

Inventory to Schools of Township of Fairfield (formerly Caldwell Township until 1963) and Surrounding Schools, 1800s - present

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Caldwell Township School, Caldwell Township Board of Education, Caldwell Township PTA, Winston S. Churchill School, Adlai Stevenson School, Fairfield Board of Education

Title: Inventory to Schools of Township of Fairfield (formerly Caldwell Township until 1963) and Surrounding Schools, 1800s - present

Dates: 1800s - present

Quantity: 1 linear ft. (5 manuscript boxes)

Language: English

Repository: Fairfield Free Public Library. Local History Archive.

History of the Schools of Township of Fairfield

Fairfield Public School, operated by the Fairfield Union School Association, was a one room grammar school part of the Fairfield Dutch Reformed Church and another one-room school in Clinton (called Horseneck) on the southwest corner of what is now Plymouth Street and Route 46 (DeBaun, *County Life in Fairfield*) in the 1800s. In 1904, a “four room, frame building on William Ridler’s four-acre field across Fairfield Road from the spot where the Caldwell Township Municipal buildings now stand” (DeBaun, *County Life in Fairfield*) was built and became a grade school, Caldwell Township School.

Winston S. Churchill School was constructed in 1952 as a K-8 grade school, with a major addition in 1958. The first graduating class was of 1953.

June 26, 1963 Caldwell Township (now Fairfield) voters approved the school board’s land purchase of 13.92 acres on Knoll Road between Hollywood Avenue and Big Piece Road. Adlai Stevenson School was completed in 1965, with nine class of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders transferred from Winston S. Churchill School to a wing of the new Adlai E. Stevenson School on Knoll Road on November 8, 1965. All classrooms were operating as of January 3, 1966. Upon opening, there were two kindergartens, and four classrooms for each grade level (1st through 6th).

West Essex Regional High School: As of the fall of 1951, students from what was to become the West Essex Regional School District – Caldwell Township (present day Fairfield), Essex Fells, North Caldwell, Roseland – attended James Caldwell High School as part of a sending/receiving relationship. A survey commissioned by the school boards of the four districts and the Caldwell-West Caldwell Public Schools from the Rutgers University Extension Service estimated that the schools would have 1,200 junior-senior high school students by 1961. A 1956 study had recommended the formation of a consolidated K-12 district for all of the five districts. When that recommendation was not accepted, the Rutgers group suggested the creation of a regional 7–12 school district that would include Caldwell Township (present day Fairfield), Essex Fells, North Caldwell and Roseland. In July 1958 voters authorized \$290,000 for a 73-acre site, of which 60 acres lay in North Caldwell and 13 in Caldwell Township. The site is located between Grandview and Passaic Avenues, directly north of Greenbrook Road. A December 1958

referendum decided upon by voters in each of the four communities proposed a \$4.5 million bond that would be used to pay for construction of the new school facility to be available for use in September 1960, as the Caldwell-West Caldwell District had indicated that it was unwilling to accommodate any students at Grover Cleveland High School from outside the district after that date due to overcrowding. The West Essex district opened in September 1960 for students in grades 9–11 in facilities rented from the Caldwell-West Caldwell district, and the district's new building opened for use in September 1961, at which time grades 7–12 and 1,200 students were served.

West Essex Regional Middle School opened on September 4, 1969. Authorized in public referendum by the voters of Essex Fells, Fairfield, North Caldwell, and Roseland, middle school accommodates seventh and eighth grade students.

In April of 1977, The Board of Education of the Township of Fairfield discussed plans to redistrict its two schools according to age rather than geography.

Subjects

Caldwell Township School
 Adlai Stevenson School
 Winston S. Churchill School
 West Essex Regional High School
 West Essex Regional Middle School

Detailed Description of the Records/Container List

Box1

Box Folder

1 1 Caldwell Township School Photos Assorted (No date - 1958)

These original photos include:

No Date: Approximately 1920s, potentially first grade class

No Date: Approximately 1920s, potentially third/fourth grade class

No Date: Approximately 1920s, potentially sixth/seventh/eighth grade class, potentially graduation photo

No Date (2 photos): Eric E. Driforo, LeRoy Gillibrand, Jessica Burghardt, Theresa Bachmann, Helen Burghardt, Wilma Whittle, Gene Van Duyne, George Zbrinsky, John Capko, Theresa Russomanno, Thiphib (?) DeLoaas (?), Dorothy Arans, Mildred Haughn, Evelyn Lowe, Annette Eisenberg, Elsie Lebeda

1923 (copy): Grade 4 class: includes Alice Chiariello

1940: includes Carolyn Collerd

1952: March 31, Student Council (2)

1952: May 21, Grade 4 classroom photo (2)

1953: March 16, Grade 2 classroom photo

1955: Grade 8 homeroom classroom photo

1957: Grade 2 classroom photo

1958: Grade 2 class photo

Several photos taken by School Projects Photo 362 South Harrison Street East Orange, NJ.

