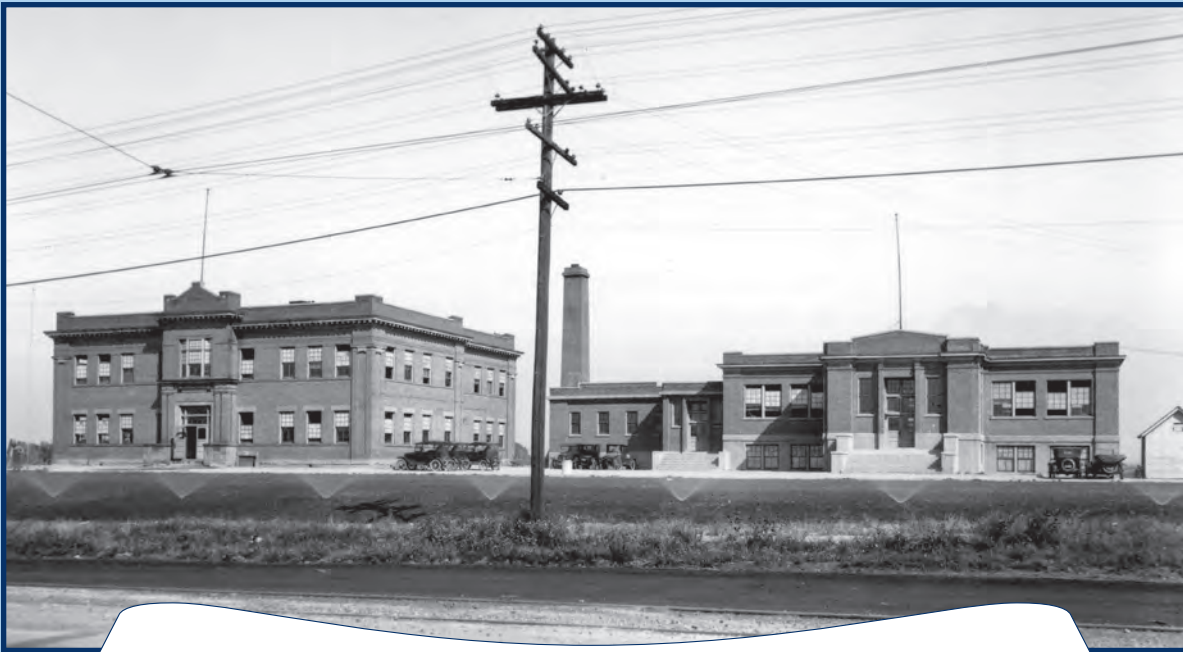# Centennial History of the
Murray City School District
1906 - 2006
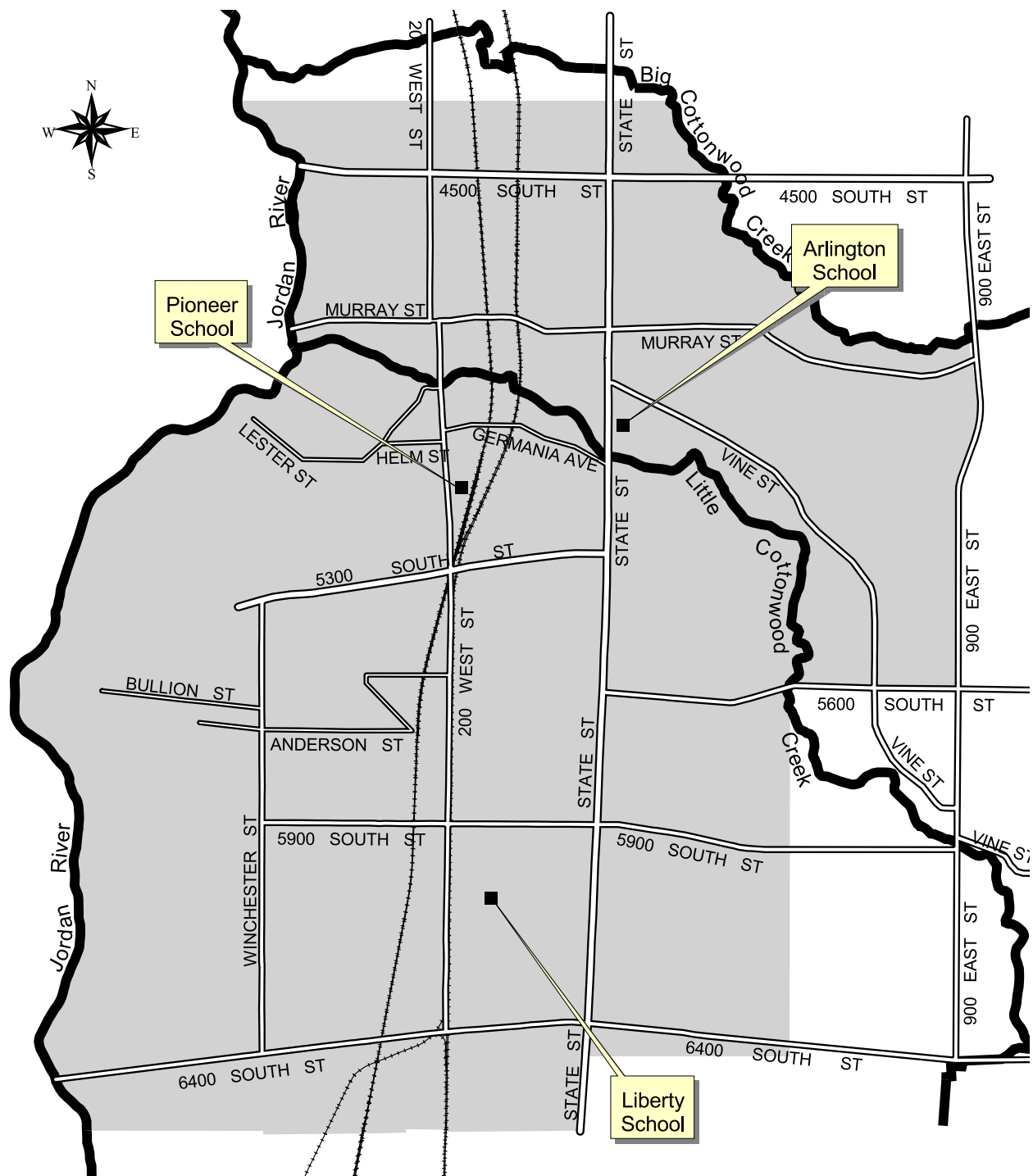

August 2015 Edition

Commemorating the Opening
of the new Hillcrest Junior High School

By Korral K. Broschinsky
UPDATED VERSION

N · W · E · S

200 WEST ST

WEST ST

STATE ST

Big Cottonwood Creek

4500 SOUTH ST

4500 SOUTH ST

900 EAST ST

Jordan River

Pioneer School

MURRAY ST

Arlington School

MURRAY ST

LESTER ST

HELM ST

GERMANIA AVE

VINE ST

Little Cottonwood

STATE ST

900 EAST ST

5300 SOUTH ST

200 WEST ST

BULLION ST

5600 SOUTH ST

VINE ST

ANDERSON ST

STATE ST

Creek

Jordan River

WINCHESTER ST

5900 SOUTH ST

5900 SOUTH ST

VINE ST

900 EAST ST

6400 SOUTH ST

STATE ST

6400 SOUTH ST

Liberty School

Murray School District
1906

MURRAY
INFORMATION
SYSTEMS

Front cover pictures: top Liberty School 1906, bottom Murray High School 2006.

A LEGACY OF LEARNING

1906 – 2006

UPDATED CENTENNIAL HISTORY
OF THE
MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

AUGUST 2015 EDITION
COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF THE NEW
HILLCREST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BY
KORRAL K. BROSCHINSKY
2015 UPDATES BY D. WRIGHT

2015 Murray Board of Education

Mitzi Huff, President
Cristin Longhurst, Vice President
Kami Anderson
Belinda Johnson
Marjorie Tuckett

Dr. Steven K. Hirase, Superintendent

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Forward

A Message from Superintendent Steven Hirase

The Murray City School District has the reputation of being an outstanding, progressive district that provides an outstanding education to our students that prepares them for success in their future lives. The district's rich and distinctive history plays a significant role in our success and the traditions that make our district an important asset to our community.

Educator Karen Kaiser Clark once stated, "Life is change, growth is optional." Although this history was compiled a short nine years ago, much has changed that has contributed to our growth and continued success. We have survived, and in many instances thrived, during a time where the country and our state experienced a significant economic downturn which had a great impact on our schools. One of the most significant and historical events during this time period is the support our community gave us to replace Hillcrest Jr. High with a state of the art facility that will serve our students and the community for many years to come. It is for this reason that the original history compiled by Korral K. Broschinsky has been updated, to reflect the growth the district has experienced since its original publication.

I dedicate this revised edition of the district's history to Laura S. Baker who tragically passed away during her 23rd year of service as a member of the Board. It was largely due to her efforts and insights that the district has continued to move forward in a positive direction. It is my honor to have served as the superintendent during these past four years and be given the opportunity to become a small part of the Murray City School District's distinguished history.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The Centennial History of the Murray City School District was first published in 2007 as part of the 100 year "Legacy of Learning" celebration for the school district. It was funded by the Murray City School District, in conjunction with a grant from the Salt Lake County ZAP Program and support from Murray City Cultural Arts. Professional historian and Murray High School graduate Korral Broschinsky was hired to research and write the text with Mary Ann Kirk, Murray City Cultural Arts Director providing research and production advice. A copy was gifted to all of the employees in the Murray School District as a Christmas gift that year. Since the original publication (with a yellow and orange cover), many of these books have been sold within the community, given to special visitors and new MCSD employees as they joined the district.

As the date approached to open the new Hillcrest Junior High School in the fall of 2015, and with a new Murray City School District Office complex underway at the corner of Vine Street and Commerce in Murray, it was decided that this would be a good time to update the 2007 information in this book and re-issue in a new 2015 Commemorative Edition. The main purpose being to keep Murray City School District history accurate and available for our patrons and future generations of Murray students.

Centennial History
of the
Murray City School District

1906 - 2006

By Korral K. Broshinsky
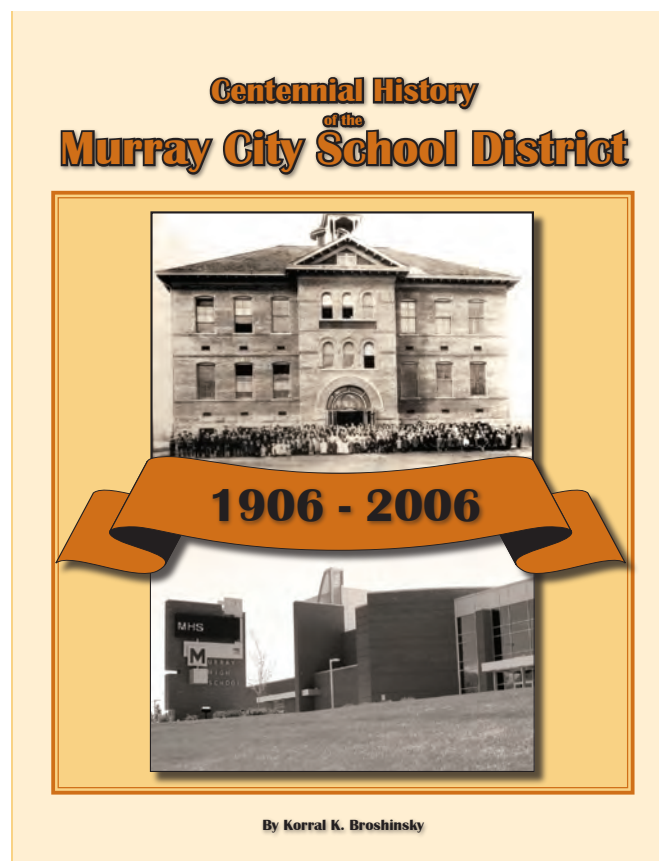
D. Wright, Murray City School District Communications Specialists provided updated text, photos and information for this edition, and also served as managing editor, writer and researcher of the Appendix chapters for both publications.

Cover Photos: Top, old Hillcrest School/MHS; Bottom, new Hillcrest Junior High School 2015.

INTRODUCTION

The Murray City School District began the year 2006 as the eye of calm in a storm of controversy over the question: what is the optimum size of a school district? At the center of the Salt Lake Valley, Murray City is surrounded by numerous old and new municipalities divided between two of the largest school districts in the state. In January 2006, the Utah State Legislature passed a bill allowing the possibility of dividing the state's larger school districts and now many of Murray's neighboring communities grapple with questions of deconsolidation. Murray City and the Murray City School District began tackling the issues of size, facilities, funding and local control one-hundred years ago in 1906, Murray's first year as an independent school district.

Streetscape in South Cottonwood, circa 1881. Murray City Collections

PART 1: BEFORE THE BEGINNING

Early Settlement Schools

The citizens of Murray have always been concerned with the education of their children. The story of Murray schools begins in 1848 with the first pioneer settlement. The settlement of the area now incorporated as Murray City began soon after members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon Church) arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in 1847. Mormon pioneers quickly spread out from Salt Lake City in search of suitable agricultural land. By 1848 a settlement was established eight miles south of Salt Lake City. Within a few years, a small community of loosely associated farmsteads raising cereal grains and dairy cattle was thriving along and between the courses of the Big and Little Cottonwood Creeks. The community was known as South Cottonwood until 1883. That year Harry Haynes, the local

Eli Murray. Courtesy Utah State Historical Society

postmaster, submitted the name Murray (after then territorial governor, Eli Murray) as a candidate for the town's official postal designation.

The day to day life of the early pioneers was focused on providing the basic needs of their families. They built crude dugouts and log cabins as protection from the elements. They raised their own food and made their own clothing. They came together as a community on occasion for religious services and social events, but there was little or no time for formal education. In spite of their hardships, the pioneers understood the need for education. In the beginning, neighbors took turns instructing children in their various homes.

The first schoolhouse was a small adobe structure built in 1851 near the present-day corner of Vine Street and 5600 South. The structure also served as the South Cottonwood Ward Meetinghouse for the LDS Church. John Berger, who attended school there in the 1860s, provided this description:

> The school was of very crude construct, being of one room and with one little stove in it. The youngest children were allowed to get near the front, and sometimes it meant that the older ones in the back of the room were none too warm. The first teacher was

Jemima McNew. A teacher never taught very long. The duration of the school year was two months, and seldom a teacher would teach the second time. I went to school in Murray for a very short time, but my schooling was chiefly herding cattle. The first schools were given no books, and no pencils. The subjects were 'rithmetic, writing and a little geography.[1]

Another source names Helen Holmes as one of the first teachers.[2] This school was probably demolished soon after the South Cottonwood Meetinghouse was built in 1869. Classes were held for a time in that building until the mid-1870s. According to a history published in the *Murray Eagle*, one of Murray's local newspapers, there was a second school in the same time period, described as "another adobe structure, a one-room affair with four windows and a door [which] was converted into a school about 1866."[3] There is no other information available about this school. It was located about 100 West and Germania Avenue in an area that became part of the smelter tailings pile by the 1890s.

South Cottonwood Meetinghouse, 1869 sketch.

In the southwest portion of the community, an early school was located at approximately 700 West and 6200 South. Joseph Hibbard, who attended school there in the late 1860s, recalled

> The first school that I can remember attending was the little adobe school house just across the road from what is now called the Rowan Farm. The school was on the old Maxfield farm. The first teacher that I have any recollection of was a teacher by the name of Miss Casper. This school house used to be

the center of all amusements such as dancing etc.[4]

Mr. Hibbard also related an incident at the school that occurred one fall day:

> A band of Indians came by with their war paint and surrounded the little old school building, gave some of their war cries and created quite a scene around there. The teacher had all the children lie down on the floor close up to the walls and closed the shutters of the windows on the outside. The Indians rode around the building creating a great deal of disturbance until Mr. James Winchester came and quieted them and they moved on.[5]

On other occasions, the young Joseph Hibbard played games with the sons of the Indians camped near his family farm.

Another early resident, John W. Cahoon, remembered school in the home of a "widow woman who accepted home-grown groceries for pay" in the late 1850s.[6] There was also a log school in this vicinity located near the railroad tracks at about 4900 South and Box Elder Street. The first teacher at that school was Ann Evans Brown who had previously taught in England before immigrating to Utah in 1862. Her smallest pupils called her "Auntie" and she walked to school carrying her baby with her.[7] When the journey became too difficult Mrs. Brown started a school in her home around 6500 South. Another widow, Elizabeth George, held school in her small adobe home located at around 6300 South and State Street. Mrs. George taught younger children how to "read and write and to do sums. They read from McGuffy Readers and wrote on rough slates with slate pencils, and the teacher was generally paid for her services in butter, eggs, potatoes, or other farm produce."[8]

In the early years, school was held only sporadically. Gradually, the school term was extended to three months as the population of Murray grew. Students at a single school ranged in age from six to twenty. Often older boys could only attend school when the snow was piled too high for working on the farm or hauling logs from the nearby canyons. Pioneer girls were encouraged to attend school, but as they grew older, chores at home and caring for younger siblings made regular attendance difficult. The cost of schooling was about $17.00 a term and was frequently paid in farm produce or labor.[9]

Murray in Transition

The decade of the 1870s brought many changes to the Murray area. South Cottonwood did not last long as an isolated rural community. In the 1860s valuable minerals were discovered in the canyons to the east and west. With its abundant water and central location, the area developed quickly into an industrial center for smelting. The arrival of the Utah Southern Railway in January 1870 and the Denver & Rio Grande in 1881 made the smelting operations not only possible, but profitable. Eight separate smelters were established in the Murray area between 1870 and 1900. Hundreds of workers, mostly single men from Greece, Swe-

Bergertown housed immigrant smelter workers.
Courtesy Jack Riley, Murray City Collections

Early Murray home. Courtesy Ahlberg family. Murray City Collections

den and eastern European countries, immigrated to Murray. By the time Harry Haynes, the community's postmaster, submitted the name Murray as the town's postal designation, industry and commerce were gradually replacing agriculture as the dominant economy in Murray.

As the smelters expanded the community's economic base, many of Murray's farmers sold their land to the smelters, and some became merchants to serve the city's increasing population of smelter workers. Dozens of wood and brick storefronts appeared along State Street in a boom-town flurry of construction as the central business district was firmly established during the 1880s and 1890s. The smelter industry brought socio-economic and ethnic diversity to the community. The 1880 census indicates that 39.8 percent of eligible workers held agricultural occupations, and 29.1 percent were employed in local smelters. By 1900 the occupations had reversed, with 49 percent employed by the smelters and only 25.7 percent in agriculture.[10] In this period of settlement and early industry, Murray had two distinct populations: the early settlers and their descendants who lived on farmsteads on the outskirts of the community, and the immigrant smelter workers who lived in shantytowns near the rail lines and smelter operations. Toward the end of the nineteenth-century, a third population emerged, a community of merchants,

service workers and professionals, who lived near the downtown commercial district. Many of the smelter workers eventually settled in Murray to raise families. Most became fully integrated with Murray's middle-class residents. Murray's transformation from an agricultural outpost to an industrial boomtown coincided with the development of a state-wide educational system of free schools.

The Development of a Free Public School System in Territorial Utah

Early efforts to establish a free school system for children in Territorial Utah had not met with much success. Pioneer communities established schools to suit their own needs using whatever resources were available. The majority of educational facilities could be characterized as private, semi-private, or quasi-public. As was the case in South Cottonwood, church and school functions were often held in the same building. Teacher salaries were provided by requiring tuition. Although most communities made some provisions for the poor, many students were only able to attend infrequently because of cost or the needs of the family farm.

On March 3, 1852, a law was passed requiring counties to establish school districts and to elect three school trustees for each district. Salt Lake County was officially divided into thirty-two school districts in June of 1852. Four of the districts divided the South Cottonwood area. Only two of the districts, the 24th and 25th districts, were completely within the limits of the future Murray City. The 24th and 25th districts were divided along a line at approximately 5600 South. The 24th District comprised the southern half, and the 25th District took in the northern half. The debate concerning district size started almost imme-

diately. By the 1860s, there was some movement to consolidate smaller districts, which had become so numerous that "by 1864 the Territory of Utah had many more districts than schools, and the number of districts and of teachers was almost identical."[11]

In Salt Lake County, a report on the 1880-1881 school year noted that "there were more than fifty organized districts in Salt Lake County, thereby necessitating over 150 trustees. In many of these districts there was employed but a single teacher, and thus a rather unique situation had developed in which there were actually more school trustees than teachers."[12] A law passed in 1866 gave district trustees the authority to collect a small amount of tax money (one-fourth of one percent of all assessed property) for the support of their local schools. Larger amounts had to be approved by a two-thirds vote of taxpayers. Educators throughout Utah urged consolidation of smaller school districts because in most communities the tax base was too small to adequately support local schools. Another concern was that in the one-room, one-teacher schoolhouse, where pupils might range in age from six to twenty years old, it was nearly impossible to provide grade divisions. In 1872, Logan became the first city in Utah to consolidate its schools into a single district.

Two forces encouraged the passage of free-school legislation in the Utah Territory. The first was the desire of Utah citizens to achieve statehood. As early as 1849, Utah's most prominent citizens had pursued statehood. The isolationist policies of the early Mormon leaders worked against the statehood petitions. After Brigham Young was replaced as territorial governor in 1857, the drive for statehood gained steam. The majority of Utah residents felt that statehood was more desirable as a means of establishing control through locally elected officials, than to be governed by outsiders appointed to the post of territorial

governor. A statewide publicly-funded school system was seen as a stepping stone to statehood.

The second force of change was the end of Utah's isolationist era, marked by the coming of the transcontinental railroad. Within a few years, a more mainstream educational organization emerged as settlement-era LDS Church schools were gradually
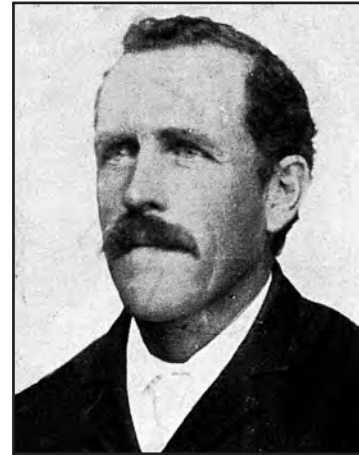
Early trustee John Richardson hauled coal from his home to keep the local school in session. Murray Schools Archives

replaced by quasi-public district schools partially supported by taxes, although these were still mostly controlled by the local Mormon leadership. New educational opportunities were provided by the religious diversity in the territory that followed the railroad. By the 1870s, the Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Congregationalist, and Catholic churches had established congregations in Utah's larger cities. These denominations established schools to meet the needs of their members settling in Utah, but also to proselytize Utah's Mormon children. In general, these denominational schools had better facilities and better trained teachers than the local district school and provided competition to the Mormon schools. Many Mormon parents sent their children to the denominational schools in the pursuit of education. Methodists operated the first denominational school in Murray from 1884 to about 1898.

In 1890, the territorial legislature voted to repeal

all previous legislation dealing with public schools, and a new free educational system was established. Utah's first Free Public School Act stated that "henceforth all cities of the first and second classes would be organized as separate school districts. . . . to be under the direction and control of a board of education."[13] The county was designated as the unit for collecting taxes. The Free Public School Act of 1890 facilitated the transition of the Murray schools from the county system to an independent city school district.

Methodist congregation in Murray. Courtesy Utah State Historical Society

## Twenty-Fourth and Twenty-Fifth District Schools

For many years, the district designations had little effect on Murray's earliest schools, which remained semi-private facilities. In 1873, an adobe schoolhouse for the 24th District was built near the Utah Central (later Union Pacific) tracks at 6100 South. Mary Eliza Winchester and Mary Ann Erickson were the first teachers.   During their first year, they lived at the schoolhouse from Monday to Friday each week because the poor road conditions made traveling difficult. At the end of the month, the students took home cards which stated how much their parents owed the teachers.[14] In 1893, Simeon Atwood constructed a two-room brick addition to the 24th District School. For a time the building was also used

for church meetings. The building was named the Winchester School, in honor of James Winchester, father of teacher Mary Eliza Winchester, and one of the trustees for the district. Mr. Winchester joined efforts that resulted in the financing of the building located west of the present Liberty Elementary School, facing the train tracks parallel to 300 West.

The Winchester School was typical for the period. The structure had a raised platform at one end where the students would recite their lessons. On it sat a long bench made from a tree trunk where each class would sit reading until the teacher rang a bell. Lessons were written on slates to be wiped clean with a cloth before each use, and the students sat at double-seat desks with hinged tops. The school library had one book, *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell, which was read by so many children that it was missing "a page or two" and "smeared with jam" by the end of the school year.[15] Wanda Pexton, a former pupil, noted in her brief history of the Winchester School that it was affectionately known as "the little red schoolhouse by the railroad."[16]

A report published in 1873 by the Salt Lake County Superintendent of Common Schools noted that the 24th District had an enrollment of 75 while the 25th District had an enrollment of 48 pupils. The report also commended the 25th District and several other districts for constructing new school buildings. The report declared the buildings "highly creditable to the respective localities in which they have been constructed."[17] Prior to this time, the one-room log structure where Ann Evans Brown taught had been the only official schoolhouse within the 25th District. The new building, which was the first entirely brick schoolhouse in Murray, was dedicated on January 12, 1874. The smelter industry had played a role in getting the school built. The Deseret News described the building as first-class, costing about $3600, "in

procuring means for which, liberal assistance was rendered by persons connected with the smelters of the district."[18] Simeon Atwood donated the land for the school. He and his son, Walter Atwood, made and donated the bricks. The school had a prominent location on State Street at approximately 5000 South near the location of the present-day city hall. Eliza Slade Bennion and William Bradford were two of the earliest teachers in this school.[19]
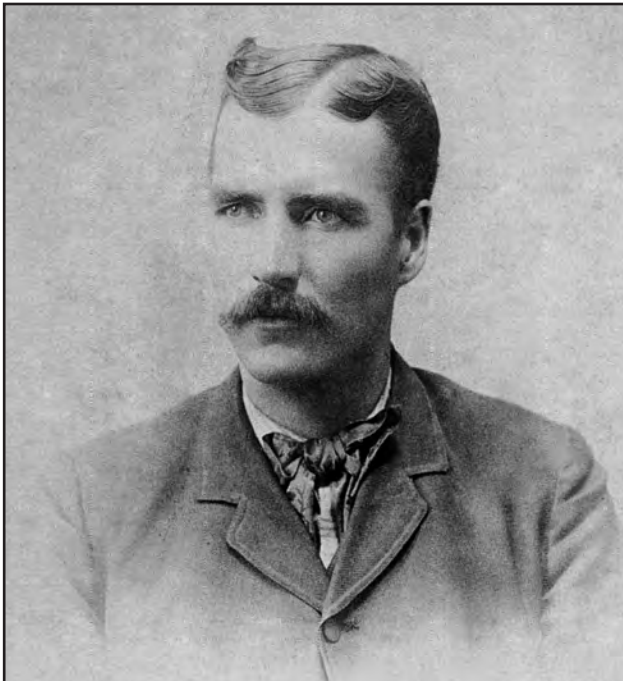
Hial Bradford, teacher, District #24 School, 1893.
Murray Schools Archives

The county superintendent report for 1890 listed Katie Deane as the principal of the 24th District School. Her sister, Emily Deane, was a teacher. In the 25th District, P. P. Christensen was the principal and Mary Lee Bowers was a teacher. By the time a similar report was published in 1892, the faculty had grown. Nora Bennion, Katie Deane and Mamie Knowlton taught in the 24th District, while O. F. McCormick, Mrs. L. F. McCormick and Effa Riddle taught in the 25th District. The citizens of the 25th District seemed particularly committed to a free education. The Millennial Star, an LDS Church publi-

cation, reported on January 26, 1874 that taxpayers of the Salt Lake City 25th District unanimously voted "that a free school, sustained by taxation of the residents, should be established in this district."[20] In 1895, a second school was built in the 25th District. It was located just west of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad tracks at 5200 South and 300 West. The white brick school was known as both the White School and the West Side School in its early years. The schoolhouse had two wings separated by a vestry. There was a hot-air furnace in the basement. Ella Stephensen taught the lower grades, and Heber Saunders taught the upper grades.

West Side or White School, later named Pioneer School.
Courtesy Shirley Thompson, Murray City Collections

By 1897, there was concern in the community that the schoolhouses built a quarter of a century earlier were over-crowded, obsolete, and unsafe. The trustees of the 25th District were faced with the paradox that although the "district was one of the wealthiest in the county outside of Salt Lake City," it had one of the poorest buildings.[21] Trustees of the 25th District agreed to hold a meeting to discuss the matter when the district was out of debt later in the year. In June of 1898, an editorial published in the American Eagle, forerunner of the *Murray Eagle*, noted the crumbling brick on the 25th District School and remarked that teachers were afraid to ring "the bell for a long

time lest the wall should shake down." The author went on to suggest that the school be built on the hill above the old school and that "a good school house is a monument to the intelligence of a community."[22] On July 30, 1898, the school board placed a notice in the *American Eagle* for the taxpayers of the 25th District regarding a meeting to be held on August 1 at the school to consider the construction of a "new, modern school house" and other matters.[23]

In 1899, work began on the Murray Central School, located on the hill at approximately 5000 South State Street. The Central School was a three-story, red brick building on a sandstone foundation. Grades one through eight attended school there. The imposing structure had twelve classrooms, a library and an office. The cost was over $25,000. The building was not completed until 1903 when the district's school-age population reached 765 and the basement rooms were needed for the younger grades.

District #25 School building, shown on left, was replaced by Central School on the right. Courtesy Utah State Historical Society

At the same time the Central School was being considered and constructed, the residents of Murray were considering the question of incorporation, which was tied directly to the establishment of an independent school district. At a meeting held in January of 1898, the Superintendent of County Schools, Oscar Van Cott, and the State Superintendent, Dr. John Park, addressed trustees of the Murray schools "for the purpose of reading the law and explaining the various intricate actions, school taxes, how to build school houses, etc." The reporter then framed the question "will the people of Murray ever see the advantage of organizing themselves into an incorporation, and thus be enabled to control their own school taxes?"[24]

The Incorporation of Murray City

The question of school taxes was just one of many forces at work in Murray's push for incorporation. The battle for incorporation began in 1897 and was driven in part by M. A. Willumsen, the editor of the American Eagle, who was infuriated by the community's lack of control over its rowdier elements. By the late 1890s, Murray was home to over forty saloons, numerous gambling houses, and a few houses of ill repute. In 1897, a confrontation between ranch hands fresh from sheep shearing and a group of recently paid smelter workers resulted in robbery, riots, and the burning of a brewery and dance hall. This event prompted Willumsen to write a series of editorials demanding incorporation. Four weeks after the riot, a committee was formed to pursue the incorporation issue with Willumsen as chairman and James Saunders, a local school principal, as secretary.

Opposition to incorporation came from prominent businessmen led by Andrew Cahoon, who felt the new government would raise taxes and regulate Murray's emerging industries. The smelting industry, particularly the American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO), which consolidated three of Murray's smaller smelters and built a large plant in 1902, also fought hard against incorporation. The incorporation committee drafted a petition in 1901, which stated their desires for incorporation, requested the name Murray for the proposed city, and defined the boundaries, which were heavily informed by the boundaries of the 24th and 25th School District. The

issue was finally brought to a vote on November 18, 1902. Those in favor of incorporation won by a fifty-nine percent majority of the vote. Murray was declared a third-class city on November 25, 1902. The declaration of incorporation by Utah's Secretary of State was published on January 3, 1903.

