility for direct supervision of the buildings and grounds department and substituting the title and duties of the chief labor negotiator for the district. As result of this, Clifford Leonard, transportation director, was assigned the duties of supervision of the buildings and grounds department.

In May of 1974, the district requested title III funds to continue the local efforts made during the past three years in the area of individualized instruction with the PLAN program. These funds were approved by the State Department.

The impasse with the College Community Education Association was settled following mediation on May 28th.

During the summer of 1974 a closed-circuit television system was installed in cooperation with Kirkwood Community College. The base for this operation was at the college and programs could be requested at any time. The teachers of the College Community School District designed and selected these instructional programs and assigned them to the audiovisual library at Kirkwood, where they could be played upon demand.

That fall, Dr. Marvin Powell submitted a report that he had developed after studying the PLAN program that had been in effect for the past three years. The report was quite favorable about the program. It was also announced that some members of the Prairie High School faculty were adapting the PLAN program to the courses they were teaching.

The official student count on September 13, 1974 was 2974.

Since the district had not had a favorable experience with a hired security guard, studies led to the final determination that an electronic security system would be installed in the buildings. An arrangement was made with the director of buildings and grounds whereby he would place a portable home on a site on the school campus. The central controls for the security system would be in his home and in return for his monitoring of that system he would pay no rent.

1975

In April of 1975 the school board agreed to hold off sale of the Shueyville school property until the city of Shueyville could again apply for federal funds with which to purchase the building and site. In anticipation of the application for federal funds the property had been appraised so that a firm figure could be established.

In June it was reported to the Board of Education that the meet and confer process with the College Community Education Association had resulted in an agreement after using a public fact finder. The board and the teachers ratified the agreement. At this same meeting the College Community Education Association requested the Board of Education to stipulate that the College Community Education Association would be recognized as the bargaining unit for the professional employees of the district, and the board agreed to this request.

In the September election Elmer Grissel and Robert Koutny chose not to run and were replaced by Richard Harger and Robert Wodstrchill. The September 12th official enrollment for the district was 3023.

The school board received notification from the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board that it would be necessary for the school district teachers to participate in an election to determine if they desired representation under the collective bargaining law and which organization they would choose to represent them. This election was held on Nov. 11, 1975 and the teachers voted to allow the College Community Education Association to be their official representative in all collective bargaining actions.

1976

In January of 1976 Robert Wodstrchill resigned his position on the board due to ill health and Arnold Yanecek who was appointed to serve until next regular election replaced him.

Disposition of the Shueyville school property was finally reached in April of 1976, when the school board agreed to a lease purchase agreement in the amount of \$8000.

Ethel Bailey was introduced to the Board of Education at its May meeting. Superintendent Bayne told the board that she would be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs. Bailey had been teaching since the 1920's. James Jennings, junior high school principal, praised Mrs. Bailey's work as a mathematics teacher in the junior high school building and indicated that he considered her one of the most professional teachers on his staff.

At that same board meeting, agreement was ratified by school board action and since the teachers had agreed by prior vote, the first master contract developed by collective bargaining was agreed upon by all parties to be effective for the 1976 -77 school year.

In October of 1976, a petition was submitted to the Board of Education signed by 1278 residents of the school district, requesting a period of silent meditation in each school building so that students could begin each day with a prayer without the fear of ridicule or harassment from their peers. This petition also requested that each school begin the day with the Pledge of Allegiance, or our national anthem. After hearing reports concerning this request from the Civil Liberties Union, building principals, the College Community Education Association Executive Committee and the high school student council, the board voted to deny the request for a period of silence and to continue the present practice of the Pledge of Allegiance or the playing of the national anthem in the buildings. However, in November, in response to a petitioner's request for a reconsideration, the board voted to take no further action until results of a community survey were complete.

1977

In March of 1977 the College Community School District Booster Club requested that its funds be separated from the school district funds. Superintendent Bayne told the Board of Education that he had conferred with the state auditor and was informed that these funds legally were to be included with the school district funds but could be identified separately. The Booster Club withdrew its request.