1 2 **Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Programs**

1945 (located in 1944-1947 scrapbook), 1946 (located in 1944-1947 scrapbook), 1947 (additional copy located in 1944-1947 scrapbook), 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961

Original eighth grade commencement programs from Caldwell Township School, New Jersey. Programs include class lists, teachers, introduction, speakers, processional, invocation, and full graduation ceremony.

1 3 **Caldwell Township School Scrapbook September 1944 – December 1947**

Contents:

1. Barefoot Days by George Benson, May 25, 1945. Play by the Upper Grade Pupils

2. Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Program of 1945

3. Caldwell Township School Calendar for 1945 – 1946

4. Newspaper articles 1945 – 1946 including PTA Plans, class visiting the Caldwell Wright Airport, Pearl Harbor program at school, school pamphlet about school plans for addition and improvements, pupils punished for failing to bring back parent's signature.

5. 4 photos of paper mache masks made by the fourth and fifth grade classes in October 1945

6. Arbor Day observation April 1946. Newspaper clipping of 2,000 trees planted by Caldwell Township School, and 15 original photos of the event.

7. Student Council Photo: Gayle Walker, Janet Glerum, Carol Lewis, Elinor Bush, Beverly Vanderhoof, John Wyngaard, Eleanor Deininger, Fred Eckhardt, Roger Gibbs, Arthur Clark, Ed Benson, Steve Filipow

8. Baseball Team Photo: Mr. Williams, Richard Watts, Carl Burghard, Donald Scoolbraid, Kenny Sisco, Harry Housekeeper, A. Centulonza, Arthur Clark, Steve Filipow, Eddy Evans, Kenny Manning, Jimmy George, Billy Illge, Bobby George, Lyle Smith, Richard Lurie, Burce Roberson, Fred Eckhardt, Homer Sisco, Anthony Scarpelli, John Wyngaard, Bobby Shaw, Roger Gibbs, and Tommy Biczak

9. Noon Hour lunchroom photos (2)

10. Kindergarten Music Period (2 photos) and Easter Party (1 photo): Gale Ridings, June, Stanley Greer, Jack Simons, Mildred Condit, Walker, Buddy Benson, Joe, Slavatore Frankavilla, Peter Geitner, David Unglaud, Paul Seugling, Robert Fraser, Lenor Rhinesmith, Valerie Kolb, Judy Courter, Joe Krakaukus, Daniel Scipio, Donald Millison, Eddie Capanera