The Establishment of the Murray City School District

Seventeen ordinances were passed during the city's first year of incorporation. The fledgling city was determined not to impose any unnecessary levies or taxes, so most of the regulations dealt with business licensing and nuisances. However, the issue of taxes for the city's schools was raised and became the force that resulted in the creation of the Murray City School District.

Central School classroom 1903; Mr. Stephenson, teacher.
Murray City Collections

With the passage of the Free Schools Act in 1890, many of the smaller districts in Utah were consolidated. Within ten years, a rapid increase in the rural population of Salt Lake County highlighted the lack of high school facilities in the county. By November of 1901, Sandy City had been selected as a site for a high school to serve the southern part of the coun-

ty. In another part of the county, the communities of Draper and Riverton had a dispute over which district should receive property tax money from the nearby railroads. The County Superintendent proposed to resolve the dispute by a massive consolidation. In December 1904, he sent the following proposal to the Salt Lake County Commissioners:

> I hereby recommend that the present school districts of Salt Lake county lying outside the corporate limits of Salt Lake City, be abolished and the county outside Salt Lake City constitute two school districts. District One to be known as Granite School District and District Two to be known as Jordan School District. [25]


The boundaries of the proposed districts corresponded to the two LDS Church Stakes (Granite and Jordan) that had been established in 1902 with a dividing line just south of the Murray city limits. After gaining the approval of the majority of various district trustees, the County Commissioners passed

a formal resolution and created the two districts on July 3, 1905.

Murray City had a different plan. Since the year 1890, Utah's cities of the first and second class were allowed to organize school districts independent of the county system. The law gave these independent school districts the right to levy and collect taxes, hold bond elections for school construction, provide teacher certification, and select textbooks. Backed by ASARCO, who feared that the smelter would provide a large portion of the tax base for the consolidated county district, Murray City leaders met to plan for an independent school district. Determined to raise the city's status and reach the required population of 5,000, the Murray City Council voted to annex adjacent lands on June 13, 1905. Within a few days, a census was taken and reported a population of 5,036 within the expanded city limits. On June 20, 1905, the City Council formerly requested that the Governor of Utah reclassify the city of Murray. Governor John C. Cutler responded by proclaiming Murray a city of the second class on July 1, 1905.

This event marked the first time in the State of Utah that a city of the third class was raised to the status of a second class city.[26] Murray officials immediately moved to divide the city into five municipal wards for the purpose of electing a board of education. The new school district included the former 24th and 25th school districts. The District trustees selected Gideon M. Mumford, principal of the 25th District, to act as supervisor of the Murray School District until a board of education could be elected. Murray held an election December 6, 1905. The five men selected to serve on the school board were Henry W. Brown, John A. Jones, Joseph C. Cahoon, Orson Sanders, and Michael McMillan. The board began its regularly scheduled meetings in January 1906.

Between the first settlement in 1848 and 1906, the community of Murray had changed slowly, but dramat-
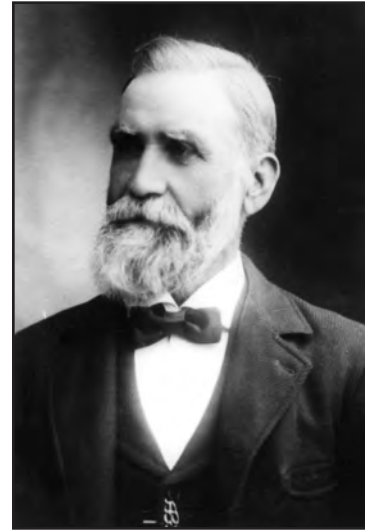
Michael McMillan, first elected Murray school board president, 1906. Murray City Collections

ically. Sturdy brick buildings lined the downtown commercial district along State Street. Electricity was available, and the city had plans to develop its own hydroelectric plant and distribution system. The Salt Lake Rapid Transit Company had been operating an electric streetcar line on State Street between downtown Salt Lake City and Murray for over a decade. The smelter plant with its towering smokestack was spread out near the railroad line west of the city center. Meanwhile, life on the outskirts of the community was still essentially rural. Numerous lanes led to the farmhouses of the first settlers and their descendants. With its own unique challenges and opportunities, Murray was on the verge of becoming a modern city with its own school district, administratively and financially independent from the county system.

Salt Lake Rapid Transit extended to Murray. Murray City Collections

PART 2: THE FIRST FORTY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Building and Expanding in the Early Years

The Murray City School District's Board of Education took immediate charge of a number of important items, not the least of which was the appointment of a superintendent to lead the new district. Gideon M. Mumford was appointed as Superintendent of Schools for an initial term ending on July 1, 1906. As it happens, Mr. Mumford continued to serve as superintendent until 1912, a tenure which would prove to be very productive.

Superintendent Gideon Mumford, 1909.
Courtesy Diana Mumford Johnson, Murray City Collections

 All school properties inherited from the 24th and 25th Districts were deeded over to the new district. With the acquisition of the schools, a name change for each school was needed. A contest was held in January 1906 in which students submitted suggestions for the new names. On the first day of February, the board chose "Arlington" to replace the name of the old Central School and "Pioneer" to replace the name of the West Side or White School.

In the 24th District, the construction of a new building began in 1905 during the same time the school district was being organized. The new building, located just east of the Winchester School, was completed in December of that year. It was similar in size and style to the Central School: a three-story brick building on a sandstone foundation. One student, Wanda E. Paxton, remembered the excitement she felt climbing the school steps in January 1906 for the first day in the new "steam-heated" building.[27] The name Liberty, submitted by students LaFern and LaNola Bird, received the most votes.[28]


Arlington School classroom, 1909.
Courtesy Ardonna Allsop, Murray City Collections

Pioneer School, 1907, Miss L. Thompson, teacher.
Courtesy Davies family, Murray City Collections

Two major problems plagued the school district in the early years: overcrowding and travel. Travel was especially difficult for students living on the outskirts of the community. Teachers at Liberty School were paid more for their services than teachers at Arling-
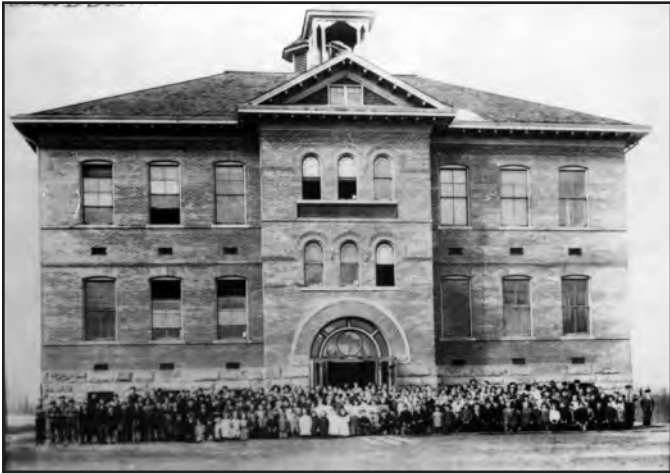
Liberty School, 1917. Murray City Collections

ton, primarily because of the poor road conditions between State Street and the school grounds. In the winter, the school district hired a wagon to drive the teachers from the streetcar line to the school.[29]

Getting students to school was another facet of the transportation problem in the district. One attempt to address this issue came in June 1907 when a group of parents living in the neighborhood of the Highland Boy Smelter (near the Jordan River and Bullion Street) petitioned the Murray Board of Education for a branch school for the early grades. The board agreed to try out the school, held in a twenty-three by forty foot building offered rent-free from the smelter, for the 1907-1908 school year. The board was unhappy with the results, perhaps because the Highland Boy Smelter was forced to close on January 1, 1908 by a court order due to an ongoing legal dispute over crop damage in the area. After that year, the students were transported by wagon to Liberty School during the winter months.[30] Clem Turner Williams, who grew up in the southwest corner of the city in

Highland Boy Smelter neighborhood. Courtesy Utah State Historical Society

the 1910s, remembers "the wind would blow and it would be quite high [snow] drifts" as she walked from her home to Liberty.[31]

As to the second major problem facing the district, overcrowding had become so prevalent that the Board of Education held a bond election in February 1910 to raise $35,000 to buy land and construct one or more new buildings. Perhaps indicative of the community's commitment, the measure passed by a margin of almost three to one with a vote of 134 in favor, 47 against. By the end of the month, the board had options on two sites. The first property was on Brewery Hill (approximately 5000 South and 300 West), the second on State Street at approximately 5400 South. Liljenberg and Sundberg were selected as the planning architects for both buildings. In May 1910, Murray resident Matthew Gibbs was awarded the bricklaying and masonry contract for both buildings. Paul A. Lietz, a German immigrant from Salt Lake City, provided the carpentry work on the 300 West building, and the Mill Company was awarded the contract for the State Street building.[32] Both brick buildings were two-stories high with a projecting central entrance wing, although the State Street building was slightly wider and twice as deep. The new schools were ready to be occupied by the start of the 1911-1912 school year.

Bonnyview 2nd Grade, 1920; Harry Robbins, teacher.
Courtesy Murray City Collections

Mae G. Scott was named the first principal of the school on 300 West. She asked the students to vote on a name for the new school, and the name Bonnyview was chosen because the hill-top building provided a "beautiful view of the mountains and valley to the west."[33] Jean Hodges became the first principal of the State Street building, which was also built on a hill and accordingly named Hillcrest School.

Hillcrest School, original building to the left constructed in 1911, later became Murray High, photo circa 1920s.
Courtesy Utah State Historical Society.

During its first year of independence, the Murray City School District enrolled about 1,000 students. The number did not increase dramatically during the administration of Superintendent Mumford, but as the economy shifted from agricultural to industry and service enterprises, more children, especially in the primary grades, were able to attend on a regular basis. The school year had increased to the tradi-

tional nine months by this time. Teachers were contracted for nine and a half months, and administrators for ten months. The district's first formal salary schedule was adopted in April 1906. A teacher's pay ranged from $45 to $75 per month depending upon years of experience. The principals received $75 per month with an additional $1 for each teacher under their supervision. Substitutes were paid three to five dollars per day according to their abilities.

The Murray City School District provided eight years of schooling for its students. Subjects taught included arithmetic, reading, writing, spelling, language, geography, history, and civil government. The district had about twenty teachers and also hired a manual training (today we would call it vocational

Arlington 8th Grade Graduation, 1910.
Courtesy Murray City Collections

or technical education) supervisor who taught in the district's two shops that were "equipped with a complete set of bench and tools second to none in the state."[34] Special supervisors were also hired to teach needlework, music and art. Graduation from the eighth grade was contingent on passing a comprehensive final exam with an average of seventy-five percent or better. The examination for the 1907-1908 school year included the following questions:

Arithmetic:

• Write a negotiable note for $560, dated July 15, 1906 at 8% interest per annum. No interest being paid, what amount will redeem the note today?

Grammar:

• Name the parts of speech; define each.

• Prepare a written comparison between the human body and a machine.

History:

• As Secretary of the Treasury how did Alexander Hamilton distinguish himself? Explain fully.

• Outline the causes of the Civil War, re-mote and immediate.

Spelling:

• statistics, proficient, advantageous, ma-rauder, ligament, dynamite, lieutenant ...

Liberty 8th Grade Graduation, 1914
Courtesy Murray City Collections

Because of the strict requirements for gradua-tion, many students left school without graduating, usually after the sixth grade. Compulsory atten-dance laws had existed in Utah since the 1890 Free Schools Act, which required attendance through age fourteen (later raised to sixteen), but the law at this time was not strictly enforced. Within a few years of its inception, the Murray City School District hired a truant officer, D. B. Jones, to ensure that compulso-ry attendance was, in fact, compulsory. As a result, the attendance average of the school population rose

slightly. In 1909, Superintendent Mumford suggest-ed and the board approved several policies designed to raise the graduation rate, including permission for students with a ninety percent average in daily work to be exempted from the final examination, and more emphasis on manual training for boys who showed an aptitude.

Manual training at Arlington School, circa 1908.
Courtesy A. J. and Rosa Peters, Murray City Collections

At the time, physical education was considered extra-curricular. However, the upper floor of the Ar-lington School was equipped as a gymnasium in late 1906 and classes where held there in the evenings. In addition, Liberty School received money to provide space for physical education classes, and the upper floor of the Hillcrest School was outfitted for "light gymnastics" soon after its completion.[37]

One boy who excelled academically in the new Murray School District was Herond Nishan Sherani-an. He later became a prominent surgeon in the state. Dr. Sheranian emigrated with his family from Tur-key to Utah in 1902 and moved to Murray in 1906 where his father opened a barbershop after working in the smelter for a short time. Dr. Sheranian attend-ed Arlington School, which at the time included a mix of Utah-born and immigrant students. In his memoir, Dr. Sheranian relates that he enjoyed school very much and was particularly inspired by a bright,

young math teacher, Carl E. Gaufin, who taught him a "mathematical" formula for success the young student never forgot: "Information plus Inspiration times Perspiration equals Consummation."[38]

Dr. Sheranian, who was of Armenian descent, also remembered one class bully who, with a gang of friends, harassed him with cruel taunts and ethnic slurs. One day, the future doctor decided not to tolerate the taunts any longer and challenged the bully. Though the bully was quickly joined by his friends, Dr. Sheranian won the fight with the help of his sister, Arick. Both Herond Nishan and Arick Sheranian graduated from the eighth grade at Arlington School in May 1910. He continued his education by taking the streetcar into downtown Salt Lake City for high school, and later to the University of Utah. Dr. Sheranian had a successful practice in Murray for many years and was elected to serve on the school board in 1928.[39]

Arick and Herond Nishan Sheranian, 8th Grade graduation, 1910.
Courtesy Murray City Collections

Dr. Sheranian's trek to Salt Lake City was a common experience to many students due to the lack of high school facilities in Murray. This had been a great concern to the residents of the school district since shortly after its establishment. While many students did take the streetcar into Salt Lake, oth-

ers simply did not have the resources to do so. The organization of a high school was discussed by the board as early as 1907, but no action was taken due to a lack of space and the uncertain financial status of the district. In 1910, the Murray School District petitioned the Granite School District to allow Murray students to attend the recently completed Granite High School at 500 East and 3330 South. The Granite District accepted the proposal and several Murray students registered at Granite High School beginning with the 1911-1912 school year at a tuition rate of $20 per student per year.[40]

Following the expiration of his third term, Superintendent Gideon M. Mumford retired from education. He had overseen the establishment of the Murray School District as an independent unit, arranged the building of two modern schools to augment the buildings inherited from the county system, and improved the salaries and working conditions of teachers. During his six years as superintendent, Gideon M. Mumford "made a lasting contribution to the schools of Murray City during the formative years of their growth." [41]

On June 6, 1912, the young math teacher and principal of Arlington school, Carl E. Gaufin, was appointed Superintendent of Murray City Schools and Clerk of the Murray Board of Education. Among his first accomplishments was the organization of a kindergarten at Arlington School. The program was an instant success and "so many pupils applied for admission that it became necessary to limit the ages to five and six."[42] In 1913, the Murray Board of Education adopted a new merit-based salary schedule that emphasized teaching experience. The greatest achievement of Superintendent Gaufin's administration was the establishment of a high school for the Murray community.

Murray High School.
Courtesy Murray City Collections

The Establishment of Murray High

The superintendent took the first step toward establishing a high school in the fall of 1913 when he submitted plans to the Board of Education for the conversion of Hillcrest to a junior high school. A bond election was held in February 1914 with the goal of raising $30,000 for "completing and building one or more school houses and supplying them with furniture and necessary apparatus."[43] The bond measure was approved by a vote of 108 to 68, again showing the community's commitment to education. N. Edward Liljenberg, who had planned and designed for the district before, was selected as the architect for a gymnasium and heating plant. The general contract for the two buildings was awarded to the Mill Company for $23,746. Construction proceeded, and the first classes were held in the new buildings at Hillcrest during 1915-1916 school year. The junior high school accommodated students from the seventh through the ninth grades. The board of education continued to plan for a local high school program, especially since "the elimination of the preparatory department at the University of Utah and the assessment of a high rate of tuition by the Salt Lake and Granite High Schools" made it difficult for Murray's older students to continue their education.

Murray's first high school was organized for the 1916-1917 school year with James E. Moss serving as principal. Mr. Moss had been the first principal of Granite High School between 1906 and 1913. He recalled that "the high school came into being merely by adding the final years of work and modeling the educational program after the courses offered in such schools already in existence in surrounding districts."[45] In essence, Murray had created a six-year school, providing education for grades seven through twelve on one campus.

Murray High Faculty 1916-17; Principal James Moss, top right.
1917 Murray High School yearbook

The name Hillcrest was not used to identify the new combination junior high and high school, although the name "Murray High School" was not officially adopted until July of 1919. There was no separate administrative organization for the junior high and senior high schools: Principal Moss directed both. In general, the junior high classes were held in the 1911 building, renamed the administration building, while the senior high students attended class in the new gymnasium building. Joint assemblies were held in the upper floor of the administration building, although it was not quite big enough to accommodate the entire student body. The first commencement exercises were held in May 1917 with high school diplomas awarded to five graduates.

The State Street location was, for most students,

| Irma Sanders | John "Jack" Wood | Muriel Foster | Elmo Gillen | Verl McMillan |

Murray High's first graduating class, 1916-17. MHS yearbook

ideal. When Liberty graduate Clem T. Williams began attending the junior-senior high school, she would take the streetcar: "We had student tickets; I think they were four cents, in a little book we'd get 50, and I can remember little blue tickets. I would ride [to school] in the mornings. Walk up to the corner and then ride on the streetcar." She and her friends often walked home, a distance of approximately three miles.[46] Another high school student, Jennie Walker Halliday, who lived north of the school and walked down State Street, remembered being afraid of the smelter workers when she said, "I walked on the other side as much as possible."[47]

The establishment of the combined junior-senior high school allowed Murray students to achieve higher levels of academic progress, but also provided many extracurricular opportunities not available to older students in the elementary schools. Inter-school basketball was one of the earliest athletic teams for the boys, designed for "character building and keeping the body in a strong healthy condition."[48] The girls had an informal basketball team, but they "never played outsiders."[49] Other activities in the early years included dances, dramatics, orchestra, chorus, and an annual community service day. Publication of a yearbook began the first year, using the name *The Crest*, after the school's first name of Hillcrest.

During the time period when the high school was forming, the district's elementary schools focused on improving teacher quality and student discipline.

Perhaps the district felt that the introduction of a local high school provided an educational goal for which elementary students should be prepared. In 1913, the Board of Education formulated the following strict code of behavior for students:

Pupils were required to bring written explanations for absence or tardiness and were cautioned to "walk quietly through halls and up and down stairways and not loiter in the halls at anytime." They were to "refrain from all loud talking and boisterous conduct in halls or on stairways," and were not to enter rooms other than their own without the consent of the principal or teacher in charge of such a room. They were required to enter buildings with clean feet, keep seats, desks, and floors about them tidy and clean, and "be cleanly in person and clothing." Truants were required to make up after school hours "all time and labor lost through absence from school." Certain texts and other materials were furnished to the pupils by the board of education, and they were required to cover these books and not take them home "unless contained in a book sack, cloth cover, or other suitable receptacle approved by the Principal."[50]

Because eighth-grade graduation had been eliminated with the organization of the junior high school, the district's three elementary schools, Arlington, Bonnyview, and Liberty, held promotion ceremonies at the end of each school year.

World War I

One month before the first commencement exercises at the new high school, in April 1917, the United States entered World War I. This decision had a far-reaching effect on the Murray community and its schools. Principal Moss was appointed to the local draft board, with headquarters located at his high school office. Elmo Gillen, one of the first graduates of Murray High School, died less than a

Food drive for the needy, Arlington School, 1919.
Courtesy Murray City Collections

year after graduation while serving in the military. The fledgling high school program was threatened by rising costs and a fragile tax situation during wartime. The precariousness of the financial situation led to a controversial but unanimous decision by the Murray Board of Education to discontinue the senior high school for the 1918-1919 school year. Principal Moss chose the occasion of the 1918 graduation exercises to rally parents in an impassioned speech to organize a petition for the board to reconsider its action. Murray's commitment to education held, and the public response, especially from the students themselves, resulted in a reversal of the decision.

The high cost of living during the war greatly affected Murray's teachers, who petitioned the board of education for an adjustment in their salary near the mid-point of the 1917-1918 school year. The budget for the school year had already been set, but the following year, the board adopted a new salary schedule providing salaries from between fifty-five and one hundred dollars per month for elementary school teachers and up to one hundred twenty dollars per month for secondary teachers.[51] After the war, teachers received a cost of living increase and, for the first time, beginning teachers' salaries were determined by the type of credential possessed.[52]

Murray students demonstrated a patriotic spirit that has long been a hallmark of Murray's citizens by participating in the war effort. They rolled bandages for the Red Cross, sold Liberty Bonds, and practiced wartime frugality by fixing up otherwise useless items. During the war, the athletic program was suspended to give the students more time for agricultural labor. An "industrial vacation" was implemented between October 10 and October 29, 1918, to allow students time for harvesting and canning factory work.[53]

War was not the only difficulty that faced the district at this time. The influenza epidemic of 1918-1919 prompted the employment of the district's first full-time school nurse, Mrs. Carrie E. Morton. The cost of her salary was shared by the school district and Murray City. Surprisingly, given the scope of the epidemic, no schools were closed during its

Murray High students, 1919. Murray City Collections

course. However, the students' return to schools was delayed more than a week following the 1918 Christmas vacation.

In 1919, the age limit for the state's Compulsory Education Law for mandatory high school attendance was extended to eighteen.[54] Also in that year, the school grounds of the joint junior high and high school were expanded to the south and a wooden shop building was constructed.[55] A year later a bond measure to raise money for school improvements throughout the district was defeated. Given the war's financial toll and an influenza epidemic, the defeat of the bond was not surprising. Superintendent Gaufin, in addition to his other duties, served as the principal of the high school after James E. Moss left in 1918. The superintendent continued in this dual role until 1924, when the board appointed E. Allen Bateman as principal of the high school.[56]

Murray Schools in the 1920s

The issue of consolidation with Granite School District was briefly revived in early 1921 when the State Legislature passed a law raising the minimum population for a second-class city to 9,000. At a mass meeting held on February 2, 1921, Murray citizens organized a committee to petition the legislature to maintain the city's status quo. In the meantime, and perhaps as a precaution, the school board prepared a unification proposal with the approval of the Granite Dis-

trict.[57] The law in its final form allowed Murray to retain its status and the matter was dropped.

Without financial assistance from a bond, Murray High School was able to install a running track in the gym at a cost of approximately $5,000 in 1925. That year the basketball team reached the finals of the state tournament, where the team played well and missed the championship by only two points. It was at this time that the team acquired a rather notorious nickname. A Salt Lake City newspaper reporter dubbed the team the "Smelterites" after the nearby ASARCO smelter. Its landmark 455-foot tall smokestack, built in 1918, dominated the skyline. The nickname stuck until 1952. Murray High's first school colors, orange and purple, also came from the smelter, where the orange glow of the burning slag gave the night sky a purple hue. The school colors were officially changed to orange and black in 1926. The school's sports program got a boost when the school district offered R. Allen Perry, who had been directing athletics in addition to his duties as a sci-
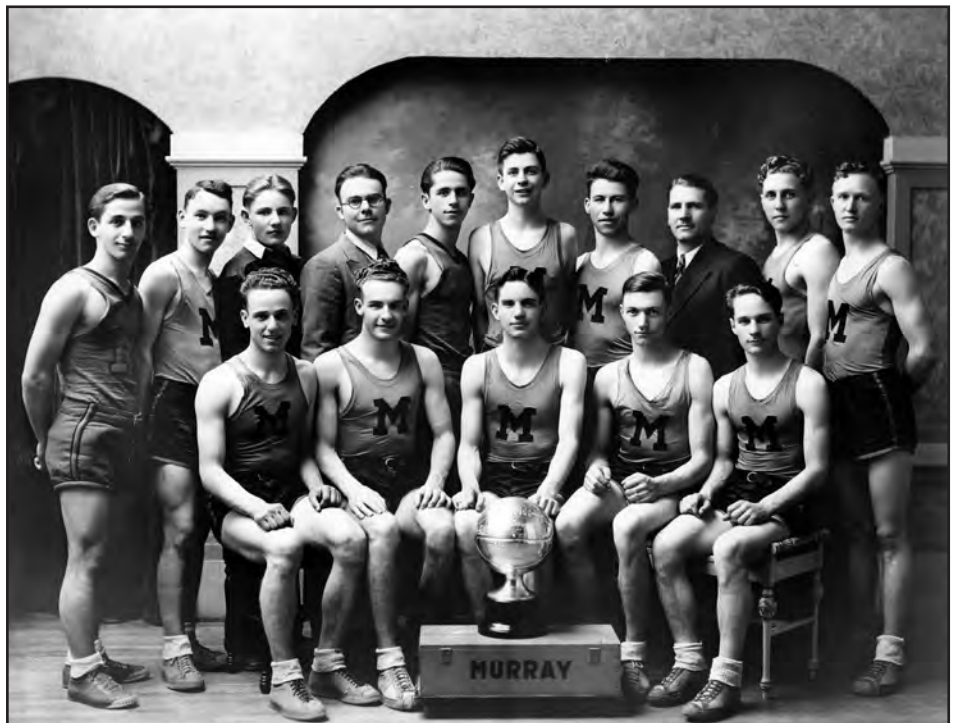
MHS 1931 State Basketball Championship Team. Murray City Collections

ence teacher, a contract to become a full-time coach in the early 1920s. In 1931, the Murray High School basketball team won the state tournament for the first time. G. Webb Snarr, a member of the team, remembers the team's humble beginnings, "We learned how to shoot baskets down in the old Snarr barn hayloft. As soon as the hay got out of one section, we nailed up barrel hoops and shot baskets between the rafters and we learned how to play basketball. At least we came out on top."[58]

During the 1920s, the combined Murray Junior High and High School continued to function as a single unit with a few differences. For example, during the 1922-1923 school year the first activity fee was charged. High school students paid three dollars, while junior high students paid two dollars. The fee was paid at registration and students were issued a card for entrance to the activities. After a group of parents protested, the activity fee was made optional for the junior high. In 1927, a portable two-room wood structure was purchased at a cost of $3,200 and located near the administration building to help relieve over-crowding at the school.[59] This solution is reminiscent of Utah schools' continued reliance on prefabricated buildings to accommodate an ever-growing student population. Then, as now, housing the district's students was a continuing challenge.

The number of students in Murray's elementary schools increased dramatically between 35.2 pupils per teacher in 1922 to 44.6 pupils per teacher in 1924. Despite the increasing school population, on November 15, 1927, the Murray Board of Education took the dramatic step of passing a resolution making married women ineligible to teach in Murray City Schools. An article published in the *Murray Eagle*, explained the new policy and its reasoning:

[The board] unanimously agreed not to employ any married women after the present school year. All married women at present in the service will be immediately notified that their contracts will not be renewed. A clause will be inserted in all new contracts issued to women teachers voiding the contract in the event that they marry before the expiration of the same.

The action of the board was taken because economic and social conditions have caused public sentiment to demand the change. It was not prompted through any dissatisfaction with the work of married teachers for all of them are doing satisfactory work and some are rated as the most efficient teachers in the service.[60]

Apparently the "public sentiment" which demanded that married women stay at home did not extend to members of the school board. In 1927, Mrs. Sarah E. H. Moffat was in the middle of her tenure on the school board, which lasted between 1921 and 1936. Nevertheless, the policy prohibiting married women from serving as teachers remained in effect until World War II when hundreds of women, married and unmarried, returned to the workforce.

Several support organizations for teachers and parents had their origins in this period. The Murray City School District sponsored a Teacher Institute on Saturdays where the district's teachers and administrators met to hear invited speakers, hold faculty meetings, and socialize at a luncheon. The Murray Teachers' Association began holding regular meetings in 1924, the same year the state-wide Utah Educational Association changed its name officially to the Utah Educators Association (UEA). Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) were organized at every school by the 1920s and parent volunteers presented their concerns at school board meetings. In one instance at an early March 1930 board meeting, PTA members from Liberty School appeared before the assemblage "agitating the question" of providing electric lights

at the school so that the community could use the assembly room at night.[61]   The school board apparently acted quickly, and the PTA subsequently held a special meeting on April 16th to celebrate the completion of the wiring project.[62]   On February 2, 1934, local PTA officials hosted a lecture by Miss Alice Sowers, chairman of the National Education Association in the Murray High auditorium.   Miss Sowers spoke on the subject of "learning at any age" in order to help parents become more involved in the PTA.[63]   Murray City became its own PTA district in 1948, and a four-member council was elected to oversee the local units at Liberty, Bonnyview, Arlington and Murray High School.[64]   Through the years, the Murray PTA provided district schools with fun activities such as school carnivals and more essential community functions like training volunteers to give school children polio vaccinations in the late 1950s.

Although not officially part of the school district, a special Japanese school was organized in Murray for the children of local truck farmers.   The school was partially sponsored by the Tadehara family, who moved to Murray in 1921.   School was held on Saturdays in a brick building on the Tadehara farm at approximately 6350 South 600 West.   Sherm Davies remembers the Japanese students dressing up wearing white tops and dark bottoms to attend the

Japanese students and families.
Courtesy Tadehara family, Murray City Collections

school.[65]   The school was named the Jordan Doshi-kai School and the curriculum centered around Japanese language and culture.[66]

Superintendent Carl E. Gaufin died suddenly on July 28, 1928, only a few weeks after his reappointment for another two-year term.   His accomplishments were eulogized by a fellow educator:

> He did not view education as either an aim or as a finished product, and to him one did not become educated simply because he had gone to school or had acquired considerable knowledge.   He appreciated the value of activity and maintained that the more diligently one applied his learning, the happier and bigger became his conception of life.[67]

Superintendent Gaufin's successor was E. Allen Bateman, the principal at the high school.   C. W. Anderson was appointed to fill the position vacated by Mr. Bateman.   In the summer of 1928, as Superintendent Bateman began his administration, the Murray City School District had eliminated the kindergarten program, held half-day sessions for the first grade, and "seemed content to maintain a six-year high school rather than a junior high school and a senior high school under separate administrative control."[68]   No permanent buildings had been constructed in nearly two decades.   The district's facilities included the three elementary schools and the four buildings of the combined junior and senior high school complex.   The district's teaching staff included twenty-one elementary teachers and sixteen secondary teachers, along with a teaching principal at each school.

