

HISTORY OF WARWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

In keeping with the theme of the development of secondary education, the Warrior presents here a history of Warwood High School.

The first high school was established in 1911 and lasted until 1912. During this time school was held in one room of the present South Warwood school with enrollment of fifteen students. Mr. Frank B. Maupin was the teacher.

During the years 1913 and 1914 no high school was conducted but private tutoring was carried on by a few teachers. From 1915 to 1918 high school was held in two rooms of the frame building now used by junior high. This school under the direction of Mr. Joseph Evans, who was superintendent of the district, principal of the high school, and science teacher, really marks the beginning of Warwood High School. A four-year straight classical course of English, Latin, algebra, and general science was offered, with two other teachers besides Mr. Evans employed.

The present Warwood High School building was first used in January 1918 at which time Mr. Henry C. Mitchell was principal. The cost of the construction for this building was about \$90,000.

When Mr. Harry A. Smith was appointed principal in 1919, the curriculum was extended to include chemistry, physical education, manual training, domestic science, and commercial work. Latin, English, French, botany, history, algebra, instrumental music, and mathematics were also offered. A school paper and school athletics, football and basketball, were organized that year. Two literary societies, the Utopian and the Warwoodian, were popular also.

It is interesting to note the variety of subjects that have been included in the curriculum of the school. From 1919 until 1925 music and art were offered, while instruction in penmanship and spelling was given until 1921. Spanish was taught in 1924 and 1925; journalism, 1924, 1925, and 1926; and vocational guidance from 1925 to 1932. Latin III and trigonometry were given in 1920 and 1921. Physical education for girls was started in 1926. In 1925, 1926, and 1927 public speaking was an elective course.

Mr. Francis J. Love became principal in 1926. The next year Warwood High School was admitted into the North Central Association. In 1928 the library books were classified under the Dewey decimal system and the new gymnasium was added at a cost of approximately \$18,000. Also in that year West Virginia held an educational survey under the direction of a professor from the University of Chicago. Achievement tests were given to seniors all over the state and Warwood High had the honor ranking first.

An activity period was included in the schedule at this time and among the clubs meeting then were a Movie Club, First Aid, Tumbling, French, Stamp, and Game Club.

Mr. Levering C. Bonar succeeded Mr. Love in 1929 and a high school band was organized in the same year.

In recent years boys' intramural sports have been started, and girls' basketball was discontinued in all schools belonging to the North Central Association. A wide range of spring athletics, softball, tennis, track, golf, has replaced baseball. The point system of Girls' Athletic Club has also been introduced.

In 1931 a Student Council was organized. Formerly the principal had met with the officers of the classes to take care of the business now managed by this organization. A Parent-Teachers' Association and Boosters Club have been instituted and this past year an Honor Society was organized.

The Library has been enlarged a great deal in recent years. In 1929 there were approximately 1,340 books and now there is double that number. In order to meet the North Central Association requirements, the schedule has been arranged so that each teacher now teaches only those subjects in which he has had special training. Study hall has been moved from the auditorium to adequate quarters in the library.

Four years ago student participation in commencement exercises was instituted. Night school and classes in adult education have recently been started. An opportunity for classical students to take typing has also been offered.

The building and surroundings have received much modern equipment in the last few years. In 1932 a new biology room was equipped and two rooms were made available to the domestic science department which also received an

electric stove and two electric sewing machines. Two years ago a satisfactory heating system was provided and the lawn and hillside have been re-landscaped this year.

As it has always been the custom for each graduating class to present some gift to the school as a remembrance, the class of 1924 presented the trophy case and several bookcases. The class of 1925 bought stage scenery and the 1926 class gave forty dollars.

The Washington and Lincoln pictures in the auditorium were given by the 1927 class. The basketball trophy was a gift of the class of 1928, while the electric clock was presented by the class of 1929. The 1930 class gave a picture of Gainsborough's "Blue Boy" and the 1931 class, the bulletin board. The class of 1932 bought the printing press for the school. The classes of 1933 and 1934 gave \$50 and \$60 respectively to the school. This year's class has bought curtains for the auditorium.

Within the years of its history Warwood High School has graduated approximately 450 students. Thus for a one room building, single yearly course, and one teacher, Warwood High has developed into a modern 20 room building with adequate four year courses and an efficient teaching staff.

MARTHA LOU JARVIS
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[The *Warrior* (Yearbook)-1935, p48-49]

Warwood High School-Principals

Yr-Begun	Year-End	Surname	First	Middle
1915	1918	Evans	Joseph	
1918	1919	Mitchell	Henry	C.
1919	1926	Smith	Harry	A.
1926	1929	Love	Francis	J.
1929	1941	Bonar	Levering	C.
1941	1958	Phipps	Clifford	Curtis
1958	1973	Martin	Howard	G.
1973	1976	Blake	Frank	

1977 Becomes Warwood Junior High School

Yearbook entry transcribed by and list of principals researched by:
Dr. Charles A. Julian, PhD – April 2022