11. Grade One: Photo at the library table, photo getting ready for Easter: Bonnie Lou Peters, Bobby Miller, Ursala Nasuta, Diane Hazard, Johnny Deleo, Lenard Michalski, June Hoppstadter, David Millison, Marian Robinson, Ronnie Zartman, Lorraine Fagan, Sy Kibee, Dick Watts, Miss Indahl, Lee Wescott, Barbara Geitner, Carol Unglaub
12. Grade Two: Rhythm Band (1 photo), George Washington Puppet Show (1 photo): Dorothy Schoolbraid, Mary Francavilla, Ronnie Super, Kelly Biczak, Caroline Spatts, Howell Thatcher, Sandra Kolb, Barbara Glascock, Mary Ungnast, Joe Pierce, Billy Vanderhoof, Johnny Santuci, Carol Rowland, Sisto Capanera, Raymond Benson, Alice Chiarrello, Josephine Ruggiero, Annette Polzella, Norma Frasier, Lillian Gibello
13. Grades three and four (1 photo), Art Period with Live rabbit model (1 photo): Helen Glascock, Howard Storer, Milton Seugling, Richard Zirk, Elder Lewis, Wally Paige, Betty Miller, Harold Hoppstader, Catherine Stewart, Allen Lawrence, Frank Ruggiero, Teddy Unglaub, Don Scarpelli, Louis Batta, Pete Allen, Dan Harrison, Happy George, Janice De Vito, Barbara Taylor, Lorre Millison, Jean Kamprath, Norman Benson, Doris Deleo, Lorraine Benson, Edith Glerum, Warren Nutto, Jack Faust, Susan Gibbs, Ida Spatts
14. Grade 5 (1 photo): Roberta Gibbs, Mary Lou George, Bob Langbeen, Donald Langbeen, Geroge Ridings, Billy Miller, Marilyn Henning, Eleanor Deininger, Roberta Watson, Eddie Benson, Doris Van Duyne, Joe Santucci, Jack Milne, Elsie Clark, Donald Brace, Janet Glerum, Carole Courter, Anna Geitner, Ralph Bright, Johanna Greer, Marlene Fagan, Freda Klein, Ann Ruggiero, Ann Watts, George Strus, Merle Evans, D'Arcy Richardson, Claire Wohkittel, Gail Wohkittel, Donald Mumma
15. Grade 6 (1 photo): Barbara Lee, Gayle Walker, Anthony Biczak, Kenneth Manning, Eddy Evans, Helen Michalski, Billy Illge, Phyllis Ellis, Barbara Jacobus, Harry Faust, Richard Watts, Harry Houskeeper, Dolores Allen, John Dankowski, John Wyngaard, Norman Pohler, Steve Filipow, Sophie Ann Filipow, Carlo Santucci
16. Grade Seven (1 photo) Square dancing during rainy noon hour (1 photo) Work period (1 photo): Connie Borriello, Janice Super, Ruth Joan Frantz, Mrs. Teitenberg, Emma Centalozza, Joan Nutto, Arnold Lee, Roger Gibbs, Bruce Robertson, Rita Jorgensen, Shirley Stier, Bobby George, Carol Lewis, Eleanor Combee, Gene Dankowski, Carol Burghardt, George Benson, Billy Homza, Arthur Clark, Dorothy Glascock, Bobby Lebeda, Howard Criger
17. June 1946: Photo of fifth grade to be used to illustrate an article in the *Instructor Magazine*. June 1946 article by Leo J Brueckner included.
18. Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Program of 1945
19. 1946 – 1947 School Calendar
20. Dec. 5, 1946 Newspaper clippings on teacher's pay and school theme
21. Annual Christmas Program December 19, 1946 original program
22. Christmas Play Photos (10 original)
23. March 1947 Grade Two Studies the School Bus Law (5photos) and articles from the *Caldwell Progress* and *Newark Evening News* about safety crusade
24. Music Festival Program April 2, 1947 with 9 photos of the program

- 25. Baseball Team 1947 (1 photo): Mr. Williams, Bobby George, Harry Houskeeper, Steve Filipow, Carl Burkhardt, Richard Lurie, Arthur Clark, Eddie Evans, John Wyngaard, Billy Illge, Richard Watts, Norman Pohler, Bruce Roberston, Joe Santucci, Teddy Unglaub, Bob Shaw, Anthony Biczak, Kenny Manning
- 26. Trip to Washington's headquarters in Morristown, Jockey Hollow (1 photo) Grade 5
- 27. Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Program of 1947 and Graduation photo
- 28. 1947 – 1948 School Calendar
- 29. Christmas Program 1947 original program and 5 photos

1 4 **Caldwell Township School Newspapers 1941, 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950 1951 and 1953**

Fairfield Bugle: 1941, December 1945, June 1946 (Graduation Issue), January 1948, February 1949 (2 copies), Spring 1949 (2 copies), May 1950, November 1950, February 1951

Township Flier 1953 (2 copies)

Box 2

Box Folder

2 1 **Caldwell Township Public School (1913-1921) and Caldwell Public School, No. 13, (1877-1878) Report Cards [*Gift of Aaron and Marie Combee Family*]**

1. Caldwell Township Public School Report Cards for Aaron Combee: Grade 1 - 1913-1914, Grade 2 – 1914-1915, Grade 3 - 1915-1916, Grade 4 - 1916-1917, Grade 5 – 1917-1918, Grade 7 – 1919-1920, Grade 8 - 1920-1921

2. Caldwell Public School, No. 13, Caldwell, NJ, Report Cards for Bertha Francisco: Grade 8, September 28, 1877, November 23, 1877, December 21, 1877, February 22 1878 and March 22 1878

2 2 **Clarion High School Yearbooks, published by Grover Cleveland High School**

Full yearbooks from: 1934, 1935 (belonged to Doris Grace Smith), and 1936. Second copy of a 1936 yearbook belonging to Eleanor Attanasio.