Overcrowding became so acute that fifth and sixth-graders from the Bonnyview area were required to attend school at Arlington.[69]   Mostly due to an increasing population, but also because of the additional Bonnyview students, cramped conditions at Arlington became particularly acute.   The population at Murray High School had also increased so dramatically that

there was critical need of an "assembly room" which could accommodate the entire student body.[70] These pressing needs motivated the proposal that a new auditorium be constructed at the high school and that the portable classroom be moved to Bonnyview. In the fall of 1929, Murray voters approved a bond for school improvements to help ease conditions.[71] The vote preceded the collapse of the stock market on October 29, 1929 by just a few weeks. If the vote had been taken after the events of Black Tuesday, it might not have passed. The full impact of the crash reached Utah about the time the stock market bottomed out in 1932, but in March 1930, a small group of Murray citizens were shaken enough to organize "A Greater Murray League." The six members of the league appeared before the school board "asking that if possible the construction work be placed with Murray firms to keep the money in Murray and furnish employment to Murray people." In his speech, A. O. Cooper, chairman of the league, "pointed out the pride of the community in being able to say in future years that the building had been constructed by Murray people."[72]

The school board was able to work out a compromise that favored Murray firms while at the same time upholding a state law requiring the board to accept the lowest responsible bid. Lenord C. Neilson,

a Murray architect, had been selected in late 1929 to design the building. The general contract was awarded to John E. Anderson for a low bid of $36,423. The amount was later raised to $47,000 for additional finishing work. Webb Murray Plumbing and Heating was given the contract for plumbing, heating and ventilation, and the Brinton Electric Company was chosen to provide the electrical work. Around the same time, Carl Wahlquist was awarded a contract to build an addition to the high school gymnasium.

Architect Lenord Neilson's plans for the building were described in detail by the *Murray Eagle*:

> The building is symmetrical in design of modified Renaissance lines and will appear equally attractive from all approaches. . . .The exterior will be finished in red face brick trimmed with pre-cast stone. Fireproof construction will be used and the building finished and equipped in the most modern way. . . .On the first [floor] will be the Auditorium, proper entrance lobby and foyer, stair hall, stage and three standard classrooms. On the second floor will be the balcony of the Auditorium with motion picture projection booth, dressing rooms and three standard class rooms, one of which shall be used as a laboratory fully equipped. . . . The Auditorium will seat 800 people. [73]

The new Murray High auditorium was finished in November 1930 and became a place of assembly, not only for the school, but for the entire community.

MHS Junior and Senior High Campus. 1938 MHS yearbook

Graduation exercises were held in the new auditorium for the first time on May 21, 1931. Prior to that time, the ceremony had usually been held in the Murray First Ward Chapel.[74]

School discipline was not much of a problem in the early twentieth century. Everett C. Berger, one of the first students to attend Bonnyview, remembered that "the teachers were more strict then, than now. When you did something wrong, they hit you. If you went home and complained to mom or dad they blamed you for being a troublemaker."[75] Tui Meehan Sullivan, who attended Arlington, remembered one fourth grade teacher:

> She was the good one to keep the discipline. And, if you did anything wrong, you got up in front of the class. She would take a ruler and hit the boys on the bottom real hard. I had to go up there once. I don't know what I did. I had to hold out my hand and she whacked it one with that ruler. I never did like her after that. But then, I guess, it was my own fault.[76]

Earl Healy, who served several years as the Murray Fire Department Chief, remembered early mornings at Bonnyview. "I remember when I went to school we had to line up each morning and after recess at the front door. Then we would march into the school and to our class rooms."[77] At Arlington, Merle Hobbs Casper, remembered a similar tradition: "We had to line up and somebody played the piano, and we marched in to our school." Merle also remembered starting each day with the "Pledge of Allegiance inside, [but] never a prayer."[78] Clem Turner Williams, a Liberty student, remembers studying penmanship along with the academics, "We had to make circles and make the elbow move."[79] Julia Vicchrilli Markham remembered penmanship class at Arlington, "Miss Ury taught penmanship, and she'd make us do those circles, you know, and the push pull, push pull." She also remembered the detestable task of lining up to take cod liver oil with the spoon you brought from home, "We had to go up in alphabetical order and [one boy], and he'd go 'urp, urp' . . . And then he'd barf and [the teacher] would slap his knuckles with a ruler."[80] Sometimes, the students would be given special chores; for example, Leon Gilbert, who was a deputy sheriff in Murray, remembered that he "carried coal to keep the stoves going" at Bonnyview.[81]

Elementary school life in Murray was not all discipline and work. Mary Vicchrilli Stauffer, Julia's sister, had fond memories of a favorite teacher, "I remember my music teacher. I loved music and her name was Miss Teaglee, and we used to have to go up to the attic for our programs on those rickety old stairs and I think of it now, I think, oh, my goodness, kids now would faint if they had go up those rickety stairs."[82] (The attic was later declared off-limits after an earthquake occurred on March 12, 1934.) Merle Hobbs Casper remembers eating lunch on the lawns and sitting near the window wells of Arlington School to play her favorite game, jacks. She also remembers having to wait for lunch or recess to use the bathrooms, which were not attached to the main building. According to Merle, there was an early example of playground equipment called the "giant stride," which resembled a merry-go-round swing with several children grabbing onto chains. "Everybody'd get a hold of one of those and run around and till you get it going and then you'd swing."[83] But Merle's favorite season was winter. "There was a hill and our favorite thing in the winter was sleigh riding . . . We could bring our sleds to school, and stand 'em up in the halls. And then go out at recess and get our sleds and go down the hills."[84]

By the 1920s, the junior-senior high school athletic program had expanded to include basketball,

football, baseball, and track. Many girls participated in the Booster Club. Student organizations included the Shipmates (later called the Tiger Club) for the boys and the M.G.A.A. (Murray Girls Athletic Association) for the girls. The school had a marching band, a dance band and an orchestra. The choral music program thrived and held regular performances. One year, the Senior Chorus produced an operetta, "All at Sea," while the Junior Chorus presented "Love Pirates of Hawaii." The school held annual exhibits to showcase the talents of its fine arts stu-

Murray High Junior Chorus Operetta, 1922,
"Love Pirates of Hawaii." Murray City Collections

dents. During this era, the school district and community first presented monetary awards for "skill in public speaking, music, scholarship and activities, mental arithmetic, spelling and penmanship."[85]

Hennie Beckman Huetter, who graduated in 1931, remembers attending the school as a junior high student: "All the girls wore aprons over their dresses, to protect their dresses, of course. . . . they came from Arlington, Liberty, and Bonnyview, so it didn't take long to get acquainted." Hennie's father died while she was a student. She cherished and saved a letter of sympathy written to her by one of her favorite teachers, Nell Creek. Hennie's senior year was particularly memorable, due to Murray's basketball team winning the state championship. "I belonged to the Booster Club. We had to buy [our uniforms] from

the year before. They're black skirts and orange [wool] sweater with booster written right across the front . . . yeah, that was the year I graduated and I was in the Booster Club and we had a really good time."[86]

In the 1926 Murray High yearbook, departing seniors were asked to provide final statements as a "last will & testament." More than a few of their replies, including the following examples, suggest that high school life has not changed all that much in eighty years:

> I leave Red Buick marks all over the campus. Do not destroy the tracks. Many the time we were late to class, but many a good time was had by all.—Arthur McMillan

> I leave all my pink stationery to the couples so frequently seen parked around in the halls at noon.—Blanche Ringrose

> All that I can leave is a bit of sound advice: Never leave your name and address in the girls' dressing room in Grantsville. The correspondence is too heavy.
> —Howard Wakeman[87]

The Murray City School District and the Great Depression

The precarious financial situation of the early depression years was difficult for schools throughout Utah. While budgeting for the 1931-1932 school year, the Granite School District cut teachers' pay by 13.5 percent and shortened the year by two weeks.[88] In the Jordan District, a crucial bond issue failed, and all the schools closed on March 18, 1932, making it the shortest school year in the district's history.[89] The much smaller Murray City School District did not close any schools, but drastic measures were taken to reduce expenditures. The regular annual increase for teachers' salaries was not given for the 1931-1932 school year, and the high school faculty

was reduced by one. During that school year, the Murray Teacher's Association proposed to the school board their willingness to teach the final two weeks of the year gratis. Fortunately, Superintendent Bateman was able to offer a plan that reduced expenses by $8,700 without a reduction in employee salaries.[90] However, during the next school year, 1932-1933, the salaries of all school employees were reduced by ten percent. A second reduction was proposed for the 1933-1934.[91]

The depression years transformed the economy of Murray. The stock market crash closed many of the mines that supplied ore to the ASARCO smelter. A temporary closure of the plant in 1931 marked the beginning of difficult times for the Murray's smelter and related industries. As the importance of the smelter industry declined, many new enterprises were established that helped stabilize Murray's economy in the 1930s. Agricultural production rose during this period due to a number of fruit and vegetable truck farms located on the outskirts of the city, many started by former smelter workers.[92] Existing Murray farms became more specialized, concentrating, for example, in the production of sugar beets and poultry. Some concerns, such as the Erekson Dairy and the Murray Commercial Laundry, expanded to serve the population outside of Murray. Murray's downtown commercial district developed into a major shopping destination for the central Salt Lake Valley by the late 1930s. The business district located on State Street boasted movie theaters, restaurants, numerous specialty shops, and chain stores, such as the Grand Central Market and J. C. Penney Department Store.

The neighborhoods around the schools began to change as well. Arlington School, on State Street, not far from the central business district, had the greatest socio-economic range of students, enrolling

Arlington Faculty, circa 1920.
Back row: Elmo Boggess, 2nd from left; Mr. Robinson, 2nd from right; Maryann Boggess, far right.
Murray City Collections

the children of Murray's most prosperous merchants to those of the lowest paid smelter workers. Beginning in the 1920s, the residential neighborhoods on the east and west sides of State Street developed into streetcar suburbs for professionals and service industry workers. Bonnyview School on the hill west of the railroad was somewhat isolated from the center of town. Its school population was drawn from families of industrial workers living near the railroad and families living on farms in the relatively open lands to the west. Liberty School, in the southern part of the city, remained in a rural setting for most of the first half of the century. But slowly, the rise of the automobile and improvements in road conditions meant an increase in the school population as many of the larger family farms were slowly divided into smaller parcels and sold off to developers. The Murray Junior and Senior High School was located in the geographical center of the city and brought the students of the various neighborhoods together in a community.

Primarily due to the proximity of the smelter, the Murray City School District fostered a more diverse student population than any other community outside of urban Salt Lake City. For the most part, the students accepted each other, and their differences

became apparent outside of the school environment. Julia and Mary Vicchrilli, whose father was an Italian immigrant smelter worker, remembered being concerned about their family's situation:

I used to worry because they [my parents] didn't speak English, you know, really plain. They spoke really broken and I was always afraid that—and they were not citizens and I had a fear that if any of us done anything wrong, that they would deport them to Italy again. And I used come up Vine Street and if I saw a police car going, I would just run. And my heart would just thump, cause I thought they was after my parents.[93]

Members of the African-American Bankhead family had been part of the Utah community since the late nineteenth century when Carrie Bankhead was the only black student at Arlington School. Carrie's cousin Nathan and his wife Henrietta settled in Murray raising eight children in the Murray school system.[94] One boy remembered how the Bankhead boys became excellent swimmers in the local ponds and creek, but they were not allowed to use the community pool.

The depression may have contributed to the successful integration of the community's school children. Most families were in similar socio-economic circumstances. Aleen Phinney remembered "in those days the boys would have a new pair of overalls and the girls would have a new blouse and skirt and long stockings that you rolled down as soon as you got out sight of your mother. You would wear that for months—wash it up each week and wear it."[95] The city's diversity was often celebrated. Aleen Phinney also remembered

in grade school, we had a program that was called "Americans All." It was when I was in about the 5th or 6th grade. We all put on our little costumes from the different backgrounds and the Pedrozas [girl] danced

[a] Mexican dance. A young lady by the name of Verda Jacobson sang in Swedish. I was an Irish girl, having a little pinafore and sang an Irish song. [A Japanese girl] had her lovely, lovely, costume and did a dance. The Japanese Geisha type of dance.[96]

Most importantly, the community came together in times of need. Employees, parents and students of the Murray City School District were among those who donated funds to meet the financial needs of survivors of a tragic bus-train accident which killed 24 students from the Jordan School District on December 1, 1938.[97] The accident led to the requirement that drivers open the bus doors at all railroad crossings.[98]

Although the smelter industry brought diversity to the community, there were also several negatives aspects. Merle Hobbs Casper remembered an experience involving the smelter pond just down the street from the high school:

I don't think anybody ever played in it but one time, I remember the one incident, where the boys for the Tiger Club or something, were initiating, and they put some of the boys in the Smelter Pond. You know, it was kind of like hazing that goes on nowadays. [One boy] got spinal meningitis right after, or something. They figured it was from going in, getting into that Smelter Pond. . . . Now, whether that was the cause, I don't know.[99]

Marshall Brinton remembered his mother's frustration with the smelter industry's influence on the Murray school system:

My mother wanted my older brother to have a foreign language because "My son is going to the University." [An administrator] said "Mrs. Brinton, I don't know whether you realize this or not, but we only have two or three students who go to the University. We have to take care of the other 60 or 70 high school graduates and they are going to be farmers and work at Kennecott and work at the smelter. It is a waste of the taxpayers money

to have any of these cultural enrichments that you think are so important." Now that was said to me about my older brother in 1930. My oldest brother, my next brother and my next sister went to Salt Lake City schools. I was the first one to graduate from Murray. Because my mother, having class and so on, she didn't want to put up with the negativism that, look, all we need to do is produce kids to work in the smelter.[100]

Mrs. Brinton got her wish. In the early 1930s, Murray High School had both Spanish classes and a Spanish Club. Marshall Brinton graduated in 1935. As a result of strengthening its academic programs, Murray High School was officially accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges in 1939, credentials that the school has maintained to the present day.

In the summer of 1933, E. Allen Bateman accepted a position to be the Superintendent of the Logan School District. Although he had served for only five years, Superintendent Bateman "helped to carry the Murray District through a very dismal financial period. He was destined to similarly prove his worth as chief administrator for the Logan schools and later [in the] position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction."[101] Dr. James Clove, formerly a teacher and principal at Payson High School, was appointed to take his place in the summer of 1933.

Teachers were not asked to take further pay cuts after Dr. Clove became superintendent. However, in 1934, the Murray Board of Education announced a policy that teachers employed by the school district make their residence in the city "unless living with their parents or owning their own homes within a reasonable distance of Murray."[102] The policy was designed to keep a larger portion of the school payroll in the hands of local merchants and taxpayers. In addition, the school district needed more personnel

Bonnyview faculty circa 1930s, Alma Crane (back right). Courtesy Ahlberg family, Murray City Collections

available to supervise extracurricular activities in the evenings. An editorial in the *Murray Eagle* applauded the policy:

> At the present time nearly 50 per cent of the teachers employed by the Murray School Board reside outside of Murray. The people of Murray make the Murray schools possible and thereby furnish jobs for Murray school teachers. A spirit of fair play would seem to make a Murray residence the logical result of being a Murray school teacher. . . . The social life of the community is enriched by the added cultural tone resulting from the trained leaders of youth taking part in the community life. . . .The Murray School Board has made a fine move and should be given credit for making the step.[103]

The Utah Education Association protested the move, and a number of teachers appeared at board meetings to present their individual cases, but the policy was strictly enforced.

Beginning in the mid-1930s, Superintendent Clove and the school board requested aid from the various "New Deal" programs designed by President Frank-

1934 MHS Graduating Class. Murray City Collections

lin D. Roosevelt to bring the nation out of economic depression. Murray's first school lunch program was organized with the assistance of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the 1936-1937 school year. At first, the meal consisted of little more than hot soup and crackers, prepared in a local church kitchen and transported to the schools.[104] Originally, the federal program paid the wages of the lunch ladies, who also worked in the WPA cannery during the summer season. A dietician created the menus. For example, the entrees for the week of May 12-May 16, 1941 included Creamed Bacon on Toast, American Chop Suey, Beef Stew, Tamale Pie and Vegetable Salad.[105] Before the end of the war, the Murray Board of Education had remodeled all of the district schools with kitchens and cafeterias, and the school lunch program became the essential part of the educational program it is today.

In April 1938, the Murray Board of Education gave the district's teachers the first substantial increase in salary since the beginning of the depres-sion. The new salary schedule set a minimum salary of $750 per year for teachers with less than four years of college preparation. Teachers with a bachelor's degree would start at $850 and a master's degree was worth $950. Incremental increases were given on the basis of preparation and years of experience up to a maximum of $1,950.[106] The maximum retirement age was set at sixty-five. In 1939, the board granted a request from the Murray Teacher's Association to pay on a twelve rather than ten-month schedule. A year later, the board adopted a policy providing five days paid sick leave for teachers.[107]

Meanwhile, the school district's aging facilities needed attention. One report, published by the State Superintendent's office, provided a dismal descrip-tion of the buildings:

> All of the elementary schools were old and lacked every modern facility. The old build-ings contained classrooms only, and every classroom was filled. The schools had no playroom, auditoriums, activity rooms, or cafeterias . . . There was no running hot water

in any of the elementary schools. The lavatories were modern but were detached from the school buildings.[108]

Bonnyview WPA building and landscape improvements.
Courtesy Webb Snarr, Murray City Collections

In the fall of 1938, Murray residents approved by only six votes a bond for $96,000 designated for the construction and remodeling of school buildings. A proposal to build a centrally-located elementary school for the entire district was discussed, but eventually considered impractical. The board decided to divide the money between building a new fourteen-room Arlington School, (the district's oldest building), a two classroom addition at Bonnyview, finishing the basement into classrooms at Liberty, and constructing an addition to the high school gymnasium. The federal government provided an advance grant of $82,575, and the board accepted the low bid of $146,983 by Enoch Chythraus for the construction and remodeling.[109]

Residents in the Liberty School area immediately raised concerns that their share for improvement was much less than other schools. Their petition also requested that any surplus in the budget go to an increase in teacher salaries.[110] Excavation work was begun at all three elementary schools in December of 1938 in order to keep the project "alive" and in

compliance with the time requirements of the Public Works Administration (PWA) grant, but it would take nearly two years to complete the improvements.[111] Liberty School's three new classrooms, kitchen and cafeteria were completed in the fall of 1939. The Bonnyview improvements included two new classrooms in a brick addition and the installation of restrooms inside the building. A separate building, formerly housing the first and second grades, was remodeled into a combined auditorium, playroom, and cafeteria. The Bonnyview project also included 220 feet of rock retaining wall, concrete steps, and landscaping. The school district furnished the materials at a cost of $980. The WPA provided the labor, which was estimated at three months of work for twenty men.[112]

New Arlington School built in 1939. Murray City Collections

By far the most ambitious project was the new Arlington School to be constructed in front of the older school parallel to State Street. It was completed in late 1939 and occupied immediately following the school's Christmas vacation. The following description of the building appeared in a *Murray Eagle* recap of the school year, entitled "1940 Was Time of School Expansion."

The new 16 room Arlington is of two story brick construction and is entirely fire and earthquake proof. The building contains a combined auditorium, playroom, cafeteria, reception room, 16 classrooms, and four offices for the superintendent, board of education, clerk, and principal.[113]

Another article stated that "One of the outstanding features of [the new school] is the ample supply of light, provided by numerous windows."[114] The new Arlington School was very different from its predecessor. The style of the building was a modest nod to Art Deco, but typically restrained as were most PWA projects. The building attracted attention, including from two teenage boys from Provo, who broke into the school on February 23, 1940 and stole $5.31 from several teachers' desks. They were caught two months later. The Murray Board of Education decided to "make an effort to give the boys employment to pay for the damages at Arlington rather than to press charges.[115] The old Arlington (former Central School) was demolished by members of a National Youth Administration project in the spring and summer of 1940.[116]

On Monday, January 29, 1940, a simultaneous "open house" was hosted in all four schools to celebrate the completion of the school district's $200,000 improvement program. At the elementary schools, the afternoon was divided between tours of the facilities, a talent show, and refreshments. At the new and "completely modern" high school gymnasium, there was a special program of "dancing, tumbling, and a basketball game."[117] The new gymnasium was noted as being "used more by students and town people for recreation and social functions. The building is in continual use until 11 p.m. each week night."[118] One year earlier, the LDS Church constructed a new seminary building on an adjacent property north of the high school. In 1940, the board of education pur-

chased a 15-acre property on the west side of State Street. The property was to be improved as a playground-athletic field and as a potential site for future high school buildings.

As the community began to recover from the depression years, the population of Murray City grew from 5,172 in 1930 to 5,740 in 1940. The *Murray Eagle* article on the recent school expansion noted, "The new construction was greatly needed. The past two years have seen over one hundred new homes built in Murray." The article ended with this positive description of the Murray City School District:

> The Murray City schools are modern and progressive. The board of education has provided buildings, libraries, shops, laboratories, and all needed books, equipment, and a course of study designed to train the young people of Murray to be efficient worthy citizens of a great nation. The students live and work in pleasant surroundings, led by an outstanding, excellently trained group of teachers.[119]

A Community of Traditions

Through the difficult times of war and depression, the Murray City School District was supported by industrious superintendents, a diligent board of education, and dedicated administrators. However, most of the Murray students were probably not aware of the efforts of the policy makers. What they remembered were the names and faces of beloved teachers, and the school traditions that carried on from year to year. As a relatively small, close-knit community, the traditional ceremonies provided a common link between all of the district's schools.

A long-standing tradition in the Murray City School District was music instruction by William F. Robinson. Mr. Robinson was born in England in 1872 and immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1889. As a young man, he played various

Liberty School Orchestra 1922. Murray City Collections

instruments and led his first choir at the age of nineteen. He was made the music supervisor of the Murray City School District in 1907. During the early years of his teaching career, he would walk from one end of the district to another, making the rounds from the junior-senior high school to each of the elementary schools. In 1912, he organized the first orchestra by selling musical instruments and providing twenty free lessons to each student buyer. He helped the high school band raise money for uniforms by working with local businesses. Mr. Robinson was known as "Murray's Music Man" and the "Father of Christmas Caroling" in the Murray community.[120]

Shortly after beginning his job with the district, William F. Robinson made arrangements of Christmas carols he had sung as a boy in England. He taught these to his students. Each year, just before Christmas, this "jolly man" would travel to each school, accompanied by the high school orchestra, and conduct Christmas carols as part of a Christmas assembly program.[121] Murray student Mary Jenkins Soffe had the following memories of William Robinson:

> One of our best teachers in the whole wide world was Mr. Robinson. He had all these Christmas songs that some of 'em he had made popular. And I think he'd written some of 'em, but he used to go around to all

the grade schools and have these Christmas songs. And of course he was our band teacher, our orchestra teacher, our vocal, our choir chorus, but all. . . . I'll never forget one year that we had an earthquake and I think that was in 1933 or '34, round there anyway, and we would go to band early in the morning. And it wasn't a heavy real hard earthquake but the baby grand piano was moving and Mr. Robinson said, "Whoever's kicking the

Murray High Girls Chorus with Mr. Robinson, 1919.
Murray City Collections

> piano, would you please cut that out."[122]

Mr. Robinson's carols, such as "Chime and Carol" and "A Candle in the Window," were taught in the Murray schools long after his retirement in 1939 and even after his death in 1960. Most of the children who grew up singing the Robinson carols did not realize the songs were peculiar to Murray until after they had left the community.

One of the most anticipated traditions of the year was the May Day Festival. Each spring the three elementary schools met together on the high school lawn to compete for top honors in the day-long event. Contests typically included music, spelling bees, folk dancing, marching drills, relay races and baseball games. Each school was awarded points and the totals were tallied at the end of the day. At the 1932 celebration, Arlington, the largest elementary school in the district, received the highest points in

May Pole Competition during May Day Festival, circa 1930s.
Courtesy Ruth Logan, Murray City Collections

music and athletics. The much smaller Liberty took academic honors. Bonnyview, while receiving the lowest number of points over all, did win the much coveted Maypole Dance Competition.[123] The Maypole, which consisted of colorful ribbons intricately woven around a tall pole, was the most anticipated event of the day, with the sixth grade girls eagerly vying for the privilege of representing their school in the dance. The May Day celebration was expanded to include evening events held at Murray Park beginning in the mid-1930s. The tradition of the May Pole continued at individual schools until the 1960s when larger school populations made holding a combined event impractical.

Other events also served to bring the school district together. For example, one day in 1930 all three elementary schools traveled to the high school auditorium to be entertained by a magician in a two-hour assembly.[124] Sherm Davies remembers with fondness that each spring the sixth grade boys from the three elementary schools would compete in a softball

tournament, with the boys traveling to play games after school, two games at each school. As he recalled, his school, Bonnyview, won handily the year he played.[125] In addition, each school had its own traditions, including performing in annual plays, operettas, and recitals. Liberty School held an Arbor Day Program, and the Hobby and Pet Show was always a success.[126] The students at Bonnyview School enjoyed diverse activities such as a Flower Show and Marble Tournament.[127] Winners of the annual Arlington School Spelling Bee were frequently listed in the *Murray Eagle*. The school also held annual art exhibits and music festivals.[128] Elementary schools were also used for evening adult education classes, and meetings for local groups, such as the Murray

Bonnyview Flower Show. Murray City Collections

Lions Club and the Murray Ladies Guild.

Murray High School students benefited from a wealth of traditions. Each class had its own event, which usually combined a program and dance: the Freshie Frolic, Soph [sophomore] Circus, Junior Prom, and Senior Hop. More informal dances were occasionally held after basketball games in the gym. Productions of Gilbert & Sullivan operettas were a

High Marching Band 1934, Mr. Robinson, far left. Murray City Collections

popular annual event. Girls participated in the Posture Parade (a forerunner to today's drill teams), which one participant described as "an answer to the boy's athletic programs."[129] Annual inter-school Posture Parade competitions were held at Brigham Young University (BYU) every spring with the Murray girls winning three consecutive titles between 1928 and 1930.[130] The Murray High School Marching Band was regularly invited to participate in the state-sponsored Days of '47 Parade. Student writers, journalists, artists and photographers regularly contributed to the school's newspapers, literary magazines, and yearbooks. In 1929 and 1930, the Murray High School debate teams won divisional championships. Murray Junior High participated in the above programs, but beginning in the 1930s held separate assemblies and elected its own student-body officers.

World War II

The bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and the entry of the United States into World War II brought a temporary halt to Murray's re-invigorated economy. As a large portion of the city's male population enlisted to fight in the war, the school district's policy prohibiting the employment of married women was dropped. Defense bonds were given as bonuses to compensate for the increased cost of living during the war's first year. In 1942, a general increase in salaries raised the minimum wage to $900 a year.[131]

Because of the scarcity of labor and materials, building projects not directly related to the war effort were prohibited. However, in 1944 the War Production Board granted a priority for the construction of a new lunch room and kitchen at the high school. Because the State Attorney General ruled that lunch funds could not be used to finance the project, the school board unanimously authorized increasing the budget by $18,000 to be later paid off by an increase in the school tax levy.[132] Woody Stevens was the contractor for the addition to be built adjoining the east end of the gymnasium. The new cafeteria was completed in time for the 1945-1946 school year.

Prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, the *Murray Eagle* reported, "The new World War in Europe is affecting Murray High indirectly. All history classes are intensely interested in foreign affairs, and are giving no little time to its study."[133] After the United States entered the war, the school curriculum shifted to emphasize the war effort in all subjects. Spelling tests included military terms; social studies focused on current events and wartime citizenship;

Murray High 1940s pep band. Murray City Collections

and physical health and fitness were stressed as never before. Many senior boys left school before graduation in order to enlist in the service. As a result, "teachers and administrators were instructed to be as liberal as possible in evaluating credits and accepting correspondence work in such cases." [134]

Community service was critical to the war effort. The Murray City School District was asked to administer the city's food rationing program. Approximately 6,000 war ration books were issued to city residents through the Murray schools by early 1943.[135] During the war, Murray students bought and sold savings bonds, conducted scrap metal drives, participated in civil defense training, and made "model airplanes for instructional purposes in the army."[136] Liberty School students raised $250 in four weeks buying "defense stamps" and collected a large pile of tin foil.[137] The Bonnyview PTA

sponsored a panel discussion on November 4, 1942 addressing the topics of what the war was doing to their families, and gearing the home and education to the war situation.[138] Most individual classes participated in special activities. For instance, the third graders at Bonnyview made a goal to raise $85 to buy a parachute for the war.[139] At Arlington, social studies students in the sixth grade took an imaginary trip to France.[140] They also joined the Junior Red Cross and knitted a wool afghan to donate to the war effort.[141]

Murray High School joined local businessmen organizing a "Victory Shift" at the local canning factory. Principal E. V. Mortenson, one of the "Victory Shifters," explained that the students and teachers were "doing their part to save the precious tomato crop" by working from 4 to 11 pm at the factory.[142] The principal also reported "the students were very

cooperative and active in securing metal, rubber, cans and anything that would help the government in the making of supplies for Axis undoing."[143] All of the district's schools participated in the annual city-wide music festival, held on April 9, 1942, at which "marching songs, battle music and the songs of the fighting forces of the United States" were featured.[144]

Aleen Phinney had a clear memory of Pearl Harbor Day and her father saying "Come in Aleen, and listen to the radio, things are happening—our whole world is going to be changed." As a high school student, she said, "We all united in gathering old tires and tin cans and our activities were curtailed. Our uniforms, the Pep Club, we had to wear the ones we wore the year before."[145] The internment of Japanese-Americans during the war had a direct impact on the Murray community. Aleen remembered, "One little girl was a good friend of my sister. It was a family who had a truck farm to the west of Murray and one day she just didn't come to school and we never saw or heard from her after that."[146] Sherm Davies remembered that his sixth-grade classmate at Bonnyview, Betty Jean Waki, left Murray with her entire family.[147] This event ironically took place after Betty Jean Waki won an American Legion contest for the best "Poppy Poster" honoring America's service men and women.[148] Her brother, Mitsuo Waki, was one of several Japanese-Americans from Murray who served in the war.[149]

The end of the war was announced on August 23, 1945 by the *Murray Eagle* with the simple headline "Complete Victory!"[150] On December 19, 1945, Murray City sent certificates of honor to signify the end of the war to the community's World War II veterans, a list of several hundred men and women.[151] That same week, Principal Mortensen reported that Murray High School was officially "included in a list of educational institutions in the State of Utah approved as training agencies for veterans." [152]

The separation of the Murray High School into junior and senior high schools had been discussed earnestly since the organization of the high school in 1916, but progress toward the goal was extremely slow. However, following the end of World War II and the return of a stable economy, the Murray Board of Education made the formal separation of the two schools a top priority. In anticipation of the post-war population explosion and suburban housing boom that would shortly engulf the Salt Lake Valley, the board began making plans to build a new high school. The plans would come just in time. Small town Murray City was about to get much bigger. The Murray City School District would be destined to remain a small school district, but only in relative terms.

