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
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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, Thiph (??) 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


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.
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 Hoppstader, 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 Chiarello, Josephine Ruggiero, Annette Polzella, Norma Frasier, Lillian Gibello
14. Grade 5 (1 photo): Roberta Gibbs, Mary Lou George, Bob Langbein, 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 Curter, 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
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 Centalonza, 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 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 (5 photos) 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
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

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 1978 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


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

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  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

Master Plan for Educational Facilities, 1977

4  3 PTA – Caldwell Township/Fairfield Schools

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)

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, and April/May 1980

Box 5
Box Folder

Caldwell Township School Eighth Grade Commencement Photos


Grover Cleveland High School Commencement Photos

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

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

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

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

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.


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 2 copies);
West Essex Regional School District Information


West Essex High School Graduation Programs


West Essex High School List of Graduates

Aastrand – Zyla 1962-1984
Parent/Student Directory 1997-1998

Wessex Wire

1971 – 1972 (Vol. XII Nos. 1-9)
1972-1973 (Vol. XIII Nos. 1-8)
1996 (June and December)
1997 (June and December)
1998 (February, April & June)
1999 (February, May, June, & December)
2000 (February, April, June, June 22—Senior Issue & November)
2001 (February and June)

Wessex Wire

2002 (June, September, and December)
2003 (May, June 22—Senior Issue, & December
2004 (April, June, and December)
2005 (March and May)
The Roundtable
Student produced literary magazine.

Knight Bytes & Knightly News

Box 9
Box  Folder

West Essex Regional School District Personnel Information 2000s
Staff directories; staff newsletter; policies; code of conduct
Board Bulletin Newsletter 1999-2002 (Monthly)

West Essex Regional School District Theatre & Orchestra, Band, Choir Programs

West Essex Regional School District

High School Yearbooks
Milestone Yearbook 1961
Milestone Yearbook 1962 (3 copies)
Milestone Yearbook 1964
Milestone Yearbook 1965
Milestone Yearbook 1969
Milestone Yearbook 1997
Milestone Yearbook 1998
Milestone Yearbook 1999 (2 copies)
Milestone Yearbook 2001
Milestone Yearbook 2003
Milestone Yearbook 2010

Souvenirs, Wearables and Gifts
Bumper Stickers, Key Chains, Lanyards, License Plate Frames, Lunch Box, Magnets, Mugs, Pens, Pencils, Pins, Staff Parking Passes, Tote Bags