

Bridgeport School

Location: S27/T1/R9E

Funds: \$208

School District: 100

Teachers in 1923: J. F. Wade, Eric McGriff, Bettye Kate Troxell, Maggie Crownover, Kate Steele, Helen Gilbreath, Velma Lee Parton, Katherine Hackworth

Chairman of the Board of Education: L. H. Hughes of Bridgeport
Teachers in 1939: Mabel Hackworth, Pauline Henson, A. S. Hill, Mrs. H. A. Kelley, Flossie Reagan, Mrs. Jannie Rogers, and Scott Russell

Comments about the three schools in Bridgeport area

1. The school never had an assigned district number.
2. Information round in the limited number of minutes available does not record schools being operated in Bridgeport
3. The Educational Director for 1938-39 is the first record I have of the Bridgeport Schools.
4. What happened to the very large allocation from the Commissioner's Court in 1907?

1938 Educational Directory

Bridgeport High School

J. A. Battle
 Martha Browning
 Wilson F. Gonce
 Mrs. Wilson F. Gonce
 J. L. Hall
 Mrs. J. L. Hall
 Maurice Hughes
 Mrs. Jewell Tanner

Bridgeport Elementary:

A.B. Hall
 Elberta Page
 Cora Morris
 Gussie Peacock
 Kathleen Prince
 Flossie Reagin
 Jannie Rodgers
 Mrs. H. A. Kelley
 Aline Mason
 Mabel Hackworth

2003-2004

Bridgeport Elementary, 21 teacher
 Bridgeport Middle, 17 teachers
 Bridgeport High School Consolidated

KNOW YOUR SCHOOLS
 This is one of a series of articles on Jackson County Schools



BRIDGEPORT SCHOOL

Bridgeport School is a high-grade school (grades 7-12) in Bridgeport, A. B. Bridgeport is a town of approximately 2000 people, located in the northeastern portion of Jackson County. Bridgeport School serves not only those living within the corporate limits, but also the children of those living in the surrounding territory of Jackson County.

The faculty of the school consists of twelve elementary and eleven high school teachers. In 1938, the faculty consisted of the following: Mrs. M. M. Hill, first grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, second grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, third grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, fourth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, fifth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, sixth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, seventh grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, eighth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, ninth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, tenth grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, eleventh grade; Mrs. M. M. Hill, twelfth grade.

The principal of the school is Mr. J. F. Hill. The school is located on the corner of Main and Second streets, in the town of Bridgeport. The school building was built in 1907 and is a fine example of the architecture of that period. The school is well equipped with modern facilities and is a credit to the community.

The school is a member of the Jackson County Schools Association and is affiliated with the National Education Association. The school is open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is open to all children of the community.

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From the 1988 Yearbook

In 1924 the Bridgeport High School came into existence. It had no building of its own, but rented one. The only graduates of that year were Leslie Quarles and Maurine Hughes. . .” so stated the Bridgeport Beacon, the first yearbook of Bridgeport High School, published in 1924. Actually, the school was opened in the fall of 1923, but the seniors considered the high school born on graduation day.

The first faculty consisted of the Superintendent of City Schools, C. O. Chism; music teacher, Mrs. Harry A. Kelly; English teacher, Miss Daisy Parton; and domestic science and history teacher, Miss Ruth Daniels. Mr. Chism also coached basketball.

In addition to the two seniors, there were ten juniors, nine sophomores, and twelve or thirteen freshmen, The elementary faculty included: Professor A. S. Hill, principal; Miss Katherine Hackworth (Riggs); Miss Ruby Deese; Miss Kathleen Lasater (Hembree); Miss Lucille Jenkins; Miss Kate Steele; and Miss Millie Sue Williams.

The elementary school building was a one-story frame structure located between Dr, Lea (later Lee) Avenue and Cunningham Avenue. When the enrollment required an addition to the building, a second stony with an auditorium was add-boys' dorm.

In 1938 the high school was once again relocated to its campus on Cunningham Avenue (later re- named Jacobs Avenue). The frame elementary school had been torn down and a new brick elementary school constructed on Dr. Lee Avenue, When it became too small, grades 1, 2, and 3 were housed in the old Altenga College building until it was destroyed by fire during school hours in 1946. Additional classrooms were appended to the high school building and grades 1- 12 were again located on a comd. Then in 1925, a new modern brick building was constructed facing Dr. Lee Avenue (Bridgeport High School's present location), main campus, However, in 1959 enabling the high school to leave its birthplace in the Whitcher Building, a landmark razed in the 1960's.

However, the elementary school outgrew the two-story frame build- ing and expanded into the new high school building, pushing the upper grades out of their facilities into the old stone building former- ly occupied by Altenga College. The home economics department used the old irls' dormitory, and the athletics department used the construction was begun on a new elementary building located two blocks away on Jacobs Avenue.

The Dr. Lee Avenue building was destroyed by fire in 1967, and the Jacobs Avenue building burned on April 26, 1968. The high school was rebuilt immediately, but the Junior high wing, added in 1969, was destroyed by fire in 1971 and rebuilt by 1972.

Aug 15, 1895 SC: Work is progressing rapidly on the new school building at Bridgeport.

Nov 18, 1909 PA: Politicians lectured at all existing schools in 1909 for passage of Alabama Constitutional Amendment 1909 that prohibited the “manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of alcoholic and malt liquors and other intoxicating beverages.” It was defeated 61% No, 39% Yes. Rev. Marion Briscoe spoke for the amendment at Bridgeport School Nov 23, 1909.



View of the 1933 Bridgeport High School "Tigers" football team.
The team posed at Colosseum Park, now known as Charlie Smith Field along Broadway.



Bridgeport, Alabama Public School 1908

Building originally built in 1892 on North Hudson Avenue for the Alabama College of Dental Surgery.



**Bridgeport
School**

Featuring classroom facilities at Bridgeport High School which burned earlier this year is a slow process. A prefabricated steel building which includes six classrooms has been erected and is being used this school term.



Bridgeport Elementary School, circa 1913. Child seated at the desk is Herbert Hughes, Jr.