Part 3: The Murray City School District and the Suburban Boom

The End of the Clove Administration

On January 9, 1950, Superintendent Clove announced his intention not to seek reappointment at the expiration of his term due to ill health.[153] During the last two years of his service, the Murray City School District was involved in controversies regarding facilities and personnel. In 1948, the board had authorized "the sale of $100,000 worth of tax anticipation notes to finance the building of two additional classrooms at Bonnyview, four at Arlington, and a new shop including four classrooms at the high school."[154] The board planned to construct the shop building on the west side of State Street on the parcel purchased from the smelter in 1940 as the first structure in the anticipated new high school complex. Carl S. Fors was awarded the contract, but no sooner had work begun at the site, than the board was confronted with opposition from the community. Many were concerned about the necessity for students to cross State Street (by then a major highway) several times a day for shop and other classes. A smaller contingent favored an east-side location for the new high school, arguing that more students lived on the east side of the city than the west.[155] After considerable debate, the board voted unanimously to purchase a parcel north of the high school and build the shop east of State Street. Superintendent Clove went along with the decision, but warned that "it would delay a separation of the junior and senior high schools."[156] The new Industrial Arts Building was constructed during the summer of 1949 and was ready for the beginning of school that year. The same year, the school district spent $5,000 remodeling the high school's home economics with six new kitchenettes, two refrigerators, and electric sewing machines at each work station.[157]

Two new classrooms at Bonnyview were constructed in the spring of 1948, and students at Arlington moved into their new four-classroom addition in January 1949. The new classrooms were described as a definite "improvement over other rooms" with details such as rubber tile floors, acoustic tile ceilings and pastel green walls. Each room had built-in bookcases, storage lockers, work benches and a sink.[158] At Arlington, the kindergarten classes were moved into the new rooms on the lower level and the sixth grade was given the upper rooms. At the time, Murray was one of the first districts in Utah with a "full time winter kindergarten."[159]

The personnel controversy arose in 1949 when that specter of anti-Communism suspicion known as McCarthyism left its mark on the Murray City School District. It began in the spring
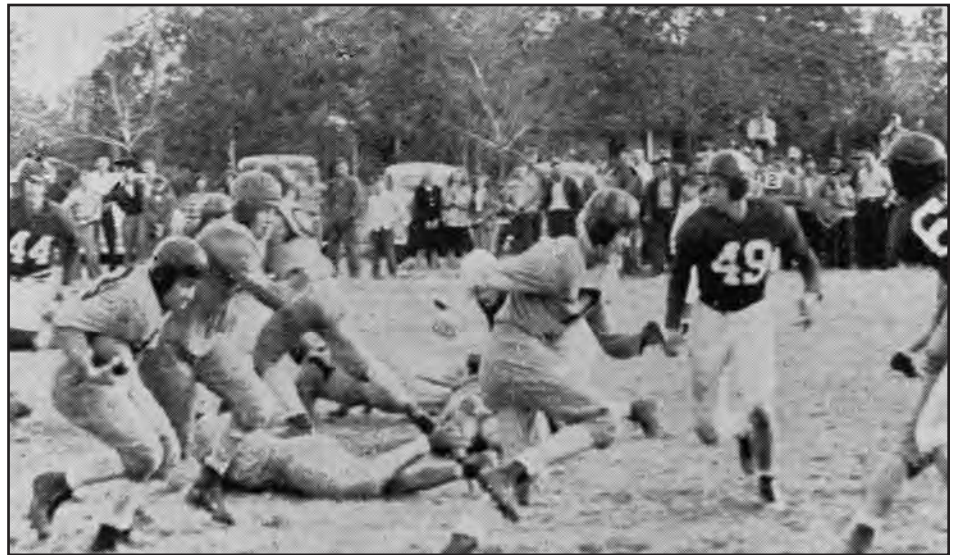

Industrial Arts Building. 1956 Murray High School yearbook

when Superintendent Clove chose not to renew the contract of a Murray High School teacher "in light of certain charges which had been entered with regard to his political, educational, and moral philosophy."[160] The teacher, who taught English, speech, and debate, was accused by the superintendent and the high school principal of having an "uncooperative attitude" and that he taught "in opposition to the school's educational policies."[161]

Murray High Football, 1947. Murray City Collections

In response, the teacher asserted that his release violated his "academic freedom."[162] He presented his case to the Board of Education in May, but the board upheld the decision of the superintendent. On June 24th, a public rally for the teacher was organized by the Civil Rights Committee, a group which had been declared communistic and subversive by the House Un-American Activities Committee.[163] The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (CIO) and the Murray Citizens' Committee for Betterment of Murray Schools also came out in support of the teacher. Petitions bearing the signatures of 19 high school faculty members, 467 students, and 600 parents were presented on his behalf.[164] Despite this display of public support, the school board upheld Superintendent Clove's decision.

Lasting from 1933 to 1950, Dr. James Clove's tenure as superintendent of the Murray School District was longer than any of his predecessors. His administration was marked by an extensive building program that included the construction of a new Arlington School, and much-needed remodeling at Bonnyview, Liberty, and the high school. His tenure saw the number of teachers employed by the district double, and their salary schedule increase nearly three-fold. Under his direction, the school lunch program was formalized in 1943, and the district purchased the first (used) school bus in 1947 for travel to athletic events. James Clove was honored by local businessman Tom Neff, who said, "Dr. Clove has been a definite asset to the community. He has made many contributions to the betterment of Murray, its school and the young people of the city. I feel proud to be able to call him a fellow Murrayite and am certain the rest of our community feels the same way about him."[165] Dr. Clove, who had no children of his own, established a trust fund through the Murray City School District, which presents monetary awards for outstanding academic achievements for students each year. Of the accomplishments during his tenure, Dr. Clove simply stated, "The Murray Board of Education is proud of its achievement in providing a classroom, a seat, a competent teacher, together with books and educational materials for every child during the war, the depression and the trying postwar period."[166] James Clove was succeeded as superintendent by J. Easton Parratt, who assumed the office on August 1, 1950.

Murray in the Immediate Post-War Years and the Closing of the Smelter

During the first forty years of Murray's history as an independent school district, the students came from two distinct populations, one urban and one rural. The rural population lived mostly on farms on the outskirts of the community. They raised grains, vegetables on truck farms, fruit orchards, and livestock such as dairy cows and poultry. Most were descendants of the early settlers, although some were immigrants who came to work in the Murray smelters, but found working the land more to their liking. The urban population was divided into two groups: the smelter workers, who lived near the rail lines and smelter operations; and the community of merchants, service workers and professionals, who lived in and around the downtown business district.

Dismantled ASARCO along rural 5300 South. Murray City Collections

The end of World War II brought a change to Murray's urban population. The fortunes of the ASARCO smelter, which had faltered during the depression years, briefly thrived during the war's demand for heavy metals. Unfortunately, in the postwar years, the Murray smelter operation became unprofitable and was forced to close in the fall of 1950. Some employees transferred to the company's plant in Garfield, Utah, while others left the industry

and the area. The remarkable ethnic diversity that had been part of the Murray community for over half a century began to disperse. Of the closing of the smelter, historians Schirer and Johnson wrote,

> During the final years, heavy concentrations of southern Europeans, especially Greeks, Austrians, Slavs, and some Italians helped run the smelter. Their neighborhoods, rich in ethnic diversity, would slowly melt away. . . . Many had come from the old country to seek opportunities to better themselves economically and to get their children educated. They were a colorful addition Murray schools. Dr. John Prpich, one of Murray's most distinguished educators, recalled that a great sense of pride permeated these people.[167]

Even so, many families chose to remain in Murray. Some stayed near the downtown commercial district and became involved in local businesses. Many bought homes in the new subdivision developments which began to materialize on former farmlands after World War II. All were gradually assimilated into the mainstream American culture that was Murray in the mid-twentieth century. Their children and grandchildren, who grew up in Murray, are today virtually indistinguishable from the descendents of the city's Mormon pioneers. Only the plethora of distinctive surnames in the enrollment lists of Murray schools exists as a reminder of the city's diverse past.

Beverly Killpack Jensen, class of 1945, remembers the diversity of her classmates, "Everyone knew everyone here. The majority of people were a mixed group. They were here because of that smelter which was working all the time. So we had [a] marvelous experience with all ethnic cultures. They were all very hard working people."[168] On the other hand, her husband, Boyd F. Jensen, also a 1945 graduate, remembers the smelter with less fondness: "I might mention the smoke from the smelter, when we were going to school, was so bad that they could not grow

grass so we played football on the dirt."[169]   Webb Snarr, class of 1932 and an educator, summed up the community feeling when he stated simply, "We were the 'Smelterites' and we were all together."[170]

The Subdivision Boom in Murray

The population of Murray grew slightly from 5,172 in 1930 to 5,740 in 1940. But after World War II, the population jumped to 9,006 in 1950 and nearly doubled to 16,806 in 1960. One reason for the large increase was the G. I. Bill of Rights or Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, which paid for college or vocational education for returning servicemen and women.   The bill also provided low-interest loans for veterans to buy homes and start businesses. By the mid-1950s, educated, employed, and often newly-married veterans were buying homes in Murray's new subdivisions by the hundreds. The loss of the smelter had no effect on these young families. For example, as a recent Murray High graduate, Boyd Jensen remembered the economic consequence of the smelter closure was minimal. "It didn't have as bad of impact as we thought because there were still quite a few government jobs out there." A few large industries, such as the Hi Land Dairy, moved into

PTA organizations helped with school polio vaccinations, circa 1950s. Murray Schools Archives

Murray, but many of the new residents were commuters who drove to their jobs in downtown Salt Lake City or in many cases, to industries outside Murray, such as Kennecott Copper.

Prior to World War II, there had been one subdivision in Murray, built in 1938. In 1946, four subdivisions were developed on former farmland in the south half of the city. Between 1948 and 1955, twenty more subdivisions were built in Murray, the number almost equally divided between the east and west side of the city. The population of school-age children rose even more quickly than the general population. For the 1949-1950 school year, the number of school children enrolled in Murray schools, which had hovered around 1,500 in the years leading up to the war, jumped to 2,282, including kindergarten.[171] The numbers of enrolled students rose by approximately 200 each year through the 1950s to reach what was described as a "whopping" enrollment figure of 5,521 for the 1959-1960 school year.[172]   To cope with this dramatic increase, the Murray Board of Education presided over a decade that marked the most expansive building program in its hundred-year history.

The 1950s: A Decade of Building

A new high school was a top priority for the Murray City School District and new Superintendent J. Easton Parratt. The old junior-senior high school classrooms were at capacity and a burgeoning elementary population would soon be moving into the secondary levels. Nevertheless, the Murray Board of Education was careful in their deliberations. Another four years would pass before the dreams of a new Murray High School complex would be fully realized. A committee of PTA members was appointed to consider three sites for the new high school. The

Arlington 6th Grade students were part of the enrollment boom, shown in 1957 photo. Murray City Collections

architectural firm of Scott and Beecher was chosen to draw preliminary plans for the new high school facility and submit cost estimates for each proposed site. The committee initially favored the Salt Lake County fairgrounds property adjacent to the Murray City Park, but the idea was dropped after the county agreed to sell the property only if the board purchased all the barns and other structures as well. Furthermore, since there was no other suitable location, the county fair would likely leave Murray.

Murray School Board members in the late 1940s to the early 1950s: (left to right) Willard Olson, David Lester, TF Duvall, Val Sundwall and McLloyd Killpack. Murray City Collections

The choices for the new high school site were narrowed to two: the Saunders property southeast of the high school and the former smelter property across State Street to the west. The final decision was made after the district asked for an impartial assessment conducted by education faculty at the University of Utah. The investigators determined that 57 percent of Murray's students lived west of State Street, with the remaining 43 percent living on the east side. Furthermore, the greater amount of available land in the west half of the city "was seen as an indication that the trend toward a larger number of pupils coming from the west side would continue for a number of years."[173] The west side property was given the advantage after it was determined that the land east of State would have potentially expensive drainage problems. The board also considered State Road Commission plans in the works for the construction of the Interstate-15 freeway, which would pass through Murray's west side and likely divert a significant amount of traffic from State Street. The

Murray High under construction across the street from the
old Murray High, 1953.   Murray City Collections

school board voted in favor of building a new senior high school on the west side of State Street. In an election held on June 21, 1950, Murray taxpayers authorized, by a margin of 3 to 1, the issuance of $150,000 in building bonds as well as a tax increase.[174]

Plans and specifications for the new building were submitted by the architects in the fall of 1950 and received the tentative approval of the board.[175] However, a second survey requested by the board and conducted by State Superintendent Bateman and the University of Utah determined that overcrowding in the elementary schools was more acute than at the high school. The survey recommended that within the next two years, the district's available money should be spent on expanding elementary school facilities. The board unanimously accepted the survey committee's recommendation that the twelve-room structure planned for the high school site be used as an elementary school for approximately four years, and converted to a high school when deemed necessary.[176]

Before the school board had an opportunity to call for bids on the structure, the State Legislature, meeting in early 1951, passed new legislation which, among other things, was designed to aid school construction programs by increasing the bonding limits of local school districts. The legislature also appropriated two million dollars for school construction to be allocated to districts on a need basis. After a considerable wait, during which the State Board of Education clarified the new law, a second election was held, and Murray residents voted to raise the legal bond limit by a vote of 476 to 12. The Murray School Board authorized the required levy for the debt in May 1952.[177] With state aid provided, it was decided that the proposed high school building would not be used as an elementary school and a site at 300 East and 5900 South was purchased for the construction of a new elementary school. The school board proceeded with a previously awarded bid from the Chrytraus Brothers for the construction of a high school classroom building. In the fall of 1952, three high school classes were transferred to the nearly completed building and a full-time traffic patrolman was employed by the district to assist students crossing State Street. The classroom building was officially accepted by the board on April 12, 1953.[178]

During the 1953-1954 school year, most of the senior high classes were held in the new building, however, the students continued to attend physical education, homemaking, and industrial arts classes

in the old building. In December 1953, the contract to complete the high school complex was awarded to the G. Maurice Romney Company. The contract included an auditorium, gymnasium, offices, and special rooms for physical science and music instruction.[179] The LDS Church constructed a new seminary building on Hillcrest Circle for the high school students in the summer of 1955.[180] The senior high students continued to cross the street for Industrial Arts while the district made plans for a new shop addition. The shop was planned to have space for automotive, wood-working, electronics, and aviation classes, as well as storage space for athletic equipment.[181] The addition was constructed by the Romney Construction Company and completed in the fall of 1958. Dedication services for the new shop building were held in conjunction with the completion of a new lunch room for the high school built by the MAC Construction Company.[182]

On September 1, 1954, the junior and senior high schools were officially separated. E. V. Mortensen was retained as principal of the senior high school, while his assistant, LaRue Winget, was appointed principal of the junior high. In the summer of 1954, the Murray City School District went forward with plans to remodel the old high school using money from the state emergency school building fund.[183] The architect for the project was Lowell Parrish. The $162,000 contract was awarded to Jensen Construction Company. The work was completed in the spring of 1955 and included improvements in the administration building and the gymnasium. The 1911 administration building was given a "new office set-up, lavatory facilities on the main floor, narrower halls, new floors throughout, better laboratory rooms, acoustic ceilings" and new plumbing, wiring and lighting throughout. The building had two fewer classrooms, but the classrooms were larger. A new stairway was built in the 1915 gymnasium, the girls' dressing room was remodeled, and the ventilation system was improved in the boys' dressing room.[184]

Although the Murray City School District had successfully completed a new high school complex and achieved the goal of separating the senior and junior students, a goal that had been nearly fifty years in the making, the board and the superintendent could not afford to rest on their laurels. The dramatic rise in Murray's population in the 1950s brought numerous challenges for the district's leaders. Groundbreaking for a new elementary school at 315 E. 5900 South took place in September of 1953. The building was functional for the 1954-1955 school year, but was not officially dedicated until March 21, 1955.[185] The architect was Lowell Parrish and the building contractor was Frederickson Builders Supply Company. The new elementary school was named "Hillcrest" as a nod to the historic significance of the 1911 school on State Street, which "had grown into the high school . . . coupled with the fact that the structure would give an excellent view of the valley to the west."[186] The new Hillcrest Elementary School was very different from its namesake. The one-story building included "16 classrooms and two kindergarten rooms, a multi-purpose room, kitchen and library" and was described as a "modernistic type, with lots of light." [187]

New school opens under the name of Hillcrest Elementary, later changed to McMillan Elementary. McMillan School Archives

With the completion of the Hillcrest Elementary School, the district divided the elementary population into four quadrants: students north of 5300 South and east of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks attended Arlington Elementary; those west of the tracks attended Bonnyview Elementary; students living west of State Street and south of approximately 5600 South attended Liberty Elementary; while those living south of 5300 South and east of State attended the new Hillcrest Elementary School.[188] New subdivisions continued to create transportation problems. In the fall of 1954, the school board authorized bus service for students living outside the 1½-mile (elementary) and two-mile (secondary) limits using the high school's athletic bus and another on loan from the Salt Lake County Recreation Department.[189] By 1959, at least one route was severely over-crowded, with Superintendent Parratt admitting that there were "more students living in the [Murraydale] subdivision than we estimated thus our buses are overloaded."[190] One solution involved staggering the starting times for different schools, allowing the two buses to "make three runs in the morning in order to take care of all pupils eligible for transportation."[191]

The facilities at Liberty Elementary School, the district's oldest building, had been of concern for

New Liberty Elementary addition stands behind old school.
Liberty School Archives

some time. In fact, in September 1949, one west-side mother asked to move her children from the "unsafe" Liberty School to the newer Arlington School. The school board denied her request, but recognized the need for action.[192] With aid from the state board, the Murray City School District made plans toward remodeling Liberty and constructing a 10-classroom addition. The design was "a departure from tradition in that the roof sloped to the center, and bright colored panels showed under the windows" with "three different kinds of skylights used."[193] The district again used the services of architect Lowell Parrish, and the building contract was awarded to Fullmer Brothers. The remodeling included a new lighting system, new floor coverings, and an enlarged kitchen. A one-story classroom addition was built north of the older building and was designed so the addition could be expanded in the future. The old and the new portions worked well together with only one problem: at least, the administration and parents saw it as such. In the summer of 1960, the "breezeway connecting the Liberty Elementary School addition to the main building had [to be] removed because children were playing on top of it."[194] The school district considered demolishing the old building, but as Superintendent Parratt noted in 1959, because of the new subdivisions being built continually throughout the district, "we can't afford to tear down anything at present."[195]

In anticipation of a $450,000 bond election, the *Murray Eagle* devoted a series of five articles in April 1959 to "building problems facing the Murray School District."[196] Most of the discussion centered on overcrowding at Liberty, Bonnyview and Hillcrest. The school board was moving quickly toward the construction of a new school at 662 West Bulldog Circle (6140 South). Grant Elementary School,

Grant Elementary School, completed in 1959. Murray Schools Archives

designed and built by the architect and contractor for Hillcrest School, was completed in time for the 1959-1960 school year. The board anticipated that conditions would temporarily ease at other schools as 210 students from Liberty, 168 students from Bonnyview, and 135 students from Hillcrest were transferred to Grant.[197]

With the passing of the bond issue, the Murray City School District went ahead with plans for another elementary school in the midst of several new subdivisions in the city's southeast corner. The school board selected Bruce McDermott as the architect for Longview Elementary School to be built at 6240 South Longview Drive (560 East).[198] The building contract was awarded to the Maurice Romney Company. The estimated $200,000 cost of the new school was paid from local funds and completed in 1961.

Longview Elementary School, completed in 1961.
Murray Schools Archives.

The ten-room school building was designed to serve the new subdivisions as well as alleviate over-crowded condition at Hillcrest and Grant, where students had been bussed from the east side.[199] By the late 1950s, the Hillcrest Elementary School rivaled Liberty as having the fastest growing school population in Murray. An article in the *Murray Eagle* noted that Murray was part of a national trend: "The baby boom of the post war years has just begun to effect schools throughout the country."[200]

Riverview Junior High School, completed in 1961.
Murray Schools Archives

By the fall 1959, the most critical issue was the need for more space at the junior high. Superintendent Parratt summed up the problem by noting "the district will have to fill every nook and cranny at the junior high to accommodate the students expected to enroll."[201] The school board had been investigating possible sites for a west-side junior high as early as October 1953, but it was not until 1960 that a suitable site was acquired.[202] Groundbreaking ceremonies for Riverview Junior High, at 751 West Tripp Lane (5755 South) were held in April 1960. Architects James M. Mullen and Howell Q. Cannon designed a building with ten classrooms, administrative offices, shop, gymnasium and auditorium. The Culp Construction Company was awarded the contract. The building was completed in time for the 1961-1962 school year. Unlike Longview, built on nearly the

same schedule with local funds, two-thirds of the $600,000 plus cost of building the junior high was paid from state funds.[203] Aleen Phinney remembers the first few years at the new school: "I was a counselor at Riverview Junior High School on 7th West—a lovely new school, but we didn't have enough students to fill it so they bussed students from over in the south-east section of Murray."[204]

As plans for the district's second junior high were moving forward, the Murray Board of Education voted to give the first Murray Junior High a new name. At a meeting in January 1960, the board voted to return the name Hillcrest to buildings on State Street where it was first used in 1911.[205] The change necessitated renaming Hillcrest Elementary School on 5900 South, which occurred three months later when the name McMillan was chosen "in honor of the McMillan family who formerly owned the property in the area surrounding the school."[206] The new names of the McMillan Elementary and the Hillcrest Junior High became official on July 1, 1960.

Stretching the Budget in the 1950s

With so much of the school district's budget going to new facilities, the Board of Education made their fiscal decisions carefully. At Arlington Elementary School, although 878 students were squeezed into a school built for 610, growth projections in the area were much lower than in the southern part of the city. Superintendent Parratt characterized Arlington as "the least of our troubles" in 1959.[207]

The Arlington building had housed the school district offices since the district was organized in 1906. In February 1959, the board tentatively approved plans to build a new district office building at the south edge of the Arlington property at 147 East Myrtle Avenue (5065 South). The board selected the architectural firm of Cannon and Mullen for the project. The proposed 7,700 square-foot building included a reception area, ten offices, a library, board room and warehouse. The school board adapted a "no frills" approach and even trimmed $7,000 from the initial bid submitted by the Security Construc-

McMillan Elementary was the only school named after a local family. The Michael McMillan home stood on McMillan Lane, northwest of the school, circa 1874. Courtesy Arlene Goss, Murray City Collections

tion Company.[208] The school district hosted an open house and dedication ceremonies on the evening of May 4, 1960. At the time, the district personnel included the superintendent, board of education clerk, elementary supervisor, pupil personnel director, building superintendent, visiting teacher (for homebound students), school lunch supervisor, school nurse, transportation supervisor, and an office staff of three. The building also housed the Murray District Credit Union.[209]

Murray School District Offices current photo, 2007. Murray Schools Archives.

It would have been impossible for the school district to keep pace with the rising student population in the 1950s without the state aid provided for building projects. The operational budget of the district was stretched thin by a number of complex demands on the growing Murray school system. The position of Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds was created to oversee the general maintenance of the facilities. School custodians were placed on a regular salary schedule for the first time, with formal policies adopted regarding their work. Each school was assigned a full-time custodian, with a part-time custodian employed for the district offices. The service of the custodial staff was officially recognized as of "immeasurable importance in contributing to the health,

safety, and welfare of the pupils and teachers."[210] In the summer of 1958, the school board awarded a contract to Laury Miller Inc. for the purchase of a new 66-passenger school bus. During this period of rapid growth, the school board worked in conjunction with the city on several infrastructure improvements. For example, the installation of sidewalks and the widening of 700 West from 5300 South to the city limits was designed to aid drivers and provide safer access for children walking to Riverview Junior High and Grant Elementary School.[211]

Because of growth-related budget constraints, the Murray City School District, like other school districts along the Wasatch Front, had difficulty keeping teacher salaries competitive with increases in other professions. Dissatisfied with the results of the state legislative session in early 1953, educators in the state and the general public called for a special session to resolve some of the problems facing local schools. A teachers' strike that fall was averted by the Murray City School District through the granting of a token increase of $200 to each teacher and agreeing to issue new contracts "with substantial increases if the impending special session granted any financial relief to the district."[212] Unfortunately, the results of the special session simply "placed the problem of increasing salaries of employees squarely in the lap of the taxpayers of each district." Thus, on April 20, 1954, Murray voters passed a special bond issue allowing the Board of Education to adopt a salary schedule ranging from $3,200 to $4,800. To bring Murray's faculty salaries in line with those of the Granite and Salt Lake Districts, the 1958 school year salary range was increased to $3,600 to $5,775 for a teacher holding a bachelor's degree.[213]

Other changes for teachers included the formal elimination of employment restrictions on married

women, and exceptions to the retirement age stipulation if the employee was in good health and received a superior recommendation from the administrative levels.[214] The need for qualified teachers was so great that Vere McHenry remembers the school district held a position for him while he served in the Air Force during the Korean War.[215] Despite ongoing salary disputes, the Murray City School District remained a cohesive community. The district provided in-service training, such as the mid-year institute on audio-visual aids held at Murray High School on March 2, 1960. All the students of the district were excused from classes in the afternoon so the teachers could attend.[216] The school district also sponsored an annual summer outing at the Spruces' picnic ground in Big Cottonwood Canyon, where after a morning business meeting, school board employees and faculty members enjoyed a picnic luncheon followed by games.[217]

The students of the district had to cope with crowded conditions and transferring between school locations. An August 1957 headline in the *Murray Eagle* summed up the challenges of the community when it pronounced "Murray Youngsters To Jam Schools in Record Numbers."[218] However, the continuity of curriculum and traditions brought stability to individual schools and classrooms, and some changes were primarily administrative. In the early 1950s, the district began using formal report cards in conjunction with parent-teacher conferences on the elementary level. A special committee was appointed to review the "A" through "E" grading system used at the high school. Although the committee determined that class attendance was "weighted quite heavily in the determination of the scholarship mark," the system was not changed significantly.[219] The school district found it necessary to raise the se-

nior high activity fee from three to four dollars.[220] In 1954 the school board considered the matter of student activities and awards. The board recommended that club memberships be expanded and initiations be monitored by the principal; in addition, it was recommended that students should receive award certificates listing their high school activities.[221]

Spartan featured on new school sign, 1956. Murray City Collections

School Traditions in the 1950s

In anticipation of the May 1952 move to the new high school complex, Murray High School students were asked to submit new names for the school mascot. After the student council weeded out "less favorable" submissions, the choice was narrowed to Spartans versus the "tried and true" Smelterites. The student body voted during their council elections and the name Spartans was preferred over the "slightly antiquated" and, with the absence of the smelter, less relevant Smelterite moniker.[222] The 93 members of the graduating class of 1952 were the last to graduate from the "Smelterite School."[223]

Within a few years, the name change had filtered through the school. The Spartan Man was chosen

MHS 1954 Class B State Football Champions. Murray City Collections

as the school mascot. Through the years, variations of the name were attached to the girls' organizations that replaced the Posture Parade, including Spartanettes, Spartanelles and Spartonians.   As student interests expanded, several news clubs were added, including the Art Guild, Biology Club, AG club, FHA, Key Club, Pepper Club, Ski Club, Swimming Club, and the school newspaper, the Murray-Go-Round. In November 1954, the Spartan football team ended an undefeated year as the Class B State Champions with a 26 to 0 win over Springville High at the University of Utah stadium. According to one observer, the first state football champions in the school's history gained the "respect of 11,000 fans in the stadium with their inspired, clean football."[224]

In the 1950s, Murray Junior High held a traditional "Hello Day" program at the start of each new year where new teachers were introduced and students performed specialty numbers. The junior high girls were particularly active and organized. The Girls' League Association (GLA) and the Glee Club held several activities each year. The school's winning basketball team triumphed over several area junior high schools during the 1959 season.[225] Also popular in the 1950s were traveling assemblies. One assembly presented to the students on January 28, 1959, was titled "Previews of Progress."[226] This science assembly featured a solar-powered miniature car and was probably geared to the boys, but Murray's female scholars proved they were also interested in science when they took half of the honors at the junior high school's first science fair in 1960.[227] Though old, the junior high school auditorium continued to serve the community by playing host to a number of evening events, including student productions such as "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer," an accordion fiesta held in honor of local music teachers, a hunter safety course and many other events.[228]

In May 1950, twelve hundred students from Arlington, Bonnyview, and Liberty participated in the annual May Day celebration held at Murray Park.[229] However, by the end of the decade the logistics of combined-school events became so difficult that each elementary school community started their own traditions. During the first spring in the new Grant Elementary School, the PTA sponsored a school carnival, a tradition that to the present day.[230]   At Hillcrest School (the future McMillan Elementary), teachers held a "Tea at Harvest Get Acquainted" in the fall of 1959, because so many of the faculty had moved to Grant. At the same time, the faculty and PTA made plans for the annual Halloween Fun Night and Carnival.[231] Students from Liberty participated in an annual storytelling festival held at Salt Lake City's Liberty Park.[232]   Bonnyview students added a watermelon bust to the school's annual flower show.[233]   At Arlington, brothers Stephen and David Downs (former students attending the junior high) presented their collection of over 80 models collected from around the world over a ten-year period. Several classes viewed the display in connection with their study of transportation.[234] Each school had Safety Patrols consisting of several students from the upper grades who helped at school crossings and other duties.

In the early 1950s, the state legislature briefly

considered consolidating the Murray City School District with either Granite or Jordan, but the issue was dropped. As the State of Utah began to assume a larger share of the financial burden for education in the 1950s, smaller districts such as Murray were no longer at a great disadvantage compared to bigger districts. Murray educator and historian Vere McHenry suggested that this "equalization principle is one of the basic [tenets] of American democracy." Re-evaluating the importance of education in American democracy was an important focus of the nation during the 1960s and 1970s. Two important events helped shape the educational curriculum of the Murray City School District and triggered an increased involvement not only by the state, but by the federal government in the educational program of local school districts. The first was the Soviet Union's space program of the late 1950s; the second was a series of educational plans within the Great Society programs of the mid-1960s.

School Safety Officers, Liberty Elementary 1958; (L to R) unknown, unknown, Ross Madsen, Eldred Bills, Joe Anderson, Elexis Eskelson, Principal Webb Snarr. Murray Schools Archives

PART 4: THE MAKING OF A MODERN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Influences on Murray Schools in the 1960s

Like most of the world, the school-age children of Murray greeted the news that the Soviet Union had successfully launched the first artificial satellite on October 4, 1957 with interest. A second launch on November 3, 1957, with the dog Laika as a passenger, was even more exciting. The success of the Soviet Union's Sputnik satellite, however, was a blow to the United States' space program, especially after the televised failure of an American launch one month later. The *Murray Eagle* published an article suggesting "We Owe the Russians a Word of Thanks for Jarring Our Conceit." The author of the article expressed surprising humility and thoughtful concern about those events:

> Perhaps the launching of Sputnik and Muttnik have been good for we Americans. We suddenly found some field which we hadn't dominated—and we weren't pleased about it. Perhaps we'll now stop resting on our firm belief that we are superior in everything and begin demonstrating a healthy respect for men of other countries.[236]

G. Webb Snarr, an educator with forty-one years of experience in the Murray City School District remembered, "With the advent of Sputnik, America became very concerned that the curriculum offered in our schools was falling behind that of the Russians. A void was felt particularly in the fields of science and math . . . . The whole country was swept with the so-called New Math."[237] New Math emphasized abstract concepts such as number bases other than 10. This new educational doctrine was not without controversy. Many parents and teachers complained that the new curriculum was outside of students' ordinary experience, taking time away from traditional applications, and putting too many demands on teachers. Within a few years, it was concluded that the experiment was not a success, and New Math fell out of favor by the end of the decade in most school districts, including Murray. By the early 1970s, the Murray City School District supported the training of teachers in a more holistic approach, known as Unified Math. For the 1974-1975 school year, the district had two Unified Math teachers in each of the junior high schools.

American space exploration was spurred by the lunar landing goal of President John F. Kennedy when he announced at a special joint session of Congress in May 1961, "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth." In a 1962 speech, the President stated "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." On July 20, 1969, Murray's citizens joined the nation in watching on national television the realization of that goal as United States astronauts became the first men to land on the moon.

