

FORT STOCKTON SCHOOL HISTORY

Written in May, 1982

Not much is known about schools in the Fort Stockton area prior to 1884. On September 10, 1908, the Fort Stockton Pioneer gives an account of the earlier schools in an article entitled "28 Years Ago". This would date the story as being written about the period 1880. The scholastic population of the county between the ages of eight and fourteen at that time was two hundred. There was only one organized school (county school) and there were no teachers. The county school fund had in its treasury the sum of \$1,105.00.

According to our late local centenarian, 'Mrs. C. C. Rollins, early schools were held at the various ranches. Country schools listed during this period are as follows: Hovey, Barilla, Welcome (near Coyanosa), Santa Rosa, Crystal Water, Buena Vista (many small schools in the area), Pumpkin Center (near Joe Montgomery Ranch), Rooney Farm (7D), Leon Farms, Valley View (Block I); and Graef School. When a governess was not available the rancher's wife would usually teach her children and the children of the other cowboys on the ranch. Some of the ranchers even built small school houses near the headquarters.

A graduate of one of these earlier schools, James Rooney, was born in Fort Stockton and spent his life here. In May of 1922 he wrote an article for the graduation class of the high school about the school that he had attended. He said that it was located in an adobe building with a mud roof near the eastern part of the old town and was' on the west bank of the creek. It was locally known as "The White House". He attended the school in 1879 and gives a description of life in a school of that period. He said that there were no desks or other equipment and that the students used their knees on which to put their slates for writing. There was no playground equipment and the grounds were worn bare from the activities of the students. He claimed that the teacher used tobacco which the children learned to accept. There were ten pupils. This building that Mr. Rooney attended school in has long since been torn down.

Fort Stockton's second school was held in one long room of the home of Mrs. Effie Odom at 107 East James Street, just above the Young Stone and east of the courthouse. The house was owned by Pilar Duran before Mrs. Odom purchased it. (It is

now the pink adobe house) A Miss Gorman was the teacher and was considered to be thorough and efficient. She taught diacritical marking of words, and geography was taught with the assistance of an old globe. The equipment was a little better than the first school, having some long crudely built desks. There were no blackboards but each student had his own slate and a small piece of sponge to keep it clean. O. W. Williams went to Toyah in 1885 and brought his wife, two children and his sister to Fort Stockton. They lived in the bottom floor of the old jail and were expected to provide meals for the prisoners. Mrs. O. W. Williams (Susan) was employed to teach school for Seventy-Five Dollars a month in 1885.¹

In the fall of 1897 W. P. Ratchford taught school in Fort Stockton. He boarded with Mrs. A. J. Royal. In 1898 he volunteered for the Spanish American War but could not get a release from his school contract. In 1899 he married a cousin of Howell Johnson, Miss Belle Brown. Ratchford was a cousin of Mrs. Ed Fromme. Ed Fromme worked in the Rooney-Butz Store. Ratchford rode a bicycle from Paint Rock, Texas, to Fort Stockton. He graduated from A&M in 1892. He was Pecos County Surveyor from March, 1898 to 1906. There were about twenty students consisting of the children of the Army Officers stationed here, Mexican children, and the children of the civilians.

About all that is known about the third Fort Stockton School is that it was in the small adobe house directly across the street west of the courthouse. The fourth schoolhouse, a one-room adobe southwest of the courthouse, is generally regarded as the oldest school building in Fort Stockton. Jessie Williams, a sister of O. W. Williams, was the teacher. The Mexican School is undoubtedly the building which is now used as a Day School. The little white building was used, while the Army Post was in operation, as the Western Union Office. It was after the abandonment of the post that it was used as a school building. Like its predecessors, it was also poorly equipped. Slates were still in use. Miss Susan A. Williams came in 1885 and taught for three years in the abandoned Army barracks.

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There were some eighteen pupils, Mexicans and Americans all attending together. This school also was equipped with long rows of crudely made benches. Some of Miss Williams students were Olga, Mary and Charlie Heid; Vida Johnson and her brother, Tom Edgar, Mary Valentine, Nora and George Puringtion (children of an army officer), [there is some text missing here].

According to Mrs. James Rooney, the fifth school was opened in 1895 with thirty students. It was conducted in the old soldier's barracks which was a large and commodious building. This school was better equipped than the others. It had more modern desks and had a progressive teacher in Miss Lenore (Pinky) Mitchell, who will be remembered by many of the old timers. Some of the time it was necessary to have three children to one desk because of the many pupils.

A short time before 1895 Miss Essie Macdonald taught school on the Rooney farm north of town. She later became Mrs. James Rooney. In 1895 Miss Agnes Rooney, who later became Mrs. H. H. Butz, taught in the school southwest of the courthouse. By 1901 the scholastic population had grown to a total of 401 which included the enrollment from Sanderson.

On September 7, 1908, school opened with an enrollment of seventy. The principal was J. D. Shaw, who also taught the more advanced students. Other teachers were Miss Essie Libscomb and Mrs. L. o. Chilton. Attendance was very irregular and textbooks were not readily available. There were now two public schools in Fort Stockton. A grade school was completed in November of 1908 at a cost of \$11,000. This school was located between First and Second Streets by the railroad tracks and was for the American children. The honor roll on November 27, 1908, listed Oscar Adams, Myrtle Cato, Mattie Sue Odom, Enid Odom, Iva Crawford, Mable Shaw, Calphus Hurst, Gladys Parke, and Hart Johnson.