2 3 **Grover Cleveland High School Commencement Programs**

- 1. Commencement Exercises Class of 1936, June 18 with invitation (belonged to Doris Grace Smith)
- 2. Commencement Exercises Class of 1948, June 17

2 4 **The Montclarian Yearbook, published by Montclair State Normal School**

Class of June, 1928

2 5 **Assorted Original Photos**

The School Board, PTA, and Teachers (approx. 1947); Grover Cleveland Class of 1936 60th reunion photo (1996); Grover Cleveland Class of 1945 reunion photos (1960, 1995); Grover Cleveland Class of 1946, 25 reunion (1961); Fairfield Students take a tour of Newark Airport (April 23, 1968), Churchill School students watch assembly in Trenton, NJ (April 29, 1971), School Play photos (approx. 1955) features student Herb Watson; Photo of 3 men near 1952 plackard presumably Churchill School (1952); Baseball team photo (approx. 1930s)

2 6 **Deed Information for Schools, 1824**

Certified copy of deed from John A. Kiersted to Fairfield Union School Association, April 13, 1824. Received by Asa Whitehead, Clerk; The Board of Education of Caldwell Township to The Fairfield Reformed Church Deed March 10, 1908; Report of the District Clerk from August 31, 1891 to April 12, 1892 for school purchases.

Box 3

Box Folder

3 1 **Inkblot Newsmagazine Published by Adlai E. Stevenson School, Fairfield, NJ**

April 1970, Spring Issue, Volume VI, pages 1-27

3 2 **Churchill Chimes Literary Magazine by Winston S. Churchill School, Fairfield, NJ**

Winter 1966, Winter 1967, Spring 1968, Spring 1969, Winter 1969, Spring 1970

3 3 **IMAGES Literary Magazine by Winston S. Churchill School, Fairfield, NJ**

Spring 1975, Spring 1978, Spring 1979, Spring 1982

3 4 **Churchill Chatter Newspaper by Winston S. Churchill School, Fairfield, NJ**

1. February 1980 (Vol. 1, No. 1): Student Chatter Staff: Kurt Abrose, Jack Bikoff, Michael Ciardella, Jennifer DeSimone, Jennifer Craig, Eddie Doncoes, Marianne Holleuffer, Tami Morgan, Lizette Mosquers, Stephanie Pariollo, Shannon Porter, Joel Remigio, Sandy Shaffer, Bobby Turnbull

2. June 1980 (Vol. 1, No. 2): Student Chatter Staff: Kurt Ambrose, Michael

Ciardella, Jennifer DeSimone, Marianne Holleuffer, Tami Morgan, Shannon Porter, Joel Remigio, Sandy Shaffer
3. April 1981 (Vol. 2, No. 1): Student Chatter Staff: Kristen Chmielewski, Michael Coppola, Sheree Kelly, Erinn Lynch, Tricia Masino, Joel Navarro, Manish Patel, Juliet Pignatello, Peter Salvato, Jeffrey Shakoor, Theresa Storch

3 5 **The Student Commentator Newspaper by Students of Grover Cleveland High School, Caldwell, NJ**

November 1944 (Vol. 1, No. 1) Editor-in-chief, Bernis Lippe, Assistant Editor, Robert Paul (belonged to James Lebeda)

3 6 **School Material Caldwell Township School of James Lebeda, Assorted, 1940 - 1941**

Contents include: English notes from grade 7, Health and Safety, Junior Scholastics from 1941, Standardized Arithmetic Test from Grade 8, and other items

3 7 **School Material Caldwell Township School of Aaron Combee, Assorted, Approx. 1920 [*Gift of Aaron and Marie Combee Family*]**

Cyr, Ellen M. *Cyr's Third Reader* (1896) Ginn & Company Publishers

Gillet, Potter Jeschke. *Spelling Primer, Oral and Written English. Book One* (1917)

Combee artwork and hand drawn map of Asia.

Box 4

Box Folder

4 2 **Borough of Fairfield New Jersey School Building Needs, May 1970**

School Building Needs, May 1970, By Engelhardt and Engelhardt, Inc. Educational Consultants (4 copies)
Master Plan for Educational Facilities, 1977

4 3 **PTA – Caldwell Township/Fairfield Schools**

School News, September 28, 1950; Caldwell Township Civil Defense Commission, January 23, 1951, PTA News Principal's Column (approx. 1950); Caldwell Township PTA History, 1955-1956, 1956-1957, 1957-1958, 1958-1959; PTA Self-Evaluation Procedure, 1957; PTA Programs (3) 1959-1963; PTA Back-to-School Night, October 8, 1974; PTA Fashion Show Program, 1976

4 4 **Board of Education – Caldwell Township/Fairfield Schools**

Discussion of plans for Churchill School (1941); Policies and By-laws of the Township of Caldwell Board of Education (approx. 1950); “Here are the FACTS” Proposed and recommended new school for Caldwell Township publication (1950); Pamphlets from the State of NJ (1952); Organizational charts of administration and rules and regulations (1958); *The School Scene*: Publication of the Board of education 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969; Correspondence regarding school budget (1969); Information and Questions and Answers Regarding the Fairfield Board of Education’s Proposed Building Referendum (1988); Fairfield Public Schools Student /Parent Handbook (1981); Newspaper articles regarding Board of Education (1991-1996); Happy Anniversary Stevenson School 50 years (1965-1966 / 2015-2016)