One Murray student, Kyle Kenyon Campbell, remembered President Kennedy's popularity in the early 1960s, and emotionally recalls the day he was assassinated. A sixth grader at Arlington at the time, she was sit-

ting in class on November 22, 1963, when someone walked in to inform the class President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Texas. She remembered crying during the long walk home after school.[238]

Kennedy's successor, President Lyndon B. Johnson, created a number of domestic programs collectively known as the Great Society that were aimed to reduce poverty and racial injustice in America. In the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the federal government authorized significant amounts of federal funding for local school districts. One of the most important provisions of the act was Title I, giving the United States Department of Education authority to distribute funding to schools and school districts with a high percentage of students from low-income families. The first program in the Murray City School District to benefit from the increased funding was Head Start. Instituted in 1966, the program was originally designed to aid disadvantaged preschoolers' transition to kindergarten.[239] Over the years, Head Start has expanded into a comprehensive program of child development and parenting resources targeting children from birth to age five. It continues to be part of the school district forty years later.

Another federal program that had a tremendous impact on the Murray City School District was Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX was enacted on June 23, 1972, and states that "[n]o person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The law was designed to provide female students better access and opportunities in math, science, and athletic programs. The impact of Title IX was felt more than anywhere else at the

secondary level. Throughout the history of Murray schools, the availability of athletic programs for female students would vary considerably based on student interest, faculty involvement, and prevailing public sentiment. For example, no female athletic teams were featured in the 1970 Murray High School yearbook. Twenty-five years later, Murray High had female students competing in tennis, swimming, soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, water polo, bowling, lacrosse, cross country, and track and field. There was even one female student competing on the school's hockey team.

Dress code changes allowed girls to wear pants to school.
1973 Murray High Scool yearbook

While Title IX did not have as great an impact at the elementary level, the feminist movement of the 1960s did prompt the school board to loosen dress code requirements for the 1970-1971 school year. For the first time, girls were allowed to wear pants to school instead of dresses or skirts. The change in policy was most apparent on the school playgrounds as some girls turned from traditional recess games, such as hopscotch and jump rope, to compete with boys for access to the basketball hoops. Changing social mores may have played a role, but educators

may also have been hoping to stop the rising popu-
larity of the mini skirt on the high school campus.

Expanding and Modernizing the School District Facilities

Murray's school population growth was slow-
ing slightly, but the community still needed two new
elementary schools by the middle of the 1960s. In
1964, Viewmont Elementary School was built at
745 West 5720 South. In choosing the name for the
building, the school board elected not to name the
building for an individual, thus setting a policy for
the future.[240] The building was designed by Bruce
McDermott and constructed by Acord-Whiting Con-
struction Company.[241] It consisted of twelve class-
rooms and a multi-purpose room. The school had
a number of specialized support spaces including a
faculty workroom, bookroom, nurse's room, waiting
room and principal's office.[242] In the school's first
years, there were so many students living in the near-
by Hidden Village neighborhood that only the first
through fourth grades could be accommodated in the
new building, with the fifth and sixth grade continu-
ing to attend Grant Elementary School.[243]

During the 1964-1965 school year, the school
board began making plans for Parkside Elementary
School on a parcel adjacent to Murray City Park.
Crowded conditions at Arlington and McMillan mo-
tivated this decision. The design produced by archi-
tect Bengt F. Anderson was innovative and based on
the "open classroom" concept of education which
swept the nation in the late 1960s. Parkside was
completed by the Atlas Construction Company in
time for the 1967-1968 school year. The open-class-
room school was built with open spaces called pods
for each grade level. Accordion-fold partitions in-
stead of walls divided the individual classrooms.

Crossing guards assisted students at Viewmont and Parkside
Elementary schools. Murray City Collections

The open-classroom concept was designed to en-
courage team-teaching and free movement from one
activity to another. In some subjects, students were
integrated by aptitude rather than grade level using
a program described as "continuous progress." One
teacher who taught at Parkside in the early years,
found the concept "eye-opening and forward look-
ing" and remembered that Parkside pupils soon grew
accustomed to the numerous visitors observing the
process.[244] A student, Scott Mooy, who moved from
a traditional school environment to attend Parkside
in the sixth grade, remembers that the walls did not
close completely, and when the noise got distracting,
his teacher would send someone "to peek around
the wall to see what the other classes were up to."[245]
The educational innovation fell out of favor by the
mid-1970s partly because the "wall-less" classroom
was noisy and a potential fire hazard. Hal Madsen,
who became the principal of Parkside Elementary in
1978, felt the environment was too distracting for the
students and requested that permanent partitions be
installed between the classrooms. The process took
approximately three years to complete.[246]

Another innovative idea that caught on in Murray
schools was the instructional media center. During
the 1970s, the school district funded upgrade proj-

ects at nearly every school. Additions were constructed at Riverview, McMillan, and Viewmont.[247] In the other older schools, walls were knocked down so that two classrooms could be combined, carpeted, and furnished as a media center.[248] A four-classroom addition was built at Arlington Elementary School in 1966. It was designed by the architectural firm of Cornwell and Petersen, and constructed by Sterling Construction Company.

As the rapid growth of the 1950s and 1960s tapered off, the district had more money for some deferred improvement projects such as playground equipment, parking lots, and landscaping. Though there were a few schools still operating at over-capacity, the school board officially implemented a full-day first grade throughout the district in 1965.[249] Another educational experiment, split-grade classrooms, was first introduced in the upper grades at Parkside and Arlington. The new shop addition at Riverview Junior High, built in 1975, was part of the district's goal to boost vocational education at the junior high level. The Murray City School District Offices were expanded in 1979 and later remodeled in 1987.[250]

As the large elementary school age population moved in to the junior and senior high schools, funding was shifted to the secondary-level facilities. Perhaps no other school in the district went through a greater transformation than Hillcrest Junior High School. Until 1972, the school was essentially the same complex of buildings that constituted the former high school: the administration (old main), gymnasium, cafeteria, auditorium, and industrial arts buildings. All the buildings were showing signs of age, including the industrial arts building and its 1959 classroom expansion. By the early 1970s, the balcony of the auditorium building was condemned. The main floor and classrooms were still in use, and

Hillcrest JH photo illustrates various campus additions, 1969.
Murray City Collections

sneaking up to the off-limits balcony became a popular pastime for the more adventurous students. A fire in the old gymnasium on March 17, 1976 sent students onto the field in droves and drew attention to the need for improvements.

Between 1972 and 1981, a phased construction project took place that was designed to provide new up-to-date facilities with connections to the useable older buildings. The new auditorium at the north end of the complex was connected to the industrial arts building. A long hall was built to connect the north buildings to a new classroom block built between the old auditorium and administration buildings. Classroom space in the old auditorium was used until its demolition in the summer of 1978.[251] A new gymnasium, designed by Howell Cannon and constructed

Hillcrest JH High newest gym and auditorium additions.
Murray Schools Archives

by the Culp Construction Company, was completed in the fall of 1980.[252] An open house held in the new gymnasium on January 22, 1981 marked the end of a massive construction project and introduced a new look for Hillcrest Junior High School.

The issue of safety was discussed by the Murray Board of Education after concern was expressed over several auto-pedestrian related accidents involving junior high and high school students. The completion of the Interstate 15 freeway in the 1960s had reduced the number of cars on State Street less than had been anticipated. In 1971, the school board applied for state and federal funds to build a pedestrian overpass between the two schools. The district contributed $14,000 to the cause and agreed to maintain the property on either side of the street.[253] The walkway was completed in the fall of 1972.[254]

Murray High School building, circa 1980s. Murray Schools Archives

Between 1961 and 1983, Murray High School was expanded or remodeled six times to accommodate a growing student body. A second two-story classroom wing and new library were built in 1961. With the completion of the "B" wing, as it was known, students no longer had to go outdoors to reach the cafeteria. In 1967, an addition was made

to the south side of the shop wing to include a larger automotive shop, arts and crafts, and driver education classrooms. Because a non-union contractor did the work, the site was picketed during construction.[255] Two years later, a one-story wing was built connecting the cafeteria to the shops and classrooms on the west side of campus. Chemistry and math classes were moved to this "C" wing. The swimming pool addition was constructed around 1974 and provided the community its first indoor pool facility. Another community resource, the auditorium, was remodeled in 1983 to provide additional seating, better acoustics, and up-graded stage technology. A more spacious gymnasium was built adjacent to the old gym in 1981, the same year outdoor lights were installed for night activities on the football field.[256] Both remodeling projects were designed by Murray architects, Joe Ruben and Art Pasker, who worked on several district projects. This new gymnasium was the only structure to be retained when the school was replaced in 2003.

Murray High gym, built in1981, remains today.
Murray City Collections

The Work of the Superintendents and the School Board

Superintendent J. Easton Parratt administered more building projects than all of his four predecessors combined. He served twenty-two years as Murray's school superintendent, from 1950 to 1972. After his retirement, he served two terms in the Utah House of Representatives, where he supported legislation to improve education in the state. Boyd F. Jensen, who served on the Murray Board of Education, remembers that Superintendent Parratt "was well organized, well respected, well liked. He was approachable and outgoing. He was very experienced in education and was confident."[257]

On May 12, 1972, the Murray Board of Education appointed Dr. Richard H. White superintendent of the Murray City School District.[258] At meetings with the board in August and September, Dr. White presented an outline of goals for the district described as "management by objectives," which was accepted by the board.[259] Superintendent White also proposed that a Needs Assessment Study be supported and conducted by a local university and the State Office of Education. A committee to oversee the study was named. It was composed of one board member, four citizens, and representatives chosen from among the district's teachers, administrators, and students. Circumstances, however, dictated that Dr. White would be unable to see the Needs Assessment Study completed. In a meeting held on October 4, 1972, the president of the school board, Richard Evans, announced that "Superintendent Richard H. White had resigned for personal reasons and the resignation would be sent to the board in writing."[260]

On December 19, 1972, Glen C. Oldroyd was appointed Superintendent of the Murray City School District. Glen Oldroyd had gained the confidence of the district's educators while serving as acting superintendent following Superintendent White's resignation. The Needs Assessment Study recommended three priorities for the development of district students: 1) good character and self respect, 2) pride in work and a feeling of self worth, and 3) skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.[261] Under the leadership of Superintendent Oldroyd, the district instituted a vigorous in-service training to accomplish these goals. This period of the school district's history might be described as the era of educational acronyms because of the numerous programs created. Administrators attended summer workshops in the areas of Management by Objectives (MBO) and Instructional Development Institute (IDI). Teachers were given training in setting goals and developing instructional materials using programs such as Life Involvement Models (LIM) and the state-wide Utah's Systems Approach to Individualized Learning (U-SAIL) designed to meet the individual needs of each child.

Superintendent Oldroyd developed numerous community outreach programs during his tenure. He launched a campaign for better public relations,
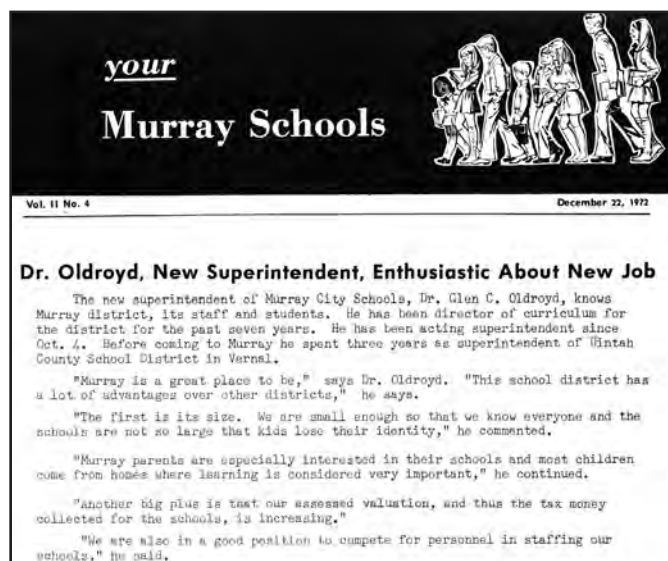
Early version of *Your Murray Schools* district newsletter, 1972.

which included a newsletter entitled "Your Murray Schools" that was sent to every home in the district. During this period, the Community School, a cooperative venture between the schools and city encouraging the use of school facilities after hours by residents, was expanded and a full-time program manager was employed. Among the most popular activities were the swimming lessons and Open Plunge at the Murray High School indoor pool. Superintendent Oldroyd was head of the Murray City School District for fourteen years beginning in December 1972 until his retirement on July 1, 1986. Boyd F. Jensen, who also served on the board during the Oldroyd administration, was very impressed by Glen C. Oldroyd. "His ability and desire was to serve the people. He was a genuine soul. You just loved the guy."[262]

Because the district remained small, the Murray Board of Education was responsive to the needs of the district at many different levels. They carefully considered the pros and cons of each annexation proposal. In 1996, school board president Mildred Horton was concerned about the district's ability to absorb incoming schoolchildren and suggested that "a lot of people said that's why they moved to Murray because we are probably one of the few [districts] that are lucky enough to have the same city boundary and same school."[263] A year later, her successor as president, Sherry Madsen, stated that her chief concern regarding annexation was "the district has worked hard to reduce class sizes, and [I believe] the board has made a firm commitment to parents to improve teacher-to-student ratios."[264] The Murray Board of Education also studied several proposals for school district consolida-

tion. For example, the board spent considerable time studying a report produced in September 1981 titled a "Five District Study of Fiscal Implication of Reorganization, Jordan, Granite, Murray, Salt Lake City and Davis School Districts." The board ultimately agreed with the report, which concluded that there were "financial and other reasons for Murray to oppose consolidation with either Jordan or Granite."[265]

At the other end of the spectrum from these significant issues of annexation and consolidation, the school board routinely made decisions regarding the welfare of individual students. The board considered numerous cases of releasing high school students for work study, alternate course work, and disciplinary or truancy problems. The board members also dealt with individual transfers in and out of the district. The school board was responsible for granting permission to parents wishing to home school their children and providing guidance to obtain approved curriculum materials. In the 1970s, the Murray City School District had two alternative high school programs: a contract with the Master Academy in Midvale, and the Young Mothers program housed in the old gymnasium at Hillcrest Junior High School. The board terminated its agreement with the Master Academy in 1987.[266] By that time, the Young Mothers program had evolved into a Career Development

The Young Mother's program was housed in the old HJH gymnasium. Courtesy Murray City Collections

Program where students were "encouraged to either complete their high school training or to gain a marketable skill."[267]

A sampling of the decisions made by the board during this period illustrates the group's influence over nearly every aspect of student life. For example, in the spring of 1973, the board was concerned with the high rate of absenteeism associated with the beginning of deer hunting season. The board voted to let students out half-a-day on Friday with a whole day off the following Monday. Superintendent Oldroyd voiced the concern of the board in the following statement: "We hope that parents will cooperate with us and help us to keep their children in school during the season."[268] That same year, the board flirted with issues of censorship when the members appointed a "book-screening" committee to review literature used in the high school English classes. After a delegation of students, teachers and parents opposed the policy, the board agreed that the committee would "not screen books in advance [but] would act only upon a written complaint from a parent."[269] In the late 1970s, the board reaffirmed their commitment to holding board meetings in various schools around the district.[270] The school district had special education programs in all of the elementary schools, with gifted/talented programs at McMillan and Longview. Bilingual education specialists were located at Arlington, Liberty, McMillan, Hillcrest Junior High and Murray High School.[271] Decisions made for the high school level ranged from holding the 1971 graduation ceremony at the Ken Price ballpark, implementing revised graduation requirements from the Utah State Board of Education, and in 1980, raising the student activity and yearbook fees to $15 and $12 respectively.[272] Many decisions were minor but reflected changing times, such as the installation of a salad bar at Murray High School in 1978.

Connecting to a Wider Community

One of the most significant changes to education in this period was the introduction of television sets in the classroom. Prior to this time, media viewing in the elementary schools was usually limited to a school-wide showing of perennial movie favorites such as Disney's entertaining and educational "Donald Duck in Mathmagic Land." High school English classes at Murray High School watched and discussed the first broadcast of Sesame Street in the fall of 1969.[273] Within a few years, the district's kindergarteners were also watching the popular show. Educational programs on television and videocassette also became important teaching resources. During the Vietnam War, Murray's student population did not protest, but watched the events closely because they anticipated that many of their classmates would be drafted soon after graduation. Many students wore the immensely popular POW/MIA bracelets with the names of captive or missing soldiers.[274] Watching television coverage of national events such as the Watergate Scandal helped connect the students to a wider community.

The Murray High Class of 1970 made a lasting contribution to the school when they commissioned a statue of "The Spartan Man" by Avard Fairbanks, a Utah-born sculptor with an international reputation. By that time, the boys' organization had become the Spartan Men's Association (SMA) and the girls were organized as the Murray Associated Girls (MAG). In 1975, all Murray schools participated in the local community council food drive.[275] Amassing a collection of canned goods and other nonperishable foods became an annual event at each Murray school. This tradition continues to the present. Another tradition that linked students to the community was the annual mock Murray City elections, held at Murray High

MHS Spartan Statue, donated by the Class of 1970.
Murray Schools Archives

Choral director, William Johnson, organized the first
school madrigals, 1962 - 1963. Murray High School yearbook.

School, and the associated event where the "elected" students took over the jobs of city officials and employees for a day.[276]

The Murray City School District joined the nation in celebrating America's Bicentennial in 1976. The high school presented "George M", a musical based on the life of George M. Cohen. They also prepared and performed a special concert. The elementary school programs were titled "This is My America" at Longview, "American We Love Thee" at Parkside, and "The Spirit of '76" at McMillan. Viewmont Elementary decorated a "Spirit of '76" Christmas tree in honor of the Bicentennial.

Under the direction of William Johnson, the high school choral program was organized into the A cappella and Madrigal choirs. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Murray High choirs were invited to perform in the Salute to Youth program and with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Leland Flinders, another long-time choir director, motivated his students with travel to out-of-state competitions. He also organized the Bell Choir in the mid-1980s.[277] The Murray High Marching Band (with accompanying baton twirlers and, later, flag teams) performed regularly in parades and at college homecoming games. The high school began producing famous Broadway musicals in the early 1970s with "Brigadoon" as the first. Nick Pond directed a production of "Kiss Me Kate", which won *Show of the Year* from among several area schools.[278] Dramatics, debate, journalism, and creative writing continued to be an important part of the school curriculum. In 1967, a school literary magazine was titled "Spartacus." In the early 1970s, a modern dance company was organized at the school, and eight girls selected from the Booster Club became an elite drill team, the Spartonians, each sporting a uniform with a letter spelling out SPARTANS. MHS debaters earned numerous state and regional titles between 1981 and 2000.

Brent VanKampen (center) directed the Murray High
Marching Band, 1968. Murray City Collections

Murray High was officially organized as a 3A school along with Uintah, Union, Carbon, Cyprus, Tooele and Judge by the Utah High School Activities Association in 1976.[279] Over the years, Murray High has won a number of state championships in various athletic competitions, including four baseball titles between 1979 and 1993 and a near-dynasty in swimming championships in the 1980s and 1990s. The 1975 varsity football team became the 3A state champions. The cross county team won six consecutive state titles between 1980 and 1985.

Murray's winning teams practiced on the field under the watchful eyes of Colonel Sanders, whose face looked down at the school from the tallest of the smelter's defunct smokestacks. The Colonel's 30-foot high head was painted on the stack in the 1960s as part of an advertisement for Harmon's Café, the first Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise in the nation. The smokestacks were demolished on August 6, 2000 to make way for retail development and a new hospital.[280] Climbing to the top of the tallest smokestack was one of the unofficial traditions of the Murray High students, but only for a few of the bravest (or most foolhardy) souls. A more prole-

tarian tradition was "draggin' State," in other words, cruising up and down State Street. Depending on individual curfews, drivers might stay within Murray City's boundaries, or travel all the way from the Sears parking lot at 800 South to Jordan High School at 9400 South. Draggin' State gave Murray students the opportunity to socialize with peers from schools throughout the valley.

Smelter smokestacks with Harmons Cafe logo.
Murray City Collections

Though not as diverse as during the smelter's operation, the Murray community still welcomed newcomers. During the suburban boom period between the 1950s and 1980s, surnames such as Montoya, Lee, and Taeoalii, appeared on the school rolls, as American-born and immigrant families of Hispanics, Asians, and Pacific Islanders chose to make Murray their home. One example is the Gallegos family, who moved from New Mexico to Murray in the early

1950s, after the father got a job with Kennecott Copper. Although there was some initial resistance from a few neighbors, the family was eventually accepted in their suburban neighborhood. Nevertheless, Mary Ann Gallegos remembers that her parents felt pressured "to always have the cleanest house, tidiest yard, and most well-behaved children."[281] In contrast, their five girls always felt accepted at school and were high academic achievers.

Unlike earlier ethnic groups, these new Murray residents did not live in enclaves, but were integrated into the various suburban neighborhoods and came from a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Many of their children attend Murray schools today. The school district continues to value diversity and has a strong English as a Second Language (ESL) program to help the children of immigrants. Today, Murray students come from all over the world, including, after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, a few students with Eastern European names reminiscent of those who came a century earlier to work in the city's smelters.

As early as the 1950s, Murray families hosted foreign exchange students who came to Utah for their senior year of high school. These students hailed from all around the world. According to Marshall Brinton, international students were often featured at community celebrations and "became a kind of vehicle to accomplish a community togetherness that would have been difficult without such a person."[282] Mr. Brinton also remembered a more short-lived program, the LDS Church Indian Placement Program, which brought "two dozen Indian students into our community school system."[283] As the population of Murray increased, private schools were organized in the area. Two are still operating. In 1955, the Christ Lutheran Church, part of the Murray community

since 1931, built an "eight-grade parochial school" in connection with their new church building at 222 East 5600 South.[284] The Mount Vernon Academy, founded in 1975, provides a K-12 education at its campus at 184 East Vine Street.

The Bonnyview School campus became home for Community Educations programs and the district alternative high school. Murray City Collections

School Closures

One of the most dramatic events in the history of the school district was the closing of the Bonnyview Elementary School at the end of the 1973-1974 school year. The closing of the school corresponded with a decrease in the Murray school population in the early 1970s. The school population reached a peak of 6,514 students in 1969. By October 1973, district enrollment had dropped to 6,027, with only 164 students attending Bonnyview.[285] The low number of students and high maintenance costs for the sixty-three year-old building motivated the decision to close the school. G. Webb Snarr, a former student and principal of Bonnyview at the time, remembered the circumstances of the closing:

Superintendent Oldroyd, in his diplomatic way, met with patrons of the area and explained the alternatives. As soon as the facts were presented the parents could see that by

making the freeway the boundary, about half of the students could be transferred to Viewmont School and the other half could attend Arlington School. Both of these schools had advantages not offered at Bonnyview such as nice media centers, multi-purpose rooms, and better classroom facilities, thus providing better educational opportunities for each child. A plan to bus the students from hazardous areas alleviated many of the parents' fears, and as a result, the transition took place very smoothly.[286]

The Murray City School District continued to maintain the Bonnyview building for use as the Utah Learning Resource Center. When the old gymnasium at Hillcrest Junior High was demolished in 1989, the Young Mothers Program was moved to the Bonnyview School.[287] The old gymnasium had also housed numerous Community Education programs, such as ESL, karate, dance, aerobics, and dog obedience classes. These were moved to various facilities throughout the district. The alternative high school remained at Bonnyview School until it was moved in 1996 to a new building that was constructed adjacent to the district offices. The school district sold the Bonnyview building, but advocated its listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. This, unfortunately, did not protect and under private own-

ership the old Bonnyview School was demolished in 2005.

Enrollment continued to drop slowly until 1980 when the school population reached 4,849. Although school enrollment figures had dipped, the general population of Murray continued to rise, and the city decided to change its form of government. At a special election held on July 28, 1981, the residents of Murray voted to change from a three-member commission to a five-member council form of government and employ a full-time mayor for the first time in the city's history.[288] In the years leading up to this change, the city made plans for a new city hall to replace the current building, a remodeled furniture store, which had housed the municipal offices since 1957. One option considered was the purchase and remodeling of the Arlington Elementary School. City officials approached the school board, who agreed to sell the building to the Murray Redevelopment Agency (RDA) for the sum of $1,625,000. Arlington's prominent location on busy State Street had been a safety concern for many years, but the site appeared ideal for a new city hall. The school closed at the end of the 1980-1981 school year. The city began moving its offices into the remodeled space in the summer of 1982. Although the remodeled build-

The old Arlington School makes way for the new Murray City Hall, circa early 1980s. Murray City Collections

ing is barely recognizable as a WPA-era school, the city was recognized by the Utah Heritage Foundation for the preservation and adaptive reuse of the historic building.[289]

The year Arlington closed its doors, the school enrollment had jumped back to 5,044, marking the beginning of a second school population boom. The increases were mainly due to several large subdivision developments on Murray's west side near the Jordan River on previously undeveloped farmland. By 1979, increased traffic in the area caused several concerned parents to petition the school board for safety measures near the intersection of 5300 South

and 700 West.[290] Although the school board considered more crossing guards, traffic lights and a pedestrian over-pass, they eventually responded by simply building a new school north of 5300 South at 5180 S. 700 West. At a board meeting in February 1981, the name "Horizon" was chosen for the new elementary school from among several suggestions, including the name "Arlington."[291] The architect for the project was Lewis Eric Sandstrom Jr. and Associates, and the contractor was Charles LeBaron Associates. The Horizon Elementary School building was completed in November 1981.

Horizon Elementary School, completed 1981. Murray Schools Archives

Part 5: A Tradition of Excellence

Leadership in the Late Twentieth Century

On April 30, 1986, the Murray Board of Education chose Ronald L. Stephens to succeed Glen C. Oldroyd as superintendent of Murray City Schools.[292] At the time, Ronald L. Stephens was the development director for the Weber School District, where he had been a teacher and administrator. He was also a member of the Utah State Legislature. In announcing the appointment, Murray Board of Education President Bruce L. Dibb said, "We are pleased to obtain the services of a man the caliber of Mr. Stephens. He is recognized throughout the state because of his work in school district development."[293]

Superintendent Stephens provided leadership to the Murray City School District through the difficulties of managing growth on the west side of the city in the late 1980s and 1990s. One of the most concerning problems was the complex issue of annexation. Superintendent Stephens attended all of the hearings concerning a 1992 proposal to annex a portion of the Taylorsville-Bennion area just west of Murray's boundaries. The superintendent spent a large portion of his time responding to citizen questions about the annexation's impact on Murray City's schools. He reported that "the people of Murray were opposed to the annexation because they didn't want a general dilution of their services, fire, police, recreation and schools. It was our sense that the school issue became very critical (in the annexation's defeat)."[294] Five years later, during discussion of a proposed annexation of a large section of the Millcreek area north and east of Murray City, a suggestion was made that the "economic solution" to a potential loss of revenue for the Granite School District would be for the larger district, which had about 76,000 students at the time, to simply "assimilate" the smaller Murray City School District, which had approximately 6,800 students. Superintendent Stephens called the suggestion "ridiculous" and responded with this description of the Murray School District: "If we were talking about an entity formed within the last decade that would be one thing. You're looking at an entity that has significant roots that go back many, many decades. You're also looking at an entity that over the years has demonstrated a significant capacity to deliver fine education service."[295]

In the 1980s, the school-age population of Murray shifted to the west with overcrowding at the schools located west of the railroad tracks, while eastside elementary schools, such as Longview and McMillan, had room to spare. One year, the school board gave parents living within certain boundaries some school choice options.[296] Because of several large subdivisions built west of 700 West in the mid-1980s, Riverview Junior High was over-crowded and the school experienced a severe textbook shortage.[297] Meanwhile, enrollment at Hillcrest Junior High began to decline and the school board responded by shifting the boundary for junior high attendance to the line of the I-15 freeway.[298]

The new development was mostly located within the boundaries of Viewmont Elementary School, and by 1985 the school was given two modular mobile units, known as portable classrooms. The school board and affected community members began discussing implementing a year-round schedule under the leadership of the principal

of Viewmont at the time, Richard R. Tranter.[299] The school board voted to put Viewmont on a year-round schedule in June 1987 and made plans to upgrade the physical facility. For example, installing air conditioning became necessary because school would now be held during the summer months.[300] Teachers from the Jordan School District, which had numerous schools on a year-round schedule, offered to help Viewmont teachers make the transition by providing lesson plans. Rob Freeman, principal of Viewmont by the time year-round school was implemented, reported that "teachers are happy with the year-round schedule and enjoy the breaks the year-round school provides"[301] The Murray Board of Education had anticipated changing two other schools to a year-round schedule, but the district's growth did not match projections. The board "decided one school on the different schedule was not efficient."[302] They voted to restore Viewmont to a traditional schedule in January 1991 and returned to the former options of boundary changes, portable classrooms, and busing.

By the mid 1980s, a changing world meant that the Murray Board of Education had to grapple with tough issues such as AIDS. It did so by adopting an AIDS policy for the district, as well as approving age-appropriate curriculum material for the students.[303] Concurrent enrollment classes began in the district in the late 1980s and have grown from one math class to nearly 40 concurrent courses. CTE (Career and Technical Education) studies include academic general education courses, as well as many career and technical education options. The computer age also transformed the school district as a trickle of computers in the classroom in the late 1970s became a flood by the mid-1980s. The board funded numerous remodeling projects to facilitate classroom computer use and created new technology centers,
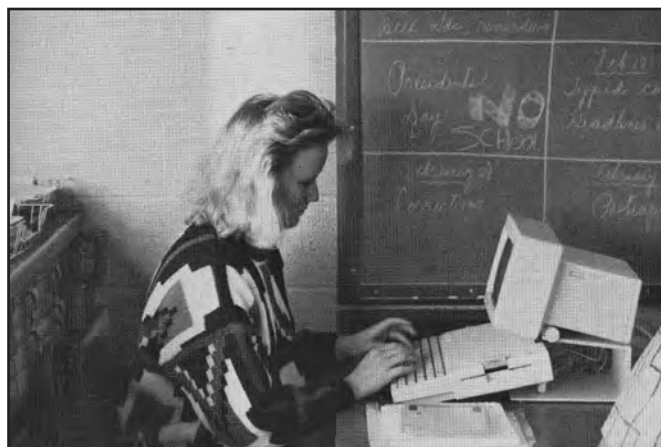
Computers come to MHS. 1983 Murray High School yearbook

or computer labs, at the junior and senior high schools.[304] In 1986, the school board voted to have a computerized system of report cards.[305] A year later, computers were also used to kept track of attendance and scheduling. Richard Tranter, who was principal of Murray High between 1988 and 1997, remembers that the Murray City School District was "ahead of the game" on issues of technology. The district was one of the first in the state to have phones and computers in the classrooms, and funding computer labs was always a high priority.[306]

Throughout the history of the Murray City School District, principals were regularly rotated in the schools every few years. Long-time educator, G. Webb Snarr, described his work in the Murray school system:

> I was made principal of the Liberty School [in 1944]. And that turned out to be a teaching principal as you can well imagine 'cause there were six grades with one class in each grade level. I taught there for 16 years. By that time, we had classes all over the hall, in the nooks and crannies and the school had to be divided and a new school was made in the Grant School area. I was made principal of the Grant School when it opened and was there for 14 years. [then] at Bonnyview, [then] five years as math specialist, making a

total of 41 years that I served in the Murray City Schools.[307]

During his long tenure, Principal Snarr saw many changes in the school system, including concern over a lack of discipline. He remembered when threatening the district with a lawsuit became fashionable:

> From then on I think that everybody that had any kind of problem wanted to sue about it so the principal's hands were tied, the teacher's hands were tied as far as discipline was concerned. The teachers and the principals were never right if the child got home first with the story . . . . that's what ruined discipline in the classrooms. At least, that is my thinking.[308]

Another challenge was the retention of experienced teachers and administrators. In the mid-1980s, the State of Utah offered an early retirement opportunity for educators. Beck Sheffield, who was principal of Longview at the time, remembers that "so many administrators retired that year. I went from being the youngest principal in the district to the oldest." [309] About the same time, the Murray Board of Eduction increased the district's mandatory retirement age to 70, and a year later eliminated the age requirement.[310] A testimonial to Murray's success in attracting and retaining highly-qualified educators is reflected in the high number of recipients of the Golden Apple, an award for excellence in education sponsored by the Utah PTA. Many other outstanding professional recognitions have been awarded to district educators, including the Huntsman Excellence in Education Award.