In July of 1977 the board voted that the schools within the district would recognize a moment of silence each day and would continue the practice of playing the national anthem and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

For the school year of 1977-78, the district entered into an agreement with the federal government called the Comprehensive Employment Training Act or CETA. This agreement provided that the school district would allow previously unemployed persons to be assigned to non-teaching positions within the school district. They would be paid with federal funds and an administrator would be employed with these funds to select and place these employees within the district. The purpose of the act was to help these people become active wage earners in the community. They were to be given an opportunity to learn special skills and to be helped to find employment in other sectors. Some of them ultimately became school employees outside of the CETA program. The program was active for two or three years. As many as 30 employees were trained at one time.

In August of 1977 the school board gave the old College Township Hall to the Seminole Valley commission for placement at the Seminole Valley historical site called Usher's Ferry. Previously the College Community school board had given the old Fairfax Township Cherry Valley country school building to the Seminole Valley commission. Both buildings still exist on that historical site.

At the regular school election that fall Mary Stroleny replaced Robert Krob who had decided not to run for reelection.

In November of 1977 the Teamsters filed a petition with the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board to be considered the representative for the classified employees of the College Community School District. Ultimately, some of the employees, selected by the Teamsters, chose not to be considered in the election and they so petitioned the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board. When the official election was held this group of employees were not included in the vote. However at that official vote held on February 2, 1978, the Teamsters were not successful in organizing the employees as the vote was 34 yes and 35 no, of those employees voting.

Apparently between the time the Teamsters first filed their petition with the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board and the time of the election, the board president and one other board member attended a meeting of classified employees. This happened to be the group of classified employees who later requested not to be included in the vote. Rumors came out of this meeting that perhaps the board members might have inadvertently suggested to these employees that they were not to worry about their jobs. If this were true, the Teamsters could have claimed that these board members were trying to coerce these employees to vote against unionization. The College Community Education Association Executive Committee indicated that if these rumors regarding board members' actions were true, then assurance was requested that Glenn Selzer, the board's designated negotiator for collective bargaining, still had the full authority of the board to negotiate with the Association or if individual school board members could meet with groups of employees, unofficially, to make

agreements. The school board gave official confirmation that Glenn Selzer was functioning with its full authority and within its parameters. The teachers association had also heard that, at this meeting, these two board members were said to have assured the teacher aides and associates that their jobs were more important to the School District than those of the teachers. The teachers association sent a letter to the board objecting to this type of comment coming from a board member.

On January 24, 1977 the official student count for the school district was 2821.

1978

James Bayne submitted his resignation as superintendent of schools to be effective February 28, 1978. There were at least 250 visitors at the February 13th school board meeting. The meeting was moved to the Prairie High School Little Theater. It was apparent that there was considerable controversy within the School District and recognition that the school board was no longer in agreement on school policies and philosophy. Many of these visitors recognized that Mr. Bayne's decision had been caused by this conflicting board philosophy. Many speakers requested that the board review its internal actions and reach some consensus of opinion.

Robert Bostwick was appointed to serve as the interim superintendent until a new superintendent was selected. On March 16th of 1978, Dr. Wayne Engle of the Iowa State University was selected to search for a new superintendent. He was to recommend at least 10 possible candidates to the Board of Education and the board requested that these candidates be selected from the Midwest

On June 26, 1978 Dr. William J. Bach was offered a contract by the Board of Education to serve as superintendent of schools for the College Community School District.

In July of that year, the board took action to connect the water system on the school campus to the Cedar Rapids city water system. The school district's water wells were maintained to provide water for irrigation of the football field.

In September of 1978, Ronald Nove was elected to the school board replacing Arnold Yanecek who did not place himself as a candidate.