In December, 1908, a teachers institute was held, which was mainly a discussion group. Invitations were extended to friends and patrons of the schools. This meeting was held in lieu of the five days required by the Texas Legislature for a teacher to attend an institute each year. The penalty for non-attendance was cancellation of teaching certificates. On May 19, 1911, the Fort Stockton Graded Public School by the railroad track closed for the year. T. A. Williams was the principal. He came to Fort Stockton

from Cameron, Texas. One week later on May 26 the School Board met in the First State Bank for organization. Shipton Parke was elected president with H. H. Butz as secretary. The school census was now 561, an increase of 177 from the 1910 scholastic population of 384.

Faculty selected for the year 1911-12 were G. T. Jessup, Superintendent; T. A. Williams, Principal; Miss Sysis V. Beal, fifth and sixth grades; Mrs. G. W. Rose, third and fourth grades; Miss Laura B. Hays, primary; Mrs. Lou Singleton Ayers, Elocution and Expression; and J. C. Nichols, English. Sanitary drinking fountains were installed during this year.

A teachers institute for Pecos County was held in the Public School Building at Fort Stockton from December 18 to 22, 1911. A new school house was erected on the Irrigated Lands, Block I. This new school was known as Valley View and was ready for occupancy in September, 1912. Miss Estella Henkle was the first teacher for the Valley View School in 1912-13. Under her direction the school grounds were fenced and trees planted. Miss Henkle was a relative of the Wallace and the Schlegel families. The available school fund in January, 1912 was fifty (50¢) per capita per month.

In 1912 Mr. H. H. Butz was President of the School Board with C. C. Rollins as Secretary. Professor H. C. Baker of Alpine was elected as Superintendent of Schools and Professor J. C. Wells as Principal. Miss Dorothy Townsend became the assistant teacher for the Mexican School. Miss Ethel Moss of Alpine was selected to teach the Barilla School, which was located on a ranch west of Fort Stockton.

On October 16, 1912, a Mother's Club was organized with Mrs. Sanderson as President; Mrs. George Spears, Vice President; Mrs. Campbell, Treasurer, and Mrs. Kalb, Secretary. They voted to meet on the last Wednesday of each month. In December of 1912 a school tax not to exceed fifty cents per \$100 valuation was proposed and presented to the voters. The High School was considering the publication of a high school paper. The older boys and girls were becoming interested in basketball. The boys divided into five teams with the winning team receiving championship honors. The girls teams were challenged by Alpine and Mertzon. In February, 1913, Fort Stockton played basketball at the school house against Alpine. A street parade was held Saturday morning and the game began at 10:30 a.m. Another game was played at 2:30 p.m. Some of the

players were Pansy Baumgardner, Annie Rooney, Eva Riggs, Stella Morton, Leaby Bond and Madge Gibson. Alpine won. In April, 1913, Fort Stockton High School baseball team defeated Buena Vista School by a score of 28 to 12.

The second football game ever played in Fort Stockton (we can find no record of the first game) was on September 13, 1913, between the boys of the high school and a team from the town known as "Scrubs". The "Scrubs" won by a score of 3 to 0 on a touch-back. Two of the players were Cleo McKenzie and Hubert Mason.

The commencement sermon in honor of the high school graduation class of 1913 was held in the Methodist Church with Reverend Lyons, pastor of the San Angelo Baptist Church officiating. The 1913 graduates were Helen Jackson, Myrtle Cato, Lloyd Andrews, and Melvin Thompson. Commencement exercises were held at the "Happy Hour Theater" with Mayor James Rooney presenting the diplomas.

Because of crowded conditions at the Fort Stockton Grade School, all children under the age of seven were excluded from the 1913-14 term. The increase in population necessitated more room so seven cents on the \$100 valuation was voted for the needed expansion. The system now had seven teachers: O. B. Rollins, Superintendent; W. H. Bodenheimer, Principal; Miss Florence Kalb; Miss Grace Crosson; Miss Laura Hayes; Miss Stella Brown and Miss Annie Jean. Two Hundred Sixty Seven (267) students enrolled in the fall term of 1913.

There were now two teachers at Valley View in the Irrigated Lands and it became necessary to add a new room. All seven elementary grades were taught by Estella Hankle, Principal and Grace Cole, Assistant. Dorothy Townsend was elected for the Mexican School.

A Teachers Institute was held in February, 1914 at Alpine for teachers of Brewster, Presidio, Terrell, Davis, and Pecos Counties. Teachers from Fort Stockton went by train. Another meeting was held in the district courtroom in Fort Stockton on March 6 and 7, 1914.

On September 7, 1914, school opened for the 1914-15 term. The available school funds were at \$8 per capita. Madison Hall was the new Superintendent. Miss Fulcher taught at the Graef School near Hovey. (The Hovey School building burned in December, 1914.) School District Number Three was at Barilla. In January, 1915, a resolution was

made by L. F. Robinson, J. H. Sullivan and E. Marion Wingren for consolidation of country district schools. This had first been discussed in December of 1914. This consolidation was favored by the teachers at the Institute held in October. They threw all their influence behind it. In May, 1915, Mothers' Club name was changed to Parents and Teachers Club. In May, 1915, graduates were Virgil Thompson, Macon Jack, August Achterberg, Mary Lea Thomson, Helen Odom, and Wilma Harris. Graduation exercises were held in the Methodist Church.

The faculty at Valley View for 1916 were Estella Henkle, Principal, and A. U. Harris, Assistant. For the Fort Stockton Grade School there were M. T. Hall, Superintendent, Emma Wingren, Blossom Brown, Zonie Hinsey, Stella Brown, Willie Dixie and a Miss Wilkerson. Pansy Baumgardner was elected to teach at the "