Strong support by the PTA has long been a part of the Murray school system. Because the individual school associations were so active, the Murray City School District became its own regional unit, Region 19, on September 26, 1985. Today, PTA volunteers at Murray schools perform a myriad of tasks, including teacher support, vision-hearing screening,

tutoring, book fairs, carnivals, teacher appreciation, and organizing Reflections, a nationwide PTA sponsored competition for student art projects. School community councils, made up of representatives from administration, faculty and parents, were also organized around the same time to provide support and problem solving in each school. The Murray School District Foundation was established in 1981 as a fund-raising organization for the district.[311] One of the first goals of the Foundation was raising money to purchase new uniforms for the Murray High School Marching Band. This goal was accomplished in 1983.[312] Due to chronic under-funding, the number of fund-raising projects taking place in most public school systems had increased dramatically. The education writer for the Deseret News praised the Murray City School District's efforts to control the problem:

> I think the Murray Board of Education should be applauded for strengthening its fund-raising policy. The board let the schools, PTAs and parents know in no uncertain terms that elementary school children cannot be sales agents in fund-raisers. The board suggested that the proper vehicle for fund raising is the non-profit Murray School District Foundation, the district's fund-raising arm, which is headed by educators, community and civic leaders and school representatives.[313]

The Foundation is currently known as Murray Education Foundation (MEF). The Foundation and the Murray City School District have reached out to the business community to help support schools. For decades, local businesses have donated thousands of dollars each year in scholarship money for Murray's graduating seniors. One of the district's most successful projects was the completion of the Kennecott Nature Center in September 1999. The environmental center consists of a 1,600 square-foot classroom

Kennecott Nature Center student field trip, circa 1999.
Murray Schools Archives

and observation deck nestled in the wetlands of the Jordan River Parkway. Started with a generous donation from the Kennecott Corporation, the Nature Center was the result of an exemplary collaborative effort of the Murray City School District, Murray Education Foundation, Murray City, and other community donors.[314]

Within a few years of the closing of Bonnyview and Arlington, attention was focused on the district's oldest school still in use, Liberty. After many discussions, it was determined that the cost of renovating the 1905 building was prohibitive. The board agreed to demolish the old building and construct a new wing. The architectural firm of FFKR was appointed to design the addition in 1987.[315] The old Liberty School was demolished in June 1988 after many

years of service as a classroom block, the Parent Resource Center, and the Community Ed Dance program. All that remains of the original Liberty School is the bell housed in the foyer of the current school. Long-time school district employee Lewis Pike remembers that in 1972, his sixth grade year, he was one of "two responsible boys" selected to climb the ladder and ring the bell to signal the start of school.[316] According to one news story, the Liberty Elementary School bell last rang in the tower to mark a neighborhood Fourth of July celebration.[317]

Original Liberty School bell, currently housed in the school.
Liberty Elementary Archives

An Era of Achievement

On July 1, 1998, Superintendent Ron L. Stephens retired from the Murray City School District. His twelve years as superintendent were spent improving the district's facilities and educational programs. In announcing his retirement, Superintendent Stephens summed up the strengths of the Murray school system: "As I look back, I don't think of it as a hard job. There were many factors I was fortunate to inherit: the size of the school district, a cooperative school board and a good partnership with Murray City."[318]

Superintendents Ron Stephens and Richard Tranter at a Board of Education meeting. Business Administrator Tim Leffel also pictured, circa 1998. Murray Schools Archives

The Murray Board of Education selected Richard R. Tranter, a former student in the Murray school system and long-time educator in the district, to succeed Ron Stephens. Of Murray, he said, "This place is so dear to my heart. Loyalty and vision take on a different perspective when you grow up here."[319] Mr. Tranter began teaching at Longview Elementary in 1982. He became principal of Viewmont Elementary in 1985, and later served as assistant principal and then principal of Murray High. Of the Murray City School District, he stated:

> I am honored to serve as superintendent of one of the finest districts in the state. I am continually impressed with the dedication and commitment of our school board, teachers, administrators and classified staff. It is truly a team effort to make the pieces fit to create the best educational experience for our young people. I am also delighted to be part of a community that supports its children and plays a significant role in our programs and activities.[320]

Under the leadership of Superintendents Stephens and Tranter, many important achievements have been realized for the Murray City School District, its schools, faculty administration, and students.

In 1986, the Murray City School District was honored as one of "America's 25 Best School Systems" by *Women's World* magazine. The magazine article noted the high level of representation and support provided by the school district stating, "Parents, teachers, and high school students in Murray City, Utah, serve on an advisory board to the school principals. A Parent Resource Education Center has books and videocassettes to help parents with the problems of raising children."[321] Murray High School was honored in a 1992 *Redbook* magazine article, which listed it as one of 140 top innovative schools in America. Of note was a program started in 1989 "that sent teachers to the homes of all new students to meet with the parents."[322] Due to an increased enrollment, the high school was not able to sustain the program indefinitely, but still continues an outreach program that connects the school to the families of at-risk students.

Another program aimed at at-risk students was a new alternative high school, built at 179 E. 5065 South, adjacent to the school district offices. In December 1996, students and faculty of the district's alternative high school moved from the former Bonnyview School to the new building, which was named Creekside High School. The $1.8 million facility included eleven classrooms, a computer room, media center, snack bar, offices and a nursery for the children of single mothers.[323] The school served between 100 and 150 students a year. In 2005, the Murray School District concluded that too many student resources were concentrated at Creekside, resulting in missed opportunities for early identification of at-risk students. The district chose to spread more of Creekside's services, such as counseling and tutoring, to the junior highs, Riverview and Hillcrest, and Murray High. "Most kids end up in alternative

Creekside Alternative High School, built 1996.
Murray Schools Archives

schools because they are so far behind in credit," Superintendent Tranter said. "We want to go into the seventh grade and implement programs to identify struggling learners as they come out of our elementary schools, and implement programs to deal with these students to help get them on track so they do not fail."[324] The school continued to serve a smaller number of students who would have difficulty in the traditional high school setting. Additional support for troubled kids, such the Summit Program for seventh and eighth graders, was the result of collaboration between the Murray City School District and the nearby Murray Boys and Girls Club.[325] In addition to more support at the junior highs, counselors were assigned to each elementary school.

In 1990, the Murray Board of Education worked with Murray City and the Murray Library Board on site selection for a new public library for the city to replace older structures on Vine Street and 6100 South. The school board agreed to consider allowing the city to build on a portion of the Hillcrest Junior High grounds.[326] The agreement between the parties included a long-term lease with the school district receiving $39,000 to relocate an existing baseball diamond. The new Murray Library was open to the public in September 1992.[327] The Vine Street Library was sold to the Mount Vernon Academy, and the former library at 73 W. 6100 South became the school district's Early Childhood Education Center, housing a community pre-school and the Head Start program.[328]

Murray City Library 1992, built on Hillcrest JH grounds.

Through the years, Murray City and the Murray City School District have formed a strong partnership to provide recreation opportunities for the community, such as swimming, ice skating, sports fields for soccer baseball teams. The city sponsors several art contests and events, as well as school tours of the city's history museum and a living-history presentation at the city cemetery. During the financial crunch of the 1990s, many of the district's music programs were moved from in-school to before or after-school, but still with strong community support.

Throughout the 1990s, the Murray Board of Education undertook a number of facility projects. During the 1996-1997 school year, part of the district's $33.1 million budget was spent on remodeling projects at Liberty, McMillan, and Longview. The Murray High locker room was also improved, as were parking facilities at the junior high schools. Technology upgrades were a high priority. Technology centers were built at Hillcrest and Riverview.

Murray High School received updated computers in its media center and writing lab. The budget also included a $250,000 allocation for classroom size reductions.[329]

Accountability for the public education system has always been important to the Murray City School District. When the State Board of Education mandated new statewide Stanford Achievement Tests to be taken in the fifth, eighth, and eleven grades, the Murray Board of Education was so confident that the district's resources were sufficient for the new challenge that the board voted to make no changes to existing curriculum and programs.[330] In 1994, the nation's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, was re-authorized in the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA). This nation-wide effort to reform education included greater accountability for the Title I programs for disadvantaged students, increased funding for bilingual education and educational technology, and recognition for Safe and Drug-Free schools. Murray High School was an early recipient of the Drug-Free status, a national program for which Murray was recognized at a ceremony in the Rose Garden by the President of the United States, George H. W. Bush.[331]

The school board successfully implemented many state mandates; one was school choice, which in the early 1990s, gave parents the opportunity to enroll their children in a school outside of their neighborhood boundaries if the requested school was not already at capacity. Since school choice policies were instigated, Murray has always had more requests for transfers in than out of the district. Since 1995, the Utah Board of Education 180-day/990 hour attendance rule has been the basis for the Murray City School District calendar.[332] Murray High School and Longview Elementary were the first Murray schools to be awarded Centennial School status, a special program designed to motivate improvement in individual Utah schools prior to the state's centennial celebration in 1996.[333]

One measure of Murray's success as a school district is its test scores. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, students at Murray City schools tested near or above performance levels on the state-required core curriculum tests, such as the Stanford Achievement Test and Criterion Referenced Tests. Around this time, a concentrated effort was also made to strengthen ACT test-taking skills and the AP programs at the high school level. Academic achievement is rewarded in each school through honor roll recognition. At Murray High, scholarship is recognized by the National Honor Society, Sterling Scholars, the 30+ Club (to be a member of this club, a student must score 30 or higher on the ACT test) and the Renaissance

Murray High School "Burning M" tradition.
2001 Murray High School yearbook

Association. The Murray Rotary Club continues to annually recognize the Top Ten scholars at Murray High School and schools present awards funded by the long-standing Clove Trust Fund, in recognition of various academic achievements.[334]

Excellence in teaching has been recognized by Murray Board of Education members in an annual "Teacher of the Year Award" for every school. Val Church, a retired administrator in the Murray School District, wrote the following description of the faculty at Hillcrest Junior High, where he served as principal for fourteen years:

> The strength of Hillcrest Junior High School was a strong faculty with a core of career teachers who were dedicated to excellence. They were many of the state's best educators who spent their entire career teaching school. The school always received strong community support in my experience and I always felt well served not only as an educator but as a parent.[335]

The majority of Murray residents would agree that the same sentiment could be applied to the faculty of any school in the Murray City School District.

Traditions to Remember

Traditions in the Murray City School District have changed throughout the years, but some are burned clearly into a collective memory. Ask any former Murray student over the age of forty and they will remember the Robinson carols. They remember singing them together, as Webb Snarr did. "We'd have all the schools come together and sing these carols. It was peculiar to Murray—nobody else had it."[336] For the younger students, each school has its own collection of traditions to recall. Sharon Weiss, who worked with nine principals during her time as secretary at Grant Elementary School, said, "Traditions would sometimes come and go with each change in administration, but they were always important."[337] At Grant, one of the highlights of the year is the Halloween Parade, where the students insist on singing a particular song "Who's Behind That False Face?" as they parade through the halls. The parade leaders are the office staff who begin with the kindergarteners and pick up each grade while parents line the halls and crowd the multi-purpose room. For many years, the office staff wore coordinated costumes, including one year with a *Harry Potter* theme where Mrs. Weiss dressed-up as the "Portrait of the Fat Lady" complete with pink dress and frame.[338]

One principal, Hal Madsen, brought his interest in square dancing to each school where he served. During his tenure as principal of Viewmont Elementary, he started a Square Dance Festival. After he was moved to McMillan in 1972, he continued the festival and started a clogging group for the sixth-graders, many of whom won competitions. The Square Dance Festival was also popular at Parkside Elementary and later Horizon just before his retirement.[339] Many of the outdoor traditions at Parkside, such as the annual Field Day, are tied to its proximity to Murray Park and the Little Cottonwood Creek. One unofficial tradition at Parkside occurred on the last day of school when seventh and eight-grade alumni returned to throw selected sixth graders into the creek.[340] Principal Madsen remembers the activity was never condoned by the administration and that the creek was always a concern. He also remembers standing at the front door of the school in the spring flooding of 1983 and watching the waters of the creek rise to the base of the school's flagpole.[341]

Longview Elementary's annual Shakespeare Day has been a tradition at that school for the past ten years. Every sixth grader participates, performing vignettes from the Bard's most popular plays for the

Longview Elementary Shakespeare actors, 2007.
Murray Schools Archives

Students do the cooking at the annual Riverview Junior High
Dutch Oven Cook-Off, 2007. Murray Schools Archives

entire school. Shakespeare Day is the culminating event of a sixth-grade curriculum unit on the Renaissance period.[342] In most Murray schools, the students look forward to new traditions as they move through each grade level. At McMillan Elementary, a sample of annual events includes the first-grade Nutcracker performance, second-grade Grandparent Day and third-grade Murray history presentations.

One tradition at Horizon Elementary inspired a book. Third-grade teacher Bev Labrum began holding a Teddy Bear Week with picnics and parades for her students and their favorite stuffed animals. One year, a young boy gave her his teddy bear because he was moving and couldn't take it with him. Bev Labrum stills has the bear and wrote a book "One Small Gift" based on the experience.[343] Students at Viewmont Elementary have a unique tradition of singing and clapping to the VISTA chant before each assembly held at the school. At Liberty Elementary, a popular tradition is the bike rodeo and barbeque.

Riverview Junior High students have had a number of important traditions over the years, including a Dutch Oven Cook-Off. The seventh grade participates in a school Olympics, the eighth grade has a Civil War

Day, and the ninth grade enjoys Renaissance Day. Hillcrest Junior High's prominent location on State Street, proximity to the high school, and large auditorium make it a natural venue to host community events. One year, in conjunction with the PTA sponsored Red Ribbon Week (a drug and violence-free program), the school held a drug awareness conference for Murray families.[344] A rivalry involving the two junior high schools evolved into competitive events in the 1970s and 1980s as the Riverview Rebels and the Hillcrest Gladiators participated in activities culminating in an annual Spirit Week.

Murray High School Arts Fest flyer, 2007.

As Spartans, Murray High students participate in a myriad of traditional activities, such as the Spartan Spectacular, Arts Fest, and the traditional burning of the "M" for Homecoming Spirit Week. One tradition is a red carpet assembly for state champions. In recent years, championships have included dual titles for the boys' and girls' swim teams (1987), track (1998), boys' tennis title (1990), boys' soccer (2001), girls' tennis title (2005), boys' swim title (2006) and, for the first time since 1931, the basketball title in 1996. Through the years, the students have participated in a number of community support projects. In 1987, they raised $3,800 to improve the school's courtyard.[345] That same year, Murray High students participated in a salvage operation after an explosion destroyed the Don Blair Photography Studio, a Murray business that had taken nearly all of the yearbook pictures since the school was established.[346] The wood shop students began a unique project which involved designing and building a home from the ground-up. The first "Spartan House" was located at 5374 S. Hillcrest Drive, just west of the school. It was completed and sold in 1995 for a private residence.[347] Spartan Houses continue to be built and sold in the same manner. Murray High School made national headlines in 1997, when the students elected Shellie Eyre, a senior with Down's Syndrome, to be Homecoming Queen, and April Perschon, also a disabled student, was chosen to be one of the queen's attendants.[348]

On January 4, 1996, all of Murray's schools sponsored activities celebrating the centennial of Utah's statehood. A banner which read: "Happy Centennial Birthday Utah, 100 Years!" was displayed at every school while students ate birthday cake. The fourth grade classes performed the play "Utah, This is the Place." In the winter of 2002, Murray schools participated in an international event: the Winter Olympics. Murray hosted athletes from all over the world at the Salt Lake County Ice Rink, a practice venue. Changes were made to the year's curriculum to highlight the Olympic spirit. Students received tickets to attend events for both the Olympics and Para-Olympics, and some Olympic athletes were guest speakers in classes and assemblies.

Homecoming Queen, Shelly Eyre, 1997.
Courtesy Deseret News

Murray Schools celebrated the Olympics with dance festival performances at Murray High School, circa 2002.
Murray City Collections

Part 6: A Legacy of Learning In the 21st Century

Challenges in the New Century

The start of the twenty-first century brought new challenges to the Murray City School District. The anticipated Y2K computer glitch, or Millennium Bug, was not one of them. As one of the first school districts with a presence on the Internet, Murray had to deal with a minor, but aggravating computer problem, the need to shorten the spelling of Murray to "mury" in order to avoid restrictions on the length of file names. As technology advanced, the school district was able to create the "murrayschools.org" moniker for web access and employee email addresses. Creating individual websites for each school and providing online access for grades and attendance was an important goal for the Murray City School District. Community outreach has also included online newsletters and expanded coverage in the monthly *Murray Journal* newspaper.

Accountability in public education was again the theme of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, commonly known as NCLB. The law reauthorized a number of federal programs designed to improve the performance of the nation's primary and secondary students by increasing the standards of accountability for states, school districts and schools, as well as providing parents more flexibility in choosing which schools their children will attend. An improved focus on reading was one of the main provisions of the law. On May 3, 2005, in a spirit of independence, not unlike that found in Murray's school system, Utah became the first state in the nation to enact a law allowing the state's school districts to ignore provisions of the law that conflicted with the state's education programs.[349] Compromises at both the state and federal level allowed the state to retain federal funding, while still maintaining the state's accountability program, called the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS), the standard for school district performance since the year 2000. Murray's students consistently test between 75 and 85 percent proficiency on the U-PASS exams.[350] Graduating seniors are also required to pass the Utah Basic Skills Competency Test (U-BSCT). Three-quarters of Murray High students pass the U-BSCT tests on the first try.

Almost half a century after separating the junior and senior high schools, the Murray City School District was forced to take a hard look at the high school. The facilities had failed several engineering evaluations for safety and efficiency, meaning, as Superintendent Tranter noted that after fifty years of use, "Murray High was unsafe, and poorly planned with eleven additions."[351] In October 1999, the Murray Board of Education selected an eleven-member citizens building advisory committee to study conditions at Murray High. After five months of study, the committee recommended constructing a new high school and demolishing the old school, with the exception of the gymnasium addition, which was built in 1981. The school board then made the decision to ask voters to support $29.5 million in general obligation bonds, amounting to a $65 increase for every $100,000 of property value. The election was held on May 2, 2000, and the bond measure passed by an over-whelming majority of 77 percent of Murray voters.

The new 2003 Murray High School under construction and design. Murray Schools Archives

The new school was sited to the east, in front of the old building. The architectural firm of Naylor, Wentworth and Lund and contractor Hogan and Associates Construction were able to work around existing classrooms to complete the project in two years. The main classroom block was three stories tall rather than the typical two stories, due to the constraints of the available land. The new Murray High School was state-of-the-art and innovative. Separate climate control for each classroom was available through a geothermal loop heating and cooling system, for which there are no boilers, coolers, or heating ducts. The design of the school provided natural light in almost all of the classrooms, an extra bank of lights for white boards, and a fiber optic network with wireless Internet access. Wireless Internet access is also available in the commons area, where large windows provide students with natural light and a picturesque view of Mt. Olympus. Specialized classrooms included a science suite with seven laboratories and special equipment for photography, art, television production, shop and home economics. Acoustic classrooms were built for instrumental and choral instruction, along with a dance studio and a little theater. The new auditorium has a seating capacity of 1,150, with additional space for an orchestra pit and scenery storage.[352] A second gymnasium was built for the athletic department, as well as weight and wrestling rooms. The swimming pool was not rebuilt; instead, school swim teams train in the new recreation center at nearby Murray Park. The new Murray High School was completed in time for the first day of class on August 25, 2003.

An important concern of the Murray City School District has been school security. Murray City has always been proud of its small-town history and attitude, but residents were shocked, along with the rest of the nation, to hear about events at a small suburban high school in the neighboring state of Colorado. The Columbine High massacre of thirteen students and one teacher by fellow students on April 20, 1999 caused school districts around the country to review their security measures.[353] Superintendent Tranter stated that, "Security is being evaluated constantly. We now have a full-time police officer in the senior high and junior high, with the junior high officers responsible for their feeder elementary schools." The installation of cameras in the high school during the 2003 rebuild was an important advancement in security, along with other measures.

Murray High School Courtyard, 2005. Murray Schools Archives

The tragic events of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent United States' war on terrorism were felt at a personal level. At the time there were four teachers/reservists in the Murray City School District and there was a concern they would be called to active duty. In October 2001, the Deseret News interviewed Jeff Nalwalker, a fourth-grade teacher at Longview Elementary, also serving as a National Guard captain and commander of a field artillery unit, who said, "Most of the kids have asked me about it. I tell them how this is something I had to be prepared for when I joined the military and I know myself and my unit are well-trained . . . and that I'd be proud (to serve)."[354]

Traffic has also been a major consideration of the school district. Increasing numbers of parents are driving their children to neighborhood schools for many reasons: family situations, boundary-crossovers, or the perception of a "scarier world." Superintendent Tranter reported that the district has worked hard to create a "safer environment with pedestrian drop-offs" through recent improvements at Riverview and Hillcrest Junior Highs and at Grant,

Horizon, and McMillan Elementary Schools.

Although the population of Murray has increased in size, there is still a feeling of small town spirit, which is illustrated in how the community values its educators. In 2003, the Murray Education Foundation established the Pinnacle Awards to recognize outstanding teachers, staff members, and parent volunteers.[355] Another distinctive characteristic of the school community is in the area of community service. Since 2000, there has been a marked increase in service-based clubs at Murray High School. Murray students have always been willing to help out in times of crisis. After the disastrous hurricane season in the southeastern United States in 2005, some schools had Hurricane Katrina fundraisers. Students at McMillan Elementary were particularly successful, raising $43,000, including a donation from Beach Boy Brian Wilson, who called the school during a beach-themed party to celebrate their success with them.[356]

In response to the many challenges of the new century, the Murray City School District and the Murray Board of Education have strived to fulfill

Murray students collected money for Hurricane Katrina victims, 2005.
Murray Schools Archives

their mission "to work in partnership with families and community in the education of our youth in a changing society.[357]

The Strength of a Small School District

Public sentiment on the optimal size of a school district has always fluctuated. In 1987, a report on the "Benefits of Murray City School District Remaining as an Autonomous District" was prepared for the Murray Board of Education. The report gave four reasons for retaining the district's autonomy: a favorable tax rate, a low bonded indebtedness, an excellent ratio of representation, and sustainable school populations. The report appraised the situation in Murray with these two sentences:

> The sense of pride and community realized by Murray residents in having their own high school and neighborhood schools is difficult to over emphasize. If consolidation were to take place, Murray would be a very small addition to a very huge district whose interests and needs may or may not be that of this community.[358]

Over the years, many who have experience in the Murray school system would disagree that the district is not the optimal size. Principal Webb Snarr stated, "I think Murray is an ideal school district because it is not overwhelming. . . It is just the right size. Of course, I'm prejudice." At the same time, Principal Snarr acknowledged some of the challenges of a small district:

> To the question: what do you think you could have done with even better financing, we would have had more up-to-date textbooks and things like that. More facilities to work with. There wasn't too much in the way of visual aids and that sort of thing. You were continually juggling to get enough money in Utah for each child. We did very well, compared to the amount of money we had to work with. Murray is a good place to live."[359]

Boyd Jensen, who served on the Murray Board of Education in the 1970s and 1980s, said, "Murray in my opinion, was a good school district because it was a small district so the board members had to be responsive. We had 5,500 to 6,000 students. But parents could be heard and that is important."[360] Christy Buyk, a teacher in the district for the past eleven years, lives outside Murray's boundaries. She points to the frequent superintendent visits in each school as one of the reasons she chose the Murray school system for her employment and the education of her children, stating, "It feels as though you are known."[361] When asked about the size of the district, Superintendent Tranter has concluded, "It is an excellent size" adding, "any smaller would be a challenge." He suggested the greatest strengths of the districts are its "relationship to the city; parental communication and family feeling, an attitude that we work together."[362]

Marshall Brinton, a former school board member, described closeness within the district and a fierce independence:

> We had what I feel, a good relationship because we were community oriented . . . they knew their principal. He lived with them

as one of their neighbors and the smallness of the community and the pride in the community grew out of that desire to make the community grow . . . Yes, Granite and Jordan said: "Hey, look, there is no reason why you should have a separate superintendent—you have only one high school. We have 5 or 6. We can absorb one more [easily] than you." But Murray was determined to remain independent.[363]

This independence has been noted in all aspects of Murray's city life. "Murray has always gone its own way, boasting not only police and fire departments, but its own school district, parks, library system and power and water utilities."[364]

In 2003, the Murray City School District was confronted with the possibility of absorbing hundreds of students and three schools located within an east-side annexation because of a "no choice" state annexation law, which allow residents of unincorporated portions of the county to be annexed into adjacent municipalities if the neighborhoods met certain criteria. Murray City gladly accepted the newly annexed neighborhoods. The Murray and Granite School Districts "participated in a discussion" and came to a mutual agreement that the students at Cottonwood High School, Twin Peaks Elementary, and Woodstock Elementary, should remain under the control of the Granite District.[365] This marked the first time that the boundaries of the city did not match the boundaries of the school district. If a recently proposed school district is created for the cities of Holladay and Cottonwood Heights, those three Granite schools would be isolated and their fate, as well as the size of the Murray City School District would most likely need to be debated again.

Since landmark legislation passed in the early 2006 allowing larger school districts to split into smaller ones, debate has raged over the creation of smaller districts, and how to establish them in a way that would best serve the students and the community.[366] While Salt Lake County's larger districts continue to be a subject of scrutiny, the Murray district has continued to focus on its primary purpose which is, quite simply, education. Superintendent Tranter has been justifiably proud of the accomplishments of the school district in recent years, including a coordinated K-12 curriculum, a high number of reading and ESL specialists, and an inclusion policy that provides programs for special needs students in each neighborhood school. The district can also point to a high number of out-of-boundary students who are attracted to the school district and take advantage of the state school choice provisions.

Superintendent Richard Tranter visited schools
during 2006 Centennial events.
Courtesy Deseret News.

Celebrating a Century of Learning

In honor of the 100-year anniversary of the Murray School District, the district and community held numerous events. Superintendent Richard Tranter visited each of the elementary schools to talk about how Murray has grown. Students ate birthday cupcakes as part of the presentation. A special joint

celebration was held at Liberty Elementary, which was also celebrating its 100th anniversary along with the district. The school bell, the only remnant of Liberty's first one-room schoolhouse, was rung to begin the celebration.[367] To commemorate its centennial year, the district sponsored a design contest for a float to represent Murray in several summertime parades. The winning entry was described as a "wavy-fish float" titled "Hooked on Generations of Learning." It combined the district's centennial theme, "A Legacy of Learning," and the July 24th Parade theme, "Pioneer Dreams; Stepping

Award winning float designed by Murray students, 2006.
Murray Schools Collections

Stones for Generations."[368]

The Murray City School District has come a long way from its early beginnings of approximately 950 pupils in 1906, the year the district was formally organized. For the 2006-2007 school year, the district had a total enrollment of 6,254, divided between 1,450 senior-high students, 1,559 junior-high students, and 3,245 elementary students. The district continues to be governed by a five-member elected Board of Education, and supported by teams of dedicated administrators, teachers, and support staff.

On the question of the optimal size for a school district, the answer appears to be around 6,000

students, at least for the Murray community. A progress report on the school district published in 1939 by the *Murray Eagle*, gave this glowing description of the city's schools:

> The board of education has established a progressive modern education system in Murray and has provided school buildings, curriculum, facilities and a teaching staff designed to train the children of Murray to be efficient citizens of the community, state, and nation. Local residents can be very proud of their school system.[369]

Though school enrollment numbers may rise or fall in the future, the residents of Murray will continue to be proud of their school system because the strength of Murray schools is found ultimately not in quantity, but in quality. The legacy of the Murray City School District is based on a century's worth of traditions: traditions of excellence, traditions of achievement, traditions of independence, but more importantly, traditions of community. These are traditions that will continue to serve the Murray City School District into the next century and beyond.

Into the Next Century of Learning

Since the 100 year anniversary of the Murray City School District in 2007, Murray schools continue to move forward in keeping up with educational trends, the changing needs of students and staff, and the constant demand for upkeep and updating of schools and facilities. On June 26, 2012, the voters of Murray passed a bond for $33,000,000 for the purpose of replacing the Hillcrest Junior High School (the original Murray High School and Murray Junior High), and some seismic upgrades on other schools in the district. The bond passed with a 68% margin and a record voter turnout, showing that community support in this new century of the Murray City School District is alive and strong.

The new Hillcrest Junior High School location is moved just a little to the east of the old building at the slightly different address of 178 East 5300 South, still facing 5300 South but with the fields placed west of the school, rather than east as they were at the old site. The groundbreaking took place on June 10, 2013, with a Final Walk-Through of the school for interested patrons and community members on June 24, 2015. The old building is scheduled to be demolished at the end of August into early September. The date for an Open House for the brand new Hillcrest Junior High School is August 6, 2015 with the entire community invited to a Dedication Program at 6:30 PM. Students begin their first day in the new school Friday, August 21, 2015.

Just as the world continually changes, so does the Murray City School District. However, traditions, and the commitment of a great community with long-held values and connections continue on strong and true in support of this great little school district, located right in the heart of the Wasatch front in Murray, Utah!

Architectural renduring of Hillcrest Junior High School.

REFERENCE

SCHOOLS OF MURRAY
Schools are listed in order of opening dates.

Pre-Murray City School District Schools in the Murray area

District #24 School

1873 (near the railroad tracks at 6100 South)

District #25 School

1874 (approximately 5000 South State)

Winchester School

1893; replaced District #24 School, renamed Liberty 1906

West Side School

1895; also known as White School; renamed Pioneer School 1906

Central School

1899; replaced District #25 School, renamed Arlington 1906

Early District Schools:

Pioneer School
5200 South 300 West
Built: 1895 as West Side or White School
Renamed Pioneer School: 1906
Closed: between 1906 and 1911 when Bonnyview School opened
Principals: unknown

Arlington School
5025 South State Street
Built: 1899 as Central School replacing District #25 School
Renamed Arlington School: 1906
Rebuilt: 1939
Closed: 1982; became Murray City Hall 1982
Architects: Scott & Welch
Contractor: Enoch Chytraus

Principals:
Gideon Mumford   1905-1906
R. E Davidson   1906-1908
C.E. Gaufin   1908-1912
E. E. Boggess   1912-24
Arden B. Olsen   1924-1926
Ralph Hayward   1926-1927
Elmo McMillan   1927-1959
Estel Campbell   1959-60
Dr. John Prpich   1960-73
Beck Sheffield   1973- 1978
Lysle Tuckfield   1978-1982

School Song:
Arlington, Arlington, good ole' school,
Proud of our city and nation too,
Teaches us the "Golden Rule"
Arlington, oh Arlington our good ole' school!
Fight on; fight on, for the blue and white

Our spirit's right, our spirit's bright
We know what's right.
So come lads and lassies, come join our fun,
Through storm and sunshine we'll all fight on,
And we'll shout hip, hip, hooray for Arlington. Yeah!