4 5 **Newspaper Clippings related to Caldwell Township/Fairfield Schools**

Various clippings relating to the schools during the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s: building construction; funding; security concerns; grades and test scores; Dateline: Churchill School publication March 1972, April 1972, April/May 1980

Box 5:

5 1 **Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Photos**

These original photos include commencements of eighth grade students during the years of 1927 (photocopy), 1932 (2), 1940, 1941, 1947 (located in 1944-1947 scrapbook), 1949, 1951, 1952, 1953 (4), 1954 (4), 1955, 1956 (3), 1957 (2), 1958 (2), 1959, 1961. 1932 photo is in original frame from Champion Studio, Orange, NJ. Several are in original frames from photography studio, owned by Gene Collerd, studio located on Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, New Jersey (photos from 1953-1961, ex. 1960).

5 2 **Grover Cleveland High School Commencement Photos**

These original photos include commencements of high school students during the years of 1949 (3 copies)

5 3 **Caldwell Township Schools at Curtiss-Wright Airport for Christmas Scrapbook and Photos, 1953 – 1956**

1. 44 original photos taken by Curtiss-Wright, 1953 – 1956 (?)

2. 1955-1956 Santa and Us Scrapbook by Second Grade Class, Teacher Mrs. Greer. Students: John Bishop, Kathy Smith, Eddie Bianco, George Betz, John Michaelson, Robert Cubby, Linda Rohr, Susan Marra, Frank Korjo, Michael DeCaito, Betsy Glerum, Craig Beckwith (with brother, Randy), John Vreeland, Connie Carr, Randy Backwith, Eddie Storer, Betty Hanek, Larry Anderson. Students Barbara Guzio and Joe Homza not pictured. Various original photos and accommodating text included.

5 4 **Game of Fairfield (Limited Edition) September 1986 (2 Complete Games)**

Fairfield PTA Introduces new game. Similar to Monopoly, the game incorporates local businesses and places. The game has board, dice, play money, and property cards. Special recognition was given to the first 500 purchasers of the game (games were sold for \$10.00). Proceeds were used for Stevenson and Churchill Schools.

Box 6

Box Folder

6 1 **Caldwell High School Football Programs & West Essex High School Football Program**

Caldwell High School: October 23, 1943, November 13, 1943, September 30, 1944, November 7, 1944, September 29, 1945, October 13, 1945, October 27, 1945, October 19, 1946

West Essex High School: Saturday, October 5, 1963

6 2 **West Essex Regional School District Information (1960s-1980s)**

West Essex Senior High School *The Progress*, June 21, 1979; West Essex Senior High School *The Progress*, June 19, 1980; newspaper clippings 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s relating to West Essex High School administration, programs, and PTA; West Essex Board of Education newspaper clippings, and West Essex Report June 1967, April 1968, June 1968, November 1968, January 1969, April 1969, Summer 1969, Spring 1970, Summer 1970, Winter 1970, March 1989, April 1991; West Essex Regional Middle School building plans, funding, newspaper clippings, Facts Concerning Building Program (1966); The Middle School West Essex Regional School District Pamphlet (1968); West Essex programs: *Oliver!* (1978)

6 3 **West Essex Regional School District Information**

West Essex Regional School District Curriculum Handbook 1996-1997 (2 copies), 2006-2007; West Essex High School Profile 2010-2011 (6 copies); Program of Studies/Sample schedules 2000s; Agreement between the board of education West Essex Regional School District and the West Essex Education Association 1997-1998, 1998-1999, 1999-2000 / 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2019-2010

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| 6 | 4 | West Essex Regional School District Personnel Information 2000s |
| | | Staff directories; policies; code of conduct |
| 6 | 5 | West Essex High School List of Graduates Aastrand – Zyla 1962-1984 |

West Essex Regional School District

High School Yearbooks

Milestone Yearbook 1962 (2 copies)
Milestone Yearbook 1964
Milestone Yearbook 1965
Milestone Yearbook 1969
Milestone Yearbook 1997
Milestone Yearbook 1998
Milestone Yearbook 1999 (2 copies)
Milestone Yearbook 2003
Milestone Yearbook 2010

Souvenirs, Wearables and Gifts

Lanyards
Lunch Box
Magnets
Pens
Pencils
Pins
Staff Parking Passes
Tote Bags