

Fair Oaks (first noted in the 1926-27 Superintendent's Report)  
Grades 1-6

Four room building was constructed of wood w/entry area which had closets.(coats) Inner doors opened, allowing all classrooms to come together for assemblies(other activities.

According to Elizabeth Sampson Johnson, in 1930 teachers were assigned two classes each. Students were taught arithmetic, reading, writing, sewing, some cooking (and a little business\_ writing checks).

Fuel for the stove was provided by the county(students/parents made fire) water(pump) from well in the yard, outside toilets were used, and students/teachers cleaned rooms.

Pupils brought lunches or went home for lunch in the hour (12-1:00) that was allowed.

The old four room school was replaced in 1951 with a modern (1-7) brick building which provided space for a library, cafeteria, an auditorium, bathroom facilities, and comfortable classrooms. The school was closed one year (1969\_70) and reopened the 1970\_71 school year. A twelve room addition was completed in 1970 increasing the number of classrooms to twenty-one.

Fair Oaks School presently provides instruction for kindergarten through fifth grade pupils.

### Brief History of Fair Oaks

The main, central part of Fair Oaks Elementary School was built in 1950. A small addition was added later. Until the summer of 1969, it was one of several black schools in Henrico County. When "freedom of choice" failed to produce real integration, dual black and white school zones were abolished in favor of a single, non-racial zone plan for the system. Fair Oaks was closed for the 1969-70 school year, during which time rezoning was accomplished. In the fall of 1970 the school was reopened as a regular, integrated elementary school serving the immediate geographical area around it, namely part of the Highland Springs Community. During the 1970-71 year a large addition containing 12 classrooms was completed. The school today consists of approximately 21 classrooms, indergarten through grade five. Optimum enrollment is around 400 - 450.

The faculty and staff at Fair Oaks have always been known for the friendly and open way in which they relate to each other, and to students and parents. The school has not been afraid to try valid new ideas, and has always striven for educational excellence. It is hoped that these traditions will continue indefinitely.

## FAIR OAKS ELEMENTARY

Fair Oaks Elementary School was built in a basic T-design. The main part was constructed in 1952. An addition was built and was first used when the school re-opened in 1970 after being closed for a year.

Mrs. Louise Moore was the School's first principal. She served the longest time of any principal at Fair Oaks. Mr. Paul Wenger, the present principal, has served since 1970. He came to Fair Oaks as the first white teacher in 1966.

566 students are presently enrolled and there are 19 classroom teachers plus six special teachers on the staff. Kindergarten students were added in 1974 and sixth graders started attending Fairfield Middle High in 1976.

The emblem of the school is a chipmunk with an oak leaf. The school colors are green and white.

Future plans of the school include continuing improvement of the Individually Guided Education System, enlargement of the blacktop area, more physical education equipment. An interesting nature trail was added this year.

Students look forward each year to the Spring Festival and Field Day.

Jamie Sharpe, Grade 5  
Lauri Armstrong, Grade 5  
Lory Fenson, Grade 4  
Troy Westerman, Grade 4  
Jean Yancey, Grade 5  
Donna Bryant, Grade 4

Fair Oaks Elementary School

Teachers:

Adkins, Alice H.

Boyd, Eleanor W.

Brown, Mamie M.

Burrell, Charles

Burrell, Lillian E.

Chappelle, Julia F.

Cosby, Hilda J.

Davis, Sarah W.

Easter, Ethel W.

Edwards, Nathan

Gravely, Bertha F.

Gray, Patricia A.

Harris, Bertha J.

Harris, Carrie B.

Harris, Richard L.

Jackson, Lloyd E.

Jefferson, Mable S.

Johns, Lillie P.

Jones, Emma S.

Jones, Marian M.

Kenney, Mamie M.

Kenney, Theresa

Lester, Irene W.

Moore, Louise H.

Payne, Osborne A.

Ransome, Ethel O.

Reid, Pearl J.

Scott, Zenobia W.

Scruggs, Virginia J.

Spriggs, Martha

Stokes, Irene S.

Sykes, Hattie L.

Wingfield, Ora H.

Yelverton, Anita J.