School Colors: blue and white
Mascot: eagle

Bonnyview School
4984 South 300 West
Built: 1911
Closed: 1974
Alternative High School: 1989-1996
Demolished: 2005
Architect: Liljenberg and Sundberg
Brickwork: Matthew Gibbs
Carpentry: Paul A. Lietz

Principals:
Mae G. Scott   1911-1931
Alma Crane   1931-1954
Vere McHenry   1954-1958
Estel Campbell   1958-1959
Val Church   1960-1961
Keith Jex   1961-1964
Hal Madsen   1964-1967
Kent Anderson   1967-1971
Beck Sheffield   1971-1973
G. Webb Snarr   1973-1974
Shauna Ballou   1989- 1996

School Song: (attributed to Mae G. Scott)
On a sloping hillside, near a winding creek
Stands our dear old school house
Where we knowledge seek (or where we love to meet)
Bonnyview, Oh Bonnyview, our dear old school
Ever will love thee, keep every rule.
Bonnyview, Oh Bonnyview, where ever we roam
Memories will love thee, our home sweet home.

Soon the years will hasten us in different ways
But we'll still remember those bright happy days
Bonnyview, Oh Bonnyview, our dear old school
Ever will love thee, keep every rule.
Bonnyview, Oh Bonnyview, where ever we roam
Memories will crown thee, our home sweet home.

Retired District School:

Creekside School
179 East 5065 South (Myrtle Avenue)

Built: 1996
Closed as Alternative High School: 2006
Retired: 2015

Principals:
Shauna Ballou   1989- 2003 (beginning at Bonnyview)
Jennifer Krantz   2003-2006

Existing Murray City School District Schools:

Liberty Elementary School
140 West 6100 South

Original structure built: 1893 as Winchester School; replacing the 1874 District #24 School
Renamed Liberty School: 1905
Additions: 10 rooms 1957; 5 classrooms, office, gym 1964
Old section demolished: 1988

Principals:
John A. Austin   1907-1909
E. E. Boggess   1909-1912
Milo L. Rowan   1912-1919
E.M. Isaacson   1919-1923
Elmo McMillan   1923-1927
Varian Mortenson   1927-1937
Earl Smith   1937-1944
G. Webb Snarr   1944-1959
Fred Rowland   1959-1960
Lysle Tuckfield   1960-1976
Gail Miles   1976-1983
Rob Freeman   1983-1987
Stan Mackay   1987-1988
Brent Bateman   1988-1997
Marilyn Prettyman   1997-2003
Connie Amos   2003-2010
Darren Dean   2010-2014
Natalie Stouffer   2014-Present

School Song: (written by Shari Iverson circa 1990s)
Liberty Leopards we'll be true to you
Showing school spirit in whatever we do
The friends we've met we won't forget
they're true and loyal.
Liberty our hats are off to you.
Teachers and students all work side by side.
We'll always remember our alma mater.
Liberty, our elementary school!

School Colors: blue and white (formerly orange and brown)
Mascot: Liberty Leopards

Hillcrest Junior High School
178 East 5300 South

Original structure built: 1911 as Hillcrest School
126 East 5300 South
Originally served: 1-8 grades; 1913-16 changed
to 7-12 grades
Architects: Liljenberg and Sundberg
Brickwork: Matthew Gibbs
Carpentry: Mill Company

Hillcrest Junior High School
(New structure, east of old buildings)
Rebuilt: 2015
Architects: Naylor Wentworth Lund Architects
Contractors: Hughes General Contractors

Hillcrest School Principals:
Jean E. Heiges 1911-1913
Alice Stevens   1913-1916
Renamed: Murray High and Junior High,
1916-1954
Renamed: Murray Junior High, 1954-1960
Renamed: Hillcrest Junior High during
1960-61 school year

Principals:
LaRue Winget   1954-1956
Arthur Bishop   1956-1958
Alma Crane   1958 – 1961
Fred Rowland   1961-1972
Val Church   1972-1986
Tom Price   1986 - 1991
Dee Jensen   1991-1997
Carolyn Schubach   1997-2003
David Dunn   2003-2009
Jennifer Covington   2009-Present

Murray Junior High School Song:
Murray Junior High the school we all know
So willingly and faithfully to our dear school our
love we show
As we stand to the test our class is the best
Our colors will always fly for our dear Murray
Junior High

Hillcrest Junior High School Song:
(Tune of "Hey Look Me Over", circa 1970s)
Hey look at Hillcrest, look at the best.
We're the Gladiators, ready for the test.
We will be faithful, loyal and true.
For Hillcrest is the school we love,
especially the white and blue.
When school days are over and we've gone our
ways,
We'll still remember the good old Hillcrest days.
It's the school we know, the school we love,
The school we hold so dear.
Let's hear it for Hillcrest, with a cheer.

Murray Junior High school colors:
orange and black
Hillcrest Junior High school colors:
royal blue and white (originally powder blue)
Hillcrest Junior High mascot: Gladiator

Murray High School
5440 South State Street

Original location: east side of State Street
around current Hillcrest Junior High location
Rebuilt: 1954 west side of State Street
(built 1911 as Hillcrest School)
Current building completed: 2003
Naylor Wentworth Lund Architects
Hogan and Associates Construction

Principals:
James E. Moss   1917-18
C.E. Gaufin   1918-1924
A. Allen Bateman   1924-1928
C.H. Anderson   1928-1933
A.B. Taylor   1933-1937
E.V. Mortenson   1937-1960
Bryce Bertelson   1960-1973
Ray H. Oliverson   1973-1988
Richard R. Tranter   1988-1997
Dee Jensen   1997-2004
Scott Bushnell   2004-2011
David Dunn   2011-2014
Dr. John Goldhardt   2014-Present

Original School Song:
Once again here as school mates assembled,
We fain would lift our hearts in song.
To our High School, our dear Alma Mater,
Let gladness and moments prolong,
We are proud of our lads and our lassies,
Of honors won in days gone by,
So here's a cheer for our old high school,
Our dear old high school, our Murray High

Soon for us will the school days be ended,
The dreams of youth that fade so fast;
But we know that our hearts oft will ponder
In memory o'er days that are past.
There are joys that will long be remembered.
And friendships, too, that ne'er will die;
And here's a cheer for our old high school,
our dear old high school, our Murray High

Chorus:
Here's to our classes, here's to our lasses,
Here's to the lads they adore;
Here's to the Seniors so mighty,
Juniors so flightly, and to the Sophomores.
Let mirth and gladness banish all sadness,
And as the days go by
You'll find us ready and steady --
Boosting for Murray High

Current School Song: Murray Fight Song
(written by Eva Carson)
Oh when the Spartan team falls into line,
they will make a touchdown (or basket) every time
We will yell, yell, yell for victory,
and on our honor we will sing our praise to thee.
And when the team comes home with another score,
we will cheer them, cheer them all the more.
For we proudly wear the orange and black,
fight on to victory!

School Colors: orange and black
Mascot: Spartans; formerly Smelterites

McMillan Elementary School
315 East 5900 South

Built: 1954 as Hillcrest Elementary, 1960 name change
Architect: Lowell Parish
Contractor: Frederickson Builders

Principals:
Alma Crane   1954-1958
Vere McHenry   1958-1960
Fred Rowland   1960-1961
Val Church   1961-1972
Hal Madsen   1972-1978
Keith Jex   1978-1986
Beck Sheffield   1986-2000
David Smith   2000-2007
Connie Buckner   2007-2011
Jennifer Kranz   2011-2013
Joy Sanford   2013-Present

School Colors: blue and white
Mascot: Mighty Mite (miniature Spartan)

Grant Elementary School
662 West Bulldog Circle (6140 South)

Built: 1959
Architect AIA: Lowell E. Parish
Contractor: Fredrickson Builders

Principals:
Webb Snarr   1959-1973
John Prpich   1973-1983
Gail Miles   1983-1987
Steve Hirase   1987-1991
David Smith   1991-2000
Sundee Listello   2000 Aug-Dec
Connie Buckner   2000-2006
Russell Klein 2007-2012
Matt Nelson   2012-Present

School Song: The Bulldog Growl
Grrr-r-r-r-r-ant! (Roll arms, throw up and
out, finger V)
Hooray! (Hug self, throw arms out again)
Let's ....give...a...Bulldog Growl.
Let's give a Grant Hooray!
We've got the greatest school in the whole U.S.A.

Let's get up and go. Got to get in the game
If we win, its okay, If we lose, it's no shame
It's how we play that counts, so give it the
Great Grant Bounce!
And lose or win, Hey we're IN!
Grab your grin, up with your chin

Grrr-r-r-r-r-ant! (Roll arms, throw up and out, finger V)
Hooray! (Hug self, throw arms out again)
Let's ....give...a...Bulldog Growl.
Let's give a Grant Hooray!
We've got the greatest school in the whole U.S.A.

School Colors: blue and white
Mascot: Grant Bulldog

Riverview Junior High School
751 West Tripp Lane (5755 South)

Built: 1961
Cannon and Mullen Architects
Contractor: Culp Construction Company

Principals:
Vere McHenry   1961-1965
Ray Oliverson   1965-1973
Stanford Mackay   1973-1988
Clayne Poulsen   1988-1991
Al Church   1991-1998
Deborah Sorensen   1998-2003
Shauna Ballou   2003-2009
David Dunn   2009-2011
Jim Bouwman   2011-Present

School Song:
We are the Rebels, this is our song
Riverview Rebels, mighty and strong.
We'll stand proud with dignity
While shaping our destiny.
We are the Rebels, we're not afraid
Riverview Rebels, we'll make the grade
Future leaders we will be,
So onward to victory! Yeah! School

School Colors: red and white (formerly red and grey)
Mascot: Riverview Rebels

Longview Elementary School
6240 South Longview Drive (560 East)

Built: 1962
Architect: Bruce J. McDermott
Contractor: Maurice Romney Company

Principals:
Elmo McMillan/Verl Myrick   1960-1961
Estel Campbell   1961-1967
Keith Jex   1967-1978
Beck Sheffield   1978-1986
Martha Kupferschmidt   1986 - 1991
Marilyn Prettyman   1991-1997
Karen O. Johnson   1997-1998
Dr. Janice Evans   1998-2003
Betsy Hunt   2003-2006
Richard A. Forsyth   2006-2010
Connie Amos   2010-2014
Chad Sanders   2014-Present

School Song: Jonathan Kirk, music and lyrics; arranged by Minnie Lowe, circa 1984
We are the Longview Lynxes, We are the best!
We are the Longview Lynxes, Forget all the rest!
We are the Longview Lynxes, We pass every test!
 So let us shout out with pride for our school.
Our principal and teacher, too, We stand united in everything we do!

We are the Longview Lynxes, We are the best!
We are the Longview Lynxes, Forget all the rest!
We are the Longview Lynxes, We pass every test!
So let us shout out with pride
And let's stand side by side
As we shout out with pride for our school.

School Colors: black and yellow
Mascot: Longview Lynx

Viewmont Elementary School

745 West 5720 South (Anderson Avenue)

Built: 1964
Architects: Bruce J. McDermott and Associates
Contractors: Acord-Whiting Construction Co.

Principals:
Keith Jex 1964-1967
Hal Madson 1967-1972
Verl Meyrick 1972-1976
Lysle Tuckfield 1976-1978
Estel F. Campbell 1978-1985
Richard Tranter 1985-1987
Robert Freeman 1987-1989
Don Johnson 1989-1994
Carla Hunt 1994-1997
Melinda Snow 1997-2003
Darren Dean 2003-2010
Margaret Young   2010-2015
Missy Hamilton   2015-Present

School song:
Oh, we're the Viewmont Eagles, Proud to say we are,
Yes, we're the Viewmont Eagles, bound to travel far.
Honor and pride we'll claim, for we are going to win life's game.
Cause we're the Viewmont Eagles, Proud to bear that name.

Oh, we're the Viewmont Eagles, going to win the game.
With colors of black and red, you know that Eagles will be ahead.
Oh, we're the Viewmont Eagles, Proud to say we are.
Yes, we're the Viewmont Eagles, Bound to travel far.

School Colors: red and black
Mascot: Viewmont Eagle

Parkside Elementary School
495 East 5175 South

Built: 1967
Architect: Bengt F. Anderson
Contractor: Atlas Construction Company

Principals:
Estel Campbell 1967-1978
Hal Madsen 1978-1986
Keith Jex 1986-1987
Steve Smith 1987-1990
Carolyn Schubach 1990-1996
Jennifer Kranz 1996-1997
Brent Bateman 1997-2006
Jennifer Kranz 2006- 2011
Colleen Smith   2011-Present

School Song:
We are the Parkside Panthers, Parkside Panthers,
the school that deserves a round of hip, hip, hip, hooray!
Yes sir we're Parkside Panthers, Parkside Panthers,
the best school that you can go to in the USA.

The principal, the teachers, the students, we're the best
Our motto is, "what ever we do, we do our best with zest."
Each person is important that's why our school's first rate
Our spirit's strong at Parkside, so our future will be great! Rah, rah, rah!

We are the Parkside Panthers, Parkside Panthers,
The school that deserves a round of hip, hip, hip, hooray!
Yes sir we're Parkside Panthers, Parkside Panthers,
The best school that you can go to in the USA.

School Colors: blue and white
Mascot: Parkside Panther

Horizon Elementary School
5180 South 700 West (Glendon Street)

Built: 1981
Architect: Lewis Eric Sandstrom, Jr. and Associates
Contractor: Charles LeBaron Associates

Principals:
Lysle Tuckfield 1982-1984
Dr. Janice Dunoskovic-Evans 1984-1986
Hal Madsen 1986-1987
Dr. Colleen Colton 1987 Aug-Dec
David Smith 1987-1991
Dr. Martha Kupferschmidt 1991-1998
Karen O. Johnson 1998-2003
Dr. Randy Honaker 2003-2006
Tracy Sjostrom-Martinez 2006-2007
Dr. Martha Kupferschmidt 2007-2011
Heather Nicholas   2011-Present

School Song: lyrics by Margaret Marshall, music Beverley Labrum, 1980
We've come from North, south, east, west All 'round the town.
We have the best school anywhere
We're known as Huskies and our colors are ture
We pull together; we show our friends we care.
As you enter the halls of Horizon
You will feel the warm spirit of our school.
We'll always stand for the right using courage and might
We want to practice and live the Golden Rule.
We've come from north, south, east, west All 'round the town.
We have the best school anywhere
So come on Huskies, stand up - Let's give a cheer
Horizon School you're the best! We do declare! Yeah!

School Colors: grey and maroon
Mascot: Horizon Husky (puppy)

Murray City School District Offices
5094 South Commerce Drive, Murray, UT 84107

Built: 1960
147 East 5065 South (old location)
Close: 2015 (fall)
Architects: Cannon and Mullen
Contractors: Security Construction Company

New MCSD Offices
5094 South Commerce Drive, Murray, UT 84107
Built: 2015
Architects: MHTN Architects, Inc.
Contractors: Hughes General Contractors

Murray City School District Office Staff 2015:

Administration
Dr. Steven Hirase – Superintendent
Scott Bushnell – Assistant Superintendent, Teaching & Learning & CTE
Darren Dean – Director, Personnel & Student Services
Richard Reese – Business Administrator
Dr. Martha Kupferschmidt – Director, Teaching & Learning
Connie Buckner – Director, Teaching & Learning
Kelli Kercher – Supervisor, At-Risk Programs
Rock Boyer – Supervisor, Support Services
Jill Burnside – Teacher Specialist, Teaching & Learning

Department Coordinators
John Nielson – Technology
Rod Pace – Buildings & Grounds
David Trujillo – Child Nutrition Program
D. Wright – Communications & Public Information

Administrative Support Staff
Lisa Adair – At-Risk Secretary
Janet Buonocore – Maintenance & Transportation Secretary
Tricia Drake – Executive Secretary to Superintendent, Community Ed
Shannon Hoff – Secretary Teaching & Learning, CTE
Sharon Knapp – Receptionist District Office
Julie Lawrence – Secretary Child Nutrition Program
Randi Leffel – Accounting Technician/Benefits
Denise McDougal – Administrative Assistant, HR
Debbie Otteson – Accounts Payable/Payroll & Purchasing
Lewis Pike – Warehouseman
Shanda EchoHawk – School Nurse

Technology Department
Joel Kjar – Systems Engineer
Kristi Hankins – Administrative Support Specialist
Braden Cooper – Technology Specialist II
Brady Nielsen – Technology Specialist II
Frank Sherman – Technology Specialist II

APPENDIX B:

MURRAY BOARD OF EDUCATION HISTORY

MISSION STATEMENT

Under the direction of the Murray Board of Education, the mission of the Murray City School District is to work in partnership with the community in the education of youth in a changing society.

2015 MURRAY BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Mitzie Huff, President
Precinct 1, northwest Murray

Cristin Longhurst, Vice President
Precinct 4, central Murray

Kami Anderson
Precinct 2, southwest Murray

Belinda Johnson
Precinct 3, northeast Murray

Marjorie Tuckett
Precinct 5, southeast Murray

Board Member History

*Indicates Board President
(This list does not reflect specific months on any mid-term transitions.)

1905 – Organizing Board of Education: James Godfrey, chairman; Henry W. Brown, clerk; Joseph C. Cahoun, treasurer
1906 – Henry W. Brown, Joseph C. Cahoun, John A. Jones, *Michael McMillan, Orson Sanders
1907, 1908 – Henry W. Brown, D. F. Cahoun, John A. Jones, *Michael McMillan, Orson Sanders
1909 – D. F. Cahoun, John A. Jones, D. A. McMillan, F. D. Rugg, *Orson Sanders
1910 – D. F. Cahoun, John A. Jones, D. A. McMillan, U. G. Miller, F. D. Rugg, *Orson Sanders
1911, 1912, 1913 – D. A. McMillan, U. G. Miller, W. H. Rothwell, F. D. Rugg, *Orson Sanders
1914, 1915, 1916 – James H. Gilbert, D. A. McMillan, U. G. Miller, *Orson Sanders, Thomas M. Warnock
1917 – Milton Jones, Thomas Martin, *U. G. Miller, Orson Sanders, Thomas M. Warnock
1918 – Phil Benz, Milton Jones, *Thomas Martin, Orson Sanders, Thomas M. Warnock
1919 – Phil Benz, Martin Christensen, Milton Jones, Thomas Martin, *Orson Sanders
1920 – Phil Benz, *Martin Christensen, Milton Jones, Thomas Martin, Orson Sanders
1921 - *Martin Christensen, Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, W. H. Rothwell, James Sabine
1922 – N. L. Jensen, David D. Lester, Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, *James Sabine
1923 – N. L. Jensen, David D. Lester, *Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, James Sabine
1924 – N. L. Jensen, *David D. Lester, Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, James Sabine
1925 – N. L. Jensen, David D. Lester, Thomas Martin, *Sarah E. H. Moffat, James Sabine
1926 – *N. L. Jensen, David D. Lester, Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, James Sabine
1927 – David D. Lester, Thomas Martin, John McCloy, Sarah E. H. Moffat, *James Sabine
1928 – David D. Lester, *Thomas Martin, Sarah E. H. Moffat, Ivy C. Towler, George H. Watts
1929 – Carl C. L. Hansen, *David D. Lester, W. H. Linnell, Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1930 – Carl C. L. Hansen, David D. Lester, W. H. Linnell, *Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1931 – Carl C. L. Hansen, David D. Lester, W. H. Linnell, Sarah E. H. Moffat, *George H. Watts
1932 – *Carl C. L. Hansen, David D. Lester, W. H. Linnell, Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1933 – Carl C. L. Hansen, *David D. Lester, T. F. McDonald, Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1934 – Carl C. L. Hansen, T. Ray Kingston, *David D. Lester, Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1935 – Carl C. L. Hansen, T. Ray Kingston, David D. Lester, *Sarah E. H. Moffat, George H. Watts
1936 – Carl C. L. Hansen, T. Ray Kingston, David D. Lester, Ernest Smith, *George H. Watts
1937 – *Carl C. L. Hansen, T. Ray Kingston, David D. Lester, Ernest Smith, George H. Watts
1938 – Carl C. L. Hansen, *T. Ray Kingston, David D. Lester, Ernest Smith, George H. Watts
1939 – W. Douglas Allen, George Doran, *David D. Lester, Ernest Smith, George H. Watts
1940 – W. Douglas Allen, George Doran, David D. Lester, *Ernest Smith, George H. Watts
1941 – W. Douglas Allen, George Doran, David D. Lester, Ernest Smith, *George H. Watts
1942 – *W. Douglas Allen, George Doran, McLloyd Kilpack, David Lester, Ernest Smith
1943 – W. Douglas Allen, *George Doran, McLloyd Kilpack, David Lester, Ernest Smith
1944 – W. Douglas Allen, F. T. Duvall, McLloyd Kilpack, *David D. Lester, Ernest Smith
1945 – W. Douglas Allen, F. T. Duvall, McLloyd Kilpack, David D. Lester, *Ernest Smith
1946 – W. Douglas Allen, F. T. Duvall, *McLloyd Kilpack, David D. Lester, Willard O. Olson
1947 – *W. Douglas Allen, F. T. Duvall, McLloyd Kilpack, David D. Lester, Willard O. Olson
1948 – *F. T. Duvall, McLloyd Kilpack, David D. Lester, Willard O. Olson, Val Sundwall
1949 – McLloyd Kilpack, *David D. Lester, Willard O. Olson, Lawrence P. Parry, Val Sundwall
1950 – McLloyd Kilpack, Lawrence P. Parry, *Willard O. Olson, Charles Rodman, Val Sundwall
1951 – Dolly B. Gaufin, *McLloyd Killpack, Lawrence P. Parry, Charles Rodman, Val Sundwall
1952 – Wendell C. Day, Dolly B. Gaufin, Lawrence P. Parry, Charles Rodman, *Val Sundwall
1953 – Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, *Lawrence P. Parry, Albert Robinson, Paul S. Rose
1954 – *Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Lawrence P. Parry, Paul S. Rose
1955 – Wendell C. Day, *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Lawrence P. Parry, Paul S. Rose
1956 – Victor L. Brissell, Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, *Paul S. Rose
1957 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, *David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1958 – Victor L. Brissell, *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer

1959 – *Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1960 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, *Herbert G. Spencer
1961 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, *David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1962 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, *Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1963 – *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1964 – Earl J. Healy, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, *Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1965 – Earl J. Healy, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1966 – Earl J. Healy, *Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1967 – Bruce J. Parsons, Paul S. Rose, *Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1968 – Bruce J. Parsons, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, *Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1969, 1970 – Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Bruce J. Parsons, Kenneth V. Simper, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1971 – Eldon Burgess, John R. Evans, *Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1972 – *John R. Evans, Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1973 – J. Dale Ahlberg, John R. Evans, *Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1974 – J. Dale Ahlberg, John R. Evans, Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1975 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1976 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1977 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, *Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1978 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, *Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1979 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1980 – J. Dale Ahlberg, *George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1981 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1982 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1983, 1984 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *George I. Brown, Bruce L. Dibb
1985, 1986 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, George I. Brown, Bruce L. Dibb
1987 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, *Laura S. Baker, George I. Brown, Bruce R. Cutler
1988 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *George I. Brown, Bruce R. Cutler
1989 – Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson
1990 – *Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson
1991 – *Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1992 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, *Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1993 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, *Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1994 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, *Earl Townsend
1995, 1996 – *Mildred V. Horton, Leslie Komatsu, Sherry Madsen, Rex Maughan, Earl Townsend
1997, 1998 – Mildred V. Horton, Leslie Komatsu, *Sherry Madsen, Rex Maughan, Earl Townsend
1999, 2000 – Laura S. Baker, *Mildred V. Horton, Sherry Madsen, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson
2001, 2002 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, *G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2003, 2004 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, G. Lloyd Naylor, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2005, 2006 – Laura S. Baker, Mitzi Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2007, 2008 – Laura S. Baker, *Mitzi Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
1999, 2000 – Laura S. Baker, *Mildred V. Horton, Sherry Madsen, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson
2001, 2002 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, *G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2003, 2004 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, G. Lloyd Naylor, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2005, 2006 – Laura S. Baker, Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2007, 2008 – Laura S. Baker, *Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2009, 2010 – *Laura S. Baker, Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2011, 2012 – Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2013, 2014 – Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2014, 2015 – Kami Anderson, *Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, Marjorie Tuckett
1952 – Wendell C. Day, Dolly B. Gaufin, Lawrence P. Parry, Charles Rodman, *Val Sundwall
1953 – Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, *Lawrence P. Parry, Albert Robinson, Paul S. Rose
1954 – *Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Lawrence P. Parry, Paul S. Rose
1955 – Wendell C. Day, *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Lawrence P. Parry, Paul S. Rose
1956 – Victor L. Brissell, Wendell C. Day, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, *Paul S. Rose

1957 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, *David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1958 – Victor L. Brissell, *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1959 – *Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1960 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, *Herbert G. Spencer
1961 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, *David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1962 – Victor L. Brissell, Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, *Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer
1963 – *Earl J. Healy, David B. McCleery, Paul S. Rose, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1964 – Earl J. Healy, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, *Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1965 – Earl J. Healy, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1966 – Earl J. Healy, *Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1967 – Bruce J. Parsons, Paul S. Rose, *Kenneth V. Simper, Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1968 – Bruce J. Parsons, Paul S. Rose, Kenneth V. Simper, *Herbert G. Spencer, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1969, 1970 – Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Bruce J. Parsons, Kenneth V. Simper, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1971 – Eldon Burgess, John R. Evans, *Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1972 – *John R. Evans, Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, E. Varian Mortenson, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1973 – J. Dale Ahlberg, John R. Evans, *Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1974 – J. Dale Ahlberg, John R. Evans, Thayne R. Harris, Vere A. McHenry, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1975 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1976 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Vere A. McHenry, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1977 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, *Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1978 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, *Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1979 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1980 – J. Dale Ahlberg, *George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1981 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1982 – J. Dale Ahlberg, George I. Brown, Thayne R. Harris, Boyd F. Jensen, *Briant S. Stringham, Jr.
1983, 1984 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *George I. Brown, Bruce L. Dibb
1985, 1986 – *J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, George I. Brown, Bruce L. Dibb
1987 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, *Laura S. Baker, George I. Brown, Bruce R. Cutler
1988 – J. Dale Ahlberg, Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *George I. Brown, Bruce R. Cutler
1989 – Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, *Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson
1990 – *Joyce S. Anderson, Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson
1991 – *Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1992 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, *Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1993 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, *Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, Earl Townsend
1994 – Laura S. Baker, Bruce R. Cutler, Sherry Madsen, Margaret Nelson, *Earl Townsend
1995, 1996 – *Mildred V. Horton, Leslie Komatsu, Sherry Madsen, Rex Maughan, Earl Townsend
1997, 1998 – Mildred V. Horton, Leslie Komatsu, *Sherry Madsen, Rex Maughan, Earl Townsend
1999, 2000 – Laura S. Baker, *Mildred V. Horton, Sherry Madsen, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson
2001, 2002 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, *G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2003, 2004 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, G. Lloyd Naylor, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2005, 2006 – Laura S. Baker, Mitzi Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2007, 2008 – Laura S. Baker, *Mitzi Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
1999, 2000 – Laura S. Baker, *Mildred V. Horton, Sherry Madsen, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson
2001, 2002 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, *G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2003, 2004 – Laura S. Baker, Mildred V. Horton, G. Lloyd Naylor, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2005, 2006 – Laura S. Baker, Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2007, 2008 – Laura S. Baker, *Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2009, 2010 – *Laura S. Baker, Mitzie Huff, G. Lloyd Naylor, Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2011, 2012 – Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, *Darrell Pehrson, Marjorie Tuckett
2013, 2014 – Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, Darrell Pehrson, *Marjorie Tuckett
2014, 2015 – Kami Anderson, *Mitzie Huff, Belinda Johnson, Cristin Longhurst, Marjorie Tuckett

APPENDIX C:

MURRAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

Dates indicate length of tenure as District Superintendent.

Gideon M. Mumford
1905-1912

Glen C. Oldroyd
1972-1986

C.E. Gaufin
1912-1928

Ron Stephens
1986-1998

E. Allen Bateman
1928-1933

Richard R. Tranter
1998-2011

James Clove
1933-1950

Steven K Hirase
2011-Present

J Easton Parratt
1950-1972*

*Richard E. White
1972, May to October

APPENDIX D:

MURRAY COUNCIL PTA PRESIDENTS

The purpose of PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school and community. PTA volunteers in Murray schools spend countless hours doing just that. They are a valuable asset to the students and the community.

1934	Vera Wahlquist	1985 – 86	Margaret Nelson
1941 – 42	Dora McMillan	1986 – 87	Mary Ann Kirk
1943 – 44	Ella Mattson	1987 – 88	Judy Dansie
1947 – 50	Ruby Olson	1988 – 89	Kathy Faerber
1950 – 52	Ruth Paulsen	1989 – 90	Judy Baxendale
1952 – 54	Mrs. Burt Hall	1990 – 91	Darlene Evans
1954 – 56	Edrie Peterson	1991 – 92	Mildred Horton
1956 – 58	Norma Morris	1992 – 93	Vicky Mackay
1958 – 60	Christi Greenwood	1993 – 94	Robin Call
1960 – 62	Carol Hutchings	1994 – 95	Cindy Andrews
1962 – 64	Dixie Nelson (co-president)	1995 – 96	Karen Christensen
	Lucille Belnap (co-president)	1996 – 97	Becky Shaw
1964 – 66	Bruce Parsons	1997 – 98	Shauna Johnson
1966 – 68	Loretta Griggs	1998 – 99	Karen Waterman
1968 – 72	Kae Pickard	1999 – 2001	Nancy Carpenter
1972 – 73	Deanna Winger	2001 – 03	Pam Shupe
1973 – 74	Meg Dallof	2003 – 04	Winnie De Mann
1974 – 76	Claudia Ellett	2004 – 06	Debbie Balderidge
1976 – 78	Elaine Judd	2006 – 07	Janet Peadon
1978 – 80	Marge Jackson	2008 – 2010	Tawna Wooley
1980 – 82	Joyce Muhlestein	2011 – 2012	Ranee Scheidell
1982 – 83	Sharon Collins	2012 – 2014	Monica Nevenner
1983 – 84	George Broschinsky	2014 – Present	Amy Johnson
1984 – 85	Vicki Mill		

APPENDIX E:

MURRAY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MEF
MURRAY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
147 East 5065 South   Murray, Utah 84107   (801) 264-7400   FAX (801) 264-7456

About the Foundation:

The Murray School District Foundation was created in 1981 to promote and recognize excellence in Murray schools by encouraging contributions, and building partnerships to enhance education. The name was changed in 1994 to the Murray Education Foundation (MEF), but the purpose has stayed the same as the group continues to find meaningful ways to show recognition and appreciation for outstanding achievement by District educators, classified employees, administrators and volunteers.

