

# Green Acres School

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**From the front entrance, Green Acres School looks unchanged. But once inside the door, improvements are immediately obvious.**

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## ***Green Acres School* – “Honoring Our Past”** (author unknown)

**The ten-acre site for Green Acres was purchased in 1947 from Logt Arnold for \$10,000. It was affectionately called “Swamp Acres.”**

**The starter school consisted of three classrooms (the present library and the two classrooms to the south). These classrooms were in service in late 1946. Then in 1947 additional rooms to the south, the furnace room, the office area and the multi-purpose room were under construction. The Sherman Street wing was also added at this time.**

**By 1948-49 the enrollment had swollen to 450 students (grades 1-8). Tenth Street was a muddy “country” road and Sherman Street had a plank walkway so students didn’t have to “wade” to school (Swamp Acres).**

**In the early 1960’s a kindergarten room was added to the school. The next major construction took place in 1978 when five classrooms, a music room and the gymnasium (with unfurnished dressing and shower room) were built.**

The office annex and faculty room were added in the late 60's or early 70's shortly after the library annex.

Currently (early 2002) Green Acres has an enrollment of 570 students and grades 1-6.

In over 50 years of operation Green Acres has only had six (now eight) principals.

They are:

Bill Baldwin 1948-1952

Dick Cantwell 1952-1961

Lyle Winters 1961-1988

Judy Isaacson 1988-1990

Bruce Grohn 1990-1997

Suann Ritchie 1997-2002

Since the above history of Green Acres School was written in early 2002, a number of things have happened. Mrs. Ritchie became the principal at Riverview School and Jefferey Nagel took her place when school started in fall 2002. Mr. Nagel resigned for personal reason mid-year, and Marie Balvin finished out the year as Acting Principal. "Kevin Bogatin took over as Principal in the fall of 2003."

Green Acres also benefited from the passage of the school bond in 2000. The most recent addition was made to Green Acres School in 2001-2002. The school received a new classroom wing, new computer lab, new offices, and a remodeled gymnasium, at a total cost of \$3,112,420. This worked increased the number of classrooms to 18, added 8,400 ft<sup>2</sup> and increased student capacity to 500.



Their school may have been under construction, but these Green Acres students certainly knew how to take advantage of recess on a sunny day.



**On the other side of the school, construction was in full swing.**