1979

In January of 1979 the school board authorized a long-range plan for placement of grades within buildings. For the 1980-81 school year the administrators were directed to arrange for two kindergarten through fourth grade buildings, and one fifth and sixth grade building. To phase into this arrangement, it was determined that during the 1979-80 school year the Prairie Elementary building would contain kindergarten through third grade, the Prairie View building would contain kindergarten through fourth grade and the Prairie Intermediate building would contain fourth through sixth grade.

On July 11, 1979 the Teamsters won an election and were designated by the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board as the union that would represent most of the classified employees of the school district.

In August of 1979, as result of a petition filed with the school board by members of the community, the board authorized a feasibility study to be conducted concerning the construction of a swimming pool in and for the school district.

At the September 1979 school board election Garland Ashbacher defeated Milton Chadima and Norman Humble was elected to replace John Anderson who was not a candidate.

When Dr. Bach assumed the position as superintendent, during the 78-79 school year, he soon began adding employees, particularly in the areas of teacher aides and teacher associates, as well as some custodial staff. Since it was illegal in the State of Iowa to spend more money than the approved school district budget, which was set by state law, it soon became apparent that the budget was going to be exceeded by several thousand dollars. Dr. Bach was forced to lay off these extra employees. Under the laws of Iowa it was possible for a school district to pay for unemployment insurance for itself or it could choose to self-insure for unemployment of its employees. Since the school district had never had to lay off an employee in the past, it had been the policy to self-insure. Consequently, the school district had to pay several thousand dollars in unemployment benefits to all of these employees. This caused a budget problem, as well as lots of unrest among school district employees and among members of the community who were aware of the situation. The situation came to a head at a February, 1980 board meeting when a petition was submitted to the board from many members of the community requesting that the board reconsider its action extending Dr. Bach's contract. The board did not take action regarding the extension of the contract but did vote to change his contract to provide for two evaluations each year rather than one. Since the over-expenditure of the 78-79 school year had to be carried forward to the 79-80 budget, it became necessary to lay off more employees. In March, the board conducted a special meeting for the purpose of finding more places to cut the budget. At the March 18th meeting the board received a correspondence from the College Community Education Association indicating that they had held a vote among their members and that this vote resulted in an overwhelming vote of no confidence in Superintendent William Bach.

1980

In May of 1980 Robert Sherman was employed to begin service as an elementary principal on July 1. During that same month, fourteen paraprofessionals were given lay off notices effective at the end of the school year.

In July it was recorded that the City of Shueyville had made the final payment for the purchase of the Shueyville building and site and that the necessary papers were signed turning this property over to the city of Shueyville.

In August the school board was advised that the District had been approved by the State Department of Public Instruction to begin a gifted and talented program, which would be partially funded by the state.

In September, the Booster Club requested permission to construct, with volunteer labor, a press box on the bleachers at the John Wall Athletic Field, with the understanding that the Booster Club would raise \$5000 towards the project. They requested the school board to fund the balance of the estimated \$10,000 project. The request was approved; however in October it was determined

that the press box was going to cost more money. At that time the board and the Booster Club each provided additional funds to complete the project.

At the school board election in September of 1980, David Krob defeated Mary Stroleny and James J. Bowersox(son of former board member ,James W. Bowersox) defeated Daryl Hynek.

In October of 1980 the school board determined that it would not construct a swimming pool for the District, but would reconsider its position if the school district patrons would vote approval of an enrichment tax and a playground tax. The reason for this was that all studies indicated the problem with swimming pools was the operational costs. Pools require high maintenance costs because of the high humidity in the room and state law requires that a lifeguard be on duty at all times when someone is in the pool.

1981

In February of 1981 the school board authorized the formation of a School District Foundation. This Foundation would be designed to raise funds for the benefit of the school district and for the students.

In March of 1981 Gene Holthouse requested permission to be transferred from his position as an elementary principal to a classroom teaching position. At this time Dane Miller resigned from his position as director of buildings and grounds. This request was granted and subsequently Clifford Leonard was moved from the director of transportation position to that of the director of buildings and grounds. Carl Williams was assigned to the position of director of transportation.

In July 1981 David Brauhn was employed to serve as an elementary principal at the Prairie Intermediate building.-----

In the September, 1981 school board election Mary Chalupsky defeated Ronald Nove. During this month it was reported that the official enrollment for the year was 2726 as compared to 2776 in 1980.

1982

In February of 1982, the school board ordered that , for the following school year, kindergarten would be held on an all-day every day basis.

1983

During May and June meetings held in 1983 the school board seemed to be having difficulty in arriving at an evaluation format for the Superintendent. They had determined that the school boards evaluation would be done twice a year, which was rather uncommon in school districts. It was finally determined that the school board individually could use information obtained from others in arriving at their individual evaluation.

In July of 1983 the school board voted to establish the following district goals for the 1983-84 school year:

The Board:

1. Expects to see the staff implement a coordinated writing skills program.

2. Supports the continued development of programs that results in literacy for teachers and students.

3. Expects to receive a report on the study of the career/ed programs early in the school year so that changes in the program can be implemented in that 84 - 85 school year, if changes are recommended and accepted.

4. Will examine the districts extracurricular program to determine if the programs are appropriate.

5. Believes that there is a positive correlation between an individual's self-image and achievement, and expects the staff to provide activities that enhances relationship.

6. Will continue to strive to provide for students, staff, parents and board, open and meaningful communication.

In September of 1983 the school board was informed that due to reduced State funds being available, the school district's funding would be reduced by 2.8 percent during this current fiscal school year. At a later meeting, the Board directed that the school district use available cash reserve to offset this reduction in allowable budget.

At the school election Sheryl Quillen replaced William Boland who was not a candidate. The voters also authorized realignment of the director districts and approved a schoolhouse levy tax not to exceed 67 1/2 cents per thousand dollars valuation.

In October of 1983 the school board authorized the opening of a preschool/day-care center which would start on Jan. 3, 1984 and that the school day-care center be called "The Five C's", College Community Child Care Center.
1984

In February of 1984 the school board voted to 3 to 3 concerning the extension of Superintendent Bach's contract, and the motion did not carry. At the second February meeting the board voted five to two to extend the contract.

On July 1, 1984, Robert T. Thomas was appointed as director of buildings and grounds replacing Clifford Leonard who had entered retirement on this date.

For the beginning of the 1984-85 school year the District changed from six player girls basketball teams to five player girls teams. This was necessary because the state was converting to five player teams and it would then become difficult to secure games with six player teams. The Prairie Booster Club was authorized \$2500 per year subsidy for the purpose of publishing a proposed quarterly publication entitled Prairie Pride which was intended to report on and cover all student activities in the school district and to be mailed to the patrons of the District.

In September of 1984 election John F. Maehl and Roland J. Achey replaced Mary Chalupsky and Richard Harger who had not run for reelection.

In October of 1984 Glenn Selzer submitted his request for retirement to be effective December 31st 1984. In December Charles Swaney, Prairie View

elementary principal requested a release from his contract to be effective January 18, 1985 to enter retirement. Marilyn Miller, classroom teacher, was elevated to the position of principal of the Prairie View elementary school to be effective at Mr. Swaney's retirement. James Steffen was employed to replace Glenn Selzer as School Board Secretary/business manager. Mr. Steffen had been serving as superintendent of the Lisbon Community School District.

This ends the history, as recorded by Glenn Selzer , of the College Community School District for the period July 1, 1953-December 31, 1984. Following the time that Dr. William Bach became Superintendent, it was noted that the minutes were no longer adequate to provide a good recording of the history as it occurred. Dr. Bach's practice was to administer the school district according to the Board Policy, which was the generally accepted practice. However, references in the minutes to changes in the Board Policy cannot be documented, since there was no apparent historical recording of changes made in the Board Policy document. In the minutes, board policy sections were referred to only by policy number.