Executive Directors:

1981 – 1986	Superintendent Glen C. Oldroyd
1986 – 1988	Superintendent Ron Stephens
1988 – 1992	Toni Geddes
1992 – 1998	Judy Tukuafu
1998 – 1999	Jan Clayburn
1999 – Present	Jeanne Habel

Chairpersons:

1981 – 1983	Robert Killpack
1983 – 1985	Bette J. Cornwell
1985 – 1987	John Robinson
1987 – 1989	Joe Reuben
May-Sept 1989	Debbie Nyedegger
1989 – 1991	Kim Davis
1991 – 1994	Greg Brown
1994 – 1996	W. Henry Pond
1996 – 1998	Mike Dahle
1998 – 2000	Jim Brass
2000 – 2001	Sue Vicchrilli
2001 – 2003	Doug Payne
2003 – 2006	Clare Lang
2006 – 2008	Guy Morris
2008 – Present	Sheila Johnson

APPENDIX F:

MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL
OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Presented by the Murray Rotary Club

Year Awarded	Recipient	Graduation Year
1979	Stan Watts	1928
1980	Don C. Blair	1943
1981	Glen Tuckett	1946
1982	Maurice Watts	1935
1983	Mark O. Benvegnu	1930
1984	Arthur Bishop	1940
1985	Dr. R. Curt Bubel	1943
1986	Dr. Virginia Cutler	1922
1987	Abraham Markosian	1940
1988	Arthur B. Erekson	1924
1989	Dr. J. Roscoe Miller	1921
1990	Marshall K. Brinton	1937
1991	Dr. Richard Wirthlin	1949
1992	Edward J. Ruben	1953
1993	Rohn W. Harmer	1961
1994	Dr. David N. Sundwall	1959
1995	Ann H. Erickson	1950
1996	LaVar C. McMillan	1939
1997	Boyd Jensen	1945
1998	Lynn Pett	1959
1999	David Wirthlin	1953
2000	David Sperry	1962
2001	Teresa Beck	1972
2002	Gerald Lund	1957
2003	Scott H. Clark	1986
2004	Jimmy Gurule	1969
2005	James Walker	1982
2006	Brent Winget	1965
2007	Jaron Soffe	1956
2008	Perry A. Bankhead	1978
2009	Richard R. Tranter	1970
2011	Karen Jackman Ashton	1966
2012	Rhett McQuiston	1988
2013	H. Craig Hall	1968
2014	Donald Snarr	1941
2015	Sherrie Swensen	1966

NOTES

1   Letter from John Berger, in R. R. Rasmussen, *A History of Murray*, (TMs compilation, May 1946). Letters, 14.

2   Vere McHenry, *Fifty Years of Independence: A History of Murray City Schools.* (Unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Utah, June 1954): 8.

3   *Murray Eagle,* September 21, 1939: 2.

4   Letter from Joseph Hibbard, in Rasmussen, Letters, 22.

5   Ibid. James Winchester was an early settler of south Murray. Winchester Street (6400 South) was named for him.

6   *Murray Eagle,* September 21, 1939: 2.

7   *The History of Murray*, (Salt Lake City, Utah: Murray City Corporation, printed by Stanway-Wheelwright Printing Co., 1976): 141.

8   McHenry, 47.

9   *The History of Murray,* 179.

10   G. Wesley Johnson and David Schirer, *Between the Cottonwoods: Murray City in Transition*, (Salt Lake City and Provo, Utah: Timpanogas Research Associates, 1992), 17.

11   John C. Moffitt, "Thirty Years of County Consolidation of Schools," *Educational Administration and Supervision*, 32: 241 (April, 19460. Quoted in McHenry, 38.

12   McHenry, 58.

13   *Laws of Utah Territory,* 1890, Chapter 72, Article 15, p. 110. Quoted in McHenry, 37.

14   McHenry, 48.

15   *The History of Murray,* 180.

16   Wanda E. Pexton, TMs pasted in the *Liberty School Scrapbook*, circa 1941.

17   Robert L. Campbell, *Annual Report of the Salt Lake County Superintendent of Common Schools,* 1873, p. 5. Quoted in McHenry, 44-45.

18   *Deseret News,* January 14, 1874.

19   The schools were officially named the District 24th and District 25th during this period, however there were also local designations, such as Winchester or Murray.

20   Millennial Star, XXXVI, 126. Quoted in S.S. Ivins, "Free Schools Come to Utah," (Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. 22, No. 4, October 1954): 342

21   *American Eagle,* January 29, 1898.

22   *American Eagle,* June 4, 1898.

23   *American Eagle,* July 30, 1898. The notice references both the Murray School House (25th District known as the Murray Central School) and the Liberty School House. It is unclear which building was called the Liberty School in 1898, but it was probably the Winchester School, which was officially designated the Liberty School after a rebuild in 1905.

24   *American Eagle,* January 15, 1898.

25   Quoted in Scott Crump, *The First 100 Years: A History of Jordan School District,* (Sandy, Utah: Jordan School District, 2005): 2.

26   McHenry, 66. There was later some question on the legality of the change. The official census taken in 1905 recorded a population of 5,036, but the official 1910 census taken five years later enumerated a population of only 4,057. Murray historians, G. Wesley Johnson and David L. Schirer, have suggested that census takers counted both incoming and outgoing smelter workers during a traditional time of turnover (See *Between the Cottonwoods,* 19). However, this would probably not account for a difference of nearly 1,000. The difference had not been made up by the 1920 census, which reported a population of 4,584. The discrepancy was never challenged.

27   *The History of Murray,* 180.

28   Ibid.

29   McHenry, 76-77.

30   Ibid, 72.

31   Williams, Clem Turner. Murray City Oral History Project, Interview, 1997: 8.

32   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* May 5-12, 1910: 171-172.

33   *History of Murray,* 146.

34   *Sixth Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,* 1905-1906: 72. Quoted in *The History of Murray,* 147.

35   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* May 15, 1908: 73-74.

36   McHenry, 81-82.

37   McHenry, 79.

38   H. N. Sheranian, M.D, *Odyssey of an Armenian Doctor,* [n.p.], 1970: 35.

39   Ibid, 34, 77. The records of the school board indicate he did not serve his elected term.

40   Gooderham, Marie E., written and compiled by. *History of the Granite School District: 1904-1976,* [Salt Lake City, Utah]: Granite School District, 1977: 30.

41   McHenry, 82.

42   *Tenth Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,* 1913-1914: 252. Quoted in McHenry, 86.

43   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* February 11-April 17, 1914: 329-259.

44   McHenry 91-92.

45   Ibid.

46   Williams, interview: 8.

47   Halliday, Jennie Walker. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997[?]: 4.

48   *Crest,* Murray High School Yearbook, 1918: [24].

49   *Crest,* Murray High School Yearbook, 1918: [24].

50   McHenry, 103.

51   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 13, 1918: 451-452.

52   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 21, 1921: 86.

53   McHenry, 104.
54   *Thirteenth Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,* 1919-1920: 2. Quoted in McHenry, 104-105.
55   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January, July 14, 1919: 29.
56   Ibid, April 8, 1924: 194; McHenry, 96-97.
57   Ibid, January 31-February 4, 1921: 80-81.
58   Snarr, G. Webb, Interview, *Murray Oral History Project,* 1991: 13-5.
59   Ibid, June 14, 1927: 330.
60   *Murray Eagle,* November 17, 1927.
61   *Murray Eagle,* March 20, 1930.
62   *Murray Eagle,* April 17, 1930.
63   *Murray Eagle,* February 2, 1934. Her title is also given as National Associate Chairman of Parent Education of the PTA.
64   *Murray Eagle,* April 22, 1948.
65   Sherman Davies, interview by author, January 12, 2007.
66   *A Murray History Centennial Album,* ([Murray, Utah]; Murray Centennial Book Committee, Murray City Corporation, 2003): 83. See also *Faces of Murray, 1903-2003,* ([Murray, Utah]; Murray Centennial Book Committee, Murray City Corporation, 2003): 157-158
67   David W. Moffat, "Carl Ephraim Gaufin," *The Utah Educational Review,* 22:10, September, 1928.
68   McHenry, 112.
69   LeRoy E. Cowles, *A Survey of Murray Schools,* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Extension Division, University of Utah, 1929: 74. Quoted in McHenry, 113.
70   *Murray Eagle,* September 26, 1929.
71   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* August 19-Ocotber 8, 1929: 422-432.
72   *Murray Eagle,* March 27, 1930.
73   *Murray Eagle,* January 30, 1930.
74   McHenry, 116.
75   *Deseret News,* April 2, 1974.
76   Sullivan, Tui Meehan. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 7.
77   *Deseret News,* April 2, 1974.
78   Casper, Merle Hobbs. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 6-7.
79   Clem Turner Williams, Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 11.
80   Julia Vicchrilli Markham, Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 10.
81   *Deseret News.* April 2, 1974.
82   Mary Vicchrilli Stauffer, Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 9.
83   Casper, Merle Hobbs. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 6-7.
84   Ibid.
85   "Celebrating Murray High School . . . .a rich tradition of honor, education, excellence and community." Murray School District produced newsletter, May 2003: 2.
86   Hennie Beckman Huetter. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 3-5 & 7.
87   *The Crest,* Murray High School Yearbook, 1926.
88   Gooderham, 56.
89   Crump, 22.
90   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January 26, 1932: 34-35.
91   Ibid, March 13-June 27, 1933: 69-81.5
92   *Between the Cottonwoods,* 43.
93   Mary Vicchrilli Stauffer, interview: 8.
94   *Faces of Murray,* 40.
95   Aleen Phinney. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program, TMs, 1991: 12:2.
96   Phinney interview, 12:5.
97   *Murray Eagle,* December 8, 1938.
98   Crump, 23-26
99   Casper, Merle Hobbs. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program. TMs, 1997: 4-5.
100   Brinton, Marshall. Interview, Murray City Oral History Program, TMs, 1991: 1.17-1.18.
101   McHenry, 124.
102   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 14, 1934: 107.
103   *Murray Eagle,* March 19, 1934.
104   McHenry, 142.
105   *Liberty School Scrapbook.*
106   *Minutes of the Murray City School Board of Education,* April 3, 1938:258-260.
107   McHenry, 131.
108   *Twenty-third Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.* 1938-1940: 73. Quoted in McHenry, 134.
109   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* November 14, 1938: 289.
110   *Murray Eagle,* November 10, 1938.
111   *Murray Eagle,* December 22, 1938.
112   *Murray Eagle,* December 23, 1937.
113   *Murray Eagle,* December 19, 1940.
114   *Murray Eagle,* January 11, 1940.
115   *Murray Eagle,* April 4, 1940.
116   McHenry, 135.
117   *Murray Eagle,* January 25, 1940.
118   *Murray Eagle,* December 19, 1940.

[119] Ibid.
[120] *The History of Murray,* 415.
[121] Ibid, 152.
[122] Mary Jenkins Soffe, Interview, *Murray Oral History Project,* TMs, 1997: 5, 11.
[123] *Murray Eagle,* May 5, 1932.
[124] *Murray Eagle,* November 30, 1930.
[125] Sherm Davies, interview.
[126] *Murray Eagle,* April, 19, 1934; April 24, 1924.
[127] *Murray Eagle,* October 12, 1939; April 9, 1942.
[128] *Murray Eagle,* March 5, 1942.
[129] *Murray City School District DVD.*
[130] *Murray Eagle,* May 1, 1930.
[131] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* December 21, 1941-April 13, 1942: 328-410.
[132] Ibid, January 8-March 28, 1945: 469-474.
[133] *Murray Eagle,* September 14, 1939.
[134] McHenry, 143.
[135] *Murray Eagle,* February 18, 1943.
[136] Ibid.
[137] *Murray Eagle,* February 12, 1942; February 19, 1942.
[138] *Murray Eagle,* October 29, 1942.
[139] *Murray Eagle,* November 30, 1944.
[140] *Murray Eagle,* February 12, 1942.
[141] *Murray Eagle,* February 19, 1942.
[142] *Murray Eagle,* September 24, 1942.
[143] *Murray Eagle,* December 17, 1942.
[144] *Murray Eagle,* April 2, 1942.
[145] Aleen Phinney, interview: 12:3.
[146] Ibid.
[147] Sherman Davies, interview.
[148] *Murray Eagle,* May 21, 1942.
[149] *Murray Eagle,* March 13, 1945.
[150] *Murray Eagle,* August 23, 1945.
[151] *History of Murray,* 102.
[152] *Murray Eagle,* December 20, 1945.
[153] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January 9, 1950.
[154] McHenry, 136.
[155] *Murray Eagle,* June 11, 1948.
[156] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 8-July 14, 1948,: 555-571.
[157] *Murray Eagle,* January 14, 1949.
[158] *Murray Eagle,* January 14, 1949.
[159] Ibid.
[160] McHenry, 132.
[161] *Murray Eagle,* June 17, 1949.
[162] *Murray Eagle,* July 1, 1949.
[163] McHenry, 132.
[164] *Murray Eagle,* June 17, 1949 & July 1, 1949.
[165] *Murray Eagle,* January 14, 1960.
[166] *Murray Eagle,* January 14, 1949.
[167] *Between the Cottonwoods,* 62.
[168] Jensen, Boyd F. & Beverly Killpack, *Murray Oral History Project,* 1991: 7:2.
[169] Ibid.
[170] Snarr, G. Webb, Interview, *Murray Oral History Project,* 1991: 13.5.
[171] McHenry, 148.
[172] *Murray Eagle,* August 8, 1957.
[173] Roald F. Campbell and Paul C. Fawley, *Report of an Appraisal of School Sites at Murray, Utah,* (Murray: Utah: Board of Education, 1950): 5-6. Quoted in McHenry, 140.
[174] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* June 23, 1950: 38.
[175] Ibid, November 8, 1950: 58-59.
[176] McHenry, 152.
[177] Ibid, V, Mary 28, 1952: 134-139.
[178] McHenry, 154.
[179] Ibid, 155.
[180] *Murray Eagle,* December 19, 1957.
[181] *Murray Eagle,* January 17, 1957.
[182] *Murray Eagle,* September 18, 1958.
[183] *Murray Eagle,* July 9, 1954.
[184] *Murray Eagle,* October 19, 1954.
[185] *Murray Eagle,* March 19, 1955.
[186] McHenry, 155.

[187] *Murray Eagle,* September 18, 1953.
[188] The use of the adjective "elementary" to describe the primary schools became more common the 1950s.
[189] *Murray Eagle,* September 17, 1954.
[190] *Murray Eagle,* September 10, 1959.
[191] *Murray Eagle,* August 20, 1959.
[192] *Murray Eagle,* July 28, 1955.
[193] *History of Murray,* 157.
[194] *Murray Eagle,* June 16, 1960.
[195] *Murray Eagle,* April 30, 1959.
[196] *Murray Eagle,* April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 1959.
[197] *Murray Eagle,* April 9, 16, & 30, 1959.
[198] *Murray Eagle,* March 10, 1960.
[199] *History of Murray,* 157.
[200] *Murray Eagle,* March 6, 1958.
[201] *Murray Eagle,* April 23, 1959.
[202] McHenry, 156.
[203] *Murray Eagle,* March 3, 1960.
[204] Aleen Phinney, *Murray Oral History Project,* 1991: 12.6.
[205] *Murray Eagle,* January 21, 1960.
[206] *Murray Eagle,* April 21, 1960.
[207] *Murray Eagle,* April 2, 1959.
[208] *Murray Eagle,* April 16, 1959.
[209] *Murray Eagle,* April 28, 1960.
[210] McHenry, 153.
[211] *Murray Eagle,* September 1, 1960. At the time, the street was known as 6th West.
[212] McHenry, 159.
[213] *Murray Eagle,* June 19, 1958.
[214] McHenry, 153-154.
[215] Vere McHenry, interview.
[216] *Murray Eagle,* March 3, 1960.
[217] *Murray Eagle,* August 29, 1957.
[218] *Murray Eagle,* August 29, 1957.
[219] McHenry, 161.
[220] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education.* April 9, 1952: 127.
[221] Ibid, January 26, 1954: 225.
[222] *Murray Eagle,* May 16, 1952.
[223] Ibid.
[224] *Murray Eagle,* November 26, 1954.
[225] *Murray Eagle,* March 19, 1959.
[226] *Murray Eagle,* January 22, 1959.
[227] *Murray Eagle,* March 31, 1960.
[228] *Murray Eagle,* February 4, 1960; March 3, 1960, May 22, 1958.
[229] *Murray Eagle,* May 19, 1950.
[230] *Murray Eagle,* March 24, 1960.
[231] *Murray Eagle,* September 24, 1959.
[232] *Murray Eagle,* July 30, 1959.
[233] *Murray Eagle,* September 15, 1959.
[234] *Murray Eagle,* April 28, 1960.
[235] McHenry, 170.
[236] *Murray Eagle,* December 5, 1957.
[237] *History of Murray,* 160.
[238] Campbell, Kyle Kenyon. Interview by author, 2006.
[239] *Minutes,* March 24, 1966.
[240] *Minutes,* October 9, 1963.
[241] *Minutes,* November 13, 1963.
[242] "Facts and Information About Murray City, the Center of Salt Lake County," prepared by Murray City Elementary Schools Summer Workshop, 1965: 41.
[243] *History of Murray,* 157.
[244] Myrna Broschinsky. Interview by author, 2006.
[245] Scott Mooy. Interview by author, 2006.
[246] Hal Madsen, Interview by author, 2006.
[247] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* May 12, 1971; January 12, 1972; May 10, 1976.
[248] *History of Murray City,* 157.
[249] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* October 13, 1965.
[250] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* July 8, 1997.
[251] *Murray Eagle,* August 17, 1978.
[252] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* June 11, 1980.
[253] *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* October 13, 1971.
[254] *Murray Eagle,* October 5, 1972.

255   *Celebrating Murray High,* 7.
256   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* July 38, 1981.
257   Jensen, Boyd. *Murray Oral History Project,* interview, 1991: 7-6.
258   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* May 10, 1972.
259   *History of Murray City,* 161.
260   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* October 4, 1972.
261   *History of Murray City,* 162.
262   Jensen, Boyd F., interview, 1991: 7-7.
263   *Deseret News,* December 18, 1996.
264   *Deseret News,* July 25, 1997.
265   "Five District Study of Fiscal Implication of Reorganization, Jordan, Granite, Murray, Salt Lake City and Davis School Districts," Wasatch Institute for Research and Evaluation, September 1981: 36.
266   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* August 12, 1987.
267   *History of Murray,* 163.
268   *Minutes,* April 11, 1973, supplement.
269   *Deseret News,* May 25, 1973; October 10, 1973.
270   *Minutes,* October 12, 1977.
271   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* November 11, 1978.
272   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* April 14, 1971, January 21, 1977, March 9, 1977, May 14, 1980,
273   Kyle Kenyon Campbell, interview.
274   Ibid.
275   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* October 10, 1975.
276   *Salt Lake Tribune,* December 9, 1978.
277   *Celebrating Murray High*: 2.
278   Ibid, 5.
279   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* December 8, 1976.
280   *Salt Lake Tribune,* August 7, 2000.
281   Becky, Carma and Mary Ann Gallegos, interview by author, January 20, 2006.
282   Brinton interview: 1.19.
283   Ibid.
284   *History of Murray,* 224. *Murray Eagle,* October 20, 1955.
285   *Salt Lake Tribune,* February 19, 1974.
286   *History of Murray,* 163.
287   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* February 22, 1989.
288   *Between the Cottonwoods,* 107.
289   *Utah Heritage Foundation,* Newsletter, October 1982.
290   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* August 3, 1979.
291   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* February 11, 1981.
292   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* April 30, 1986.
293   *Murray Eagle,* 1976. Clippings file.
294   *Deseret News,* December 6, 1992.
295   *Deseret News,* July 25, 1997.
296   *Deseret News,* April 13, 1981.
297   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* September 24, 1986.
298   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January 14, 1987.
299   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* December 11, 1985.
300   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* June 10, 1987.
301   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* September 14, 1988.
302   *Salt Lake Tribune,* January 27, 1991.
303   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January 8, 1986. March 9, 1988. March 22, 1988.
304   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 14, 1984.
305   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* August 26, 1986.
306   Richard Tranter, interview, December 31, 2006.
307   G. Webb Snarr, interview, Murray Oral History Project, 1991: 13:2.
308   Snarr, intervew: 13:3.
309   Beck Sheffield, interview by author, December 19, 2006.
310   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* March 12, 1986. *Minutes,* March 11, 1987.
311   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* September 18, 1981.
312   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* January 12, 1983.
313   *Deseret News,* June 21, 1989.
314   *Salt Lake Tribune,* February 12, 1998. Murray School District website: Kennecott Nature Center page.
315   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* November 11, 1987.
316   Lewis Pike, interview. December 13, 2006.
317   *Murray Eagle,* June 23, 1988.
318   *Deseret News,* February 26, 1998.
319   *Deseret News,* April 15, 1998.
320   Ibid.
321   *Women's World,* 1986.
322   *Salt Lake Tribune,* March 11, 1992. *Deseret News,* March 18, 1992.

323   *Salt Lake Tribune,* December 7, 1996.

324   *Deseret News,* December 12, 2005.

325   *Salt Lake Tribune,* March 5, 1997.

326   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* February 14, 1990.

327   *Deseret News,* September 11, 1992.

328   *Deseret News,* October 6, 1993.

329   *Deseret News,* June 18, 1996.

330   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* August 22, 1990. *Salt Lake Tribune,* September 28, 1990.

331   *Celebrating Murray High,* 3.

332   *Deseret News,* February 2, 1996.

333   *Salt Lake Tribune,* June 14, 1994.

334   *Deseret News,* December 14, 1989.

335   Val Church, email to Mary Ann Kirk, November 7, 2006.

336   Snarr, interview, 13:4.

337   Sharon Weiss, interview by author, December 19, 2006.

338   Wendy DeMann, interview by author, January 22, 2006.

339   Madsen, interview.

340   Scott Mooy, interview.

341   Madsen, interview.

342   *Salt Lake Tribune,* April 13, 2006.

343   *Deseret News,* December 18, 2000.

344   *Deseret News,* October 17, 2001.

345   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* October 27, 1987.

346   *Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education,* May 13, 1987.

347   *Deseret News,* May 28. 1995.

348   *Salt Lake Tribune,* September 27, 1997.

349   *Salt Lake Tribune,* May 3, 2005.

350   *Deseret News,* March 24, 2003.

351   Tranter, interview.

352   *Celebrating Murray High*: 1-2.

353   *Deseret News,* April 21, 1999.

354   *Deseret News,* October 13, 2001.

355   *Deseret News,* January 13, 2004.

356   *Salt Lake Tribune,* October 8, 2005. *Deseret News,* October 7, 2005.

357   *Murray City School District Board of Education Website,* 2006.

358   "Benefits of Murray City School District Remaining as an Autonomous District", Murray Board of Education Exhibit 87-96.

359   Snarr interview, 13:10, 13:13.

360   Jensen interview, 7-7.

361   Christy Buyk, interview, February 2007.

362   Tranter interview.

363   Brinton interview, 1.17-1.18.

364   *Salt Lake Tribune,* April 14, 2003.

365   Superintendent Richard Tranter, Interview, December 13, 2006.

366   *Salt Lake Tribune,* February 7, 2007.

367   *Salt Lake Tribune,* February 3, 2006.

368   *Salt Lake Tribune,* May 4, 2006.

369   *Murray Eagle,* December 14, 1939.

Selected Bibliography

American Eagle. Various dates.

"Celebrating Murray High School." In "Murray School District Newsletter." Murray City, Utah: Murray School District, 2003.

Cowles, LeRoy E. *A Survey of Murray Schools*. Salt Lake City: Extension Division, University of Utah, 1929.

Crest. Murray High School, 1918.

Crump, Scott. *The First 100 Years: A History of Jordan School District*. Sandy, Utah: Jordan School District, 2005.

Deseret News. Various dates.

"Five District Study of Fiscal Implication of Reorganization, Jordan, Granite, Murray, Salt Lake City and Davis School Districts." n.p.: Wasatch Institute for Research and Evaluation, 1981.

Gooderham, Marie E. *History of the Granite School District: 1904-1976*. Salt Lake City: Granite School District, 1977.

The History of Murray. Salt Lake City: Murray City Corporation, 1976.

Ivins, S. S. "Free Schools Come to Utah." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 22 (October 1954).

Johnson, G. Wesley, and David Schirer. *Between the Cottonwoods: Murray City in Transition*. Salt Lake City: Timpanogas Research Associates, 1992.

McHenry, Vere. "Fifty Years of Independence: A History of Murray Schools." Master thesis, University of Utah, 1954.

"Minutes of the Murray City Board of Education." Various dates.

Moffat, David W. "Carl Ephraim Gaufin." *The Utah Educational Review* 22 (September 1928).

Murray Centennial Book Committee. *Faces of Murray*. Murray, Utah: Murray City Corporation, 2003.

Murray Centennial Book Committee. *A Murray History Centennial Album*. Murray, Utah: Murray City Corporation, 2003.

"Murray City Oral History Program." TMs. Murray City Corporation, 1997.

"Murray City School District." http://www.mury.k12.ut.us/.

Murray Eagle. Various dates.

Rasmussen, R. R. *A History of Murray*. Unpublished TMS, May 1946.

Salt Lake Tribune. Various dates.

Sheranian, H. N. *Odyssey of an Armenian Doctor*. n.p., 1970.

"Utah Heritage Foundation Newsletter." Salt Lake City: Utah Heritage Foundation, 1982.

Women's World. 1986.

INDEX OF TEXT

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Korral Broschinsky is an architectural historian and preservation consultant. She graduated with a Master's degree from the University of Utah and is a regular contributor to Utah Preservation Magazine. She served two terms on the Murray City Historic Preservation Advisory Board. Korral was born and raised in Murray, and remains actively involved with preservation projects throughout the city. She was an alternate May Pole dancer at Arlington Elementary School, survived being stuffed in a locker at Hillcrest Junior High, and sang first soprano with the Murray High Madrigals.
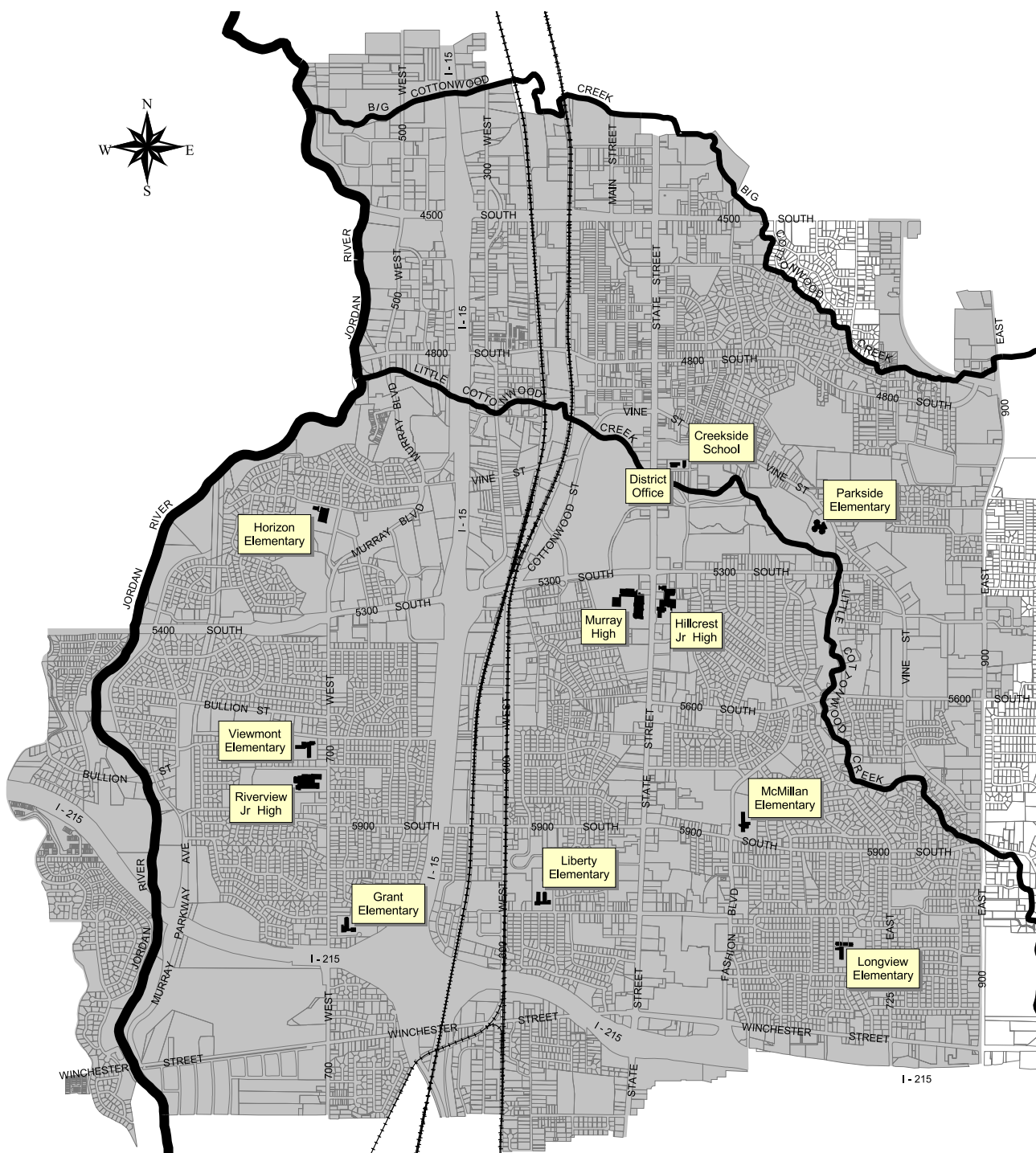
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

N
W E
S

COTTONWOOD
CREEK
B/G
500
WEST
30
WEST
MAIN
STREET
BIG
4500
SOUTH
COTTONWOOD
EAST
4500
SOUTH
JORDAN
RIVER
4500
SOUTH
500
WEST
I - 15
4800
SOUTH
4800
SOUTH
4800
SOUTH
900
LITTLE
COTTONWOOD
VINE
ST
CREEK
Creekside School
District Office
Parkside Elementary
Horizon Elementary
MURRAY BLVD
VINE
ST
I - 15
COTTONWOOD ST
VINE ST
5300
SOUTH
5300
SOUTH
5300
SOUTH
Murray High
Hillcrest Jr High
5400
SOUTH
5300
SOUTH
LITTLE COTTONWOOD CREEK
VINE ST
5600
SOUTH
EAST
900
WEST
STATE STREET
5600
SOUTH
Viewmont Elementary
700
BULLION ST
BULLION
RIVER
ST
I - 215
JORDAN
RIVER
MURRAY PARKWAY AVE
Riverview Jr High
McMillan Elementary
EAST
725
5900
SOUTH
5900
SOUTH
5900
SOUTH
5900
SOUTH
900
I - 15
600
WEST
STATE STREET
FASHION BLVD
Liberty Elementary
Grant Elementary
Longview Elementary
I - 215
WEST
700
WINCHESTER
STREET
600
WEST
STREET
I - 215
STATE STREET
WINCHESTER STREET
EAST
725
I - 215
WINCHESTER STREET

Murray School District
2006

Murray City School District

5094 South Commerce Drive
Murray, Utah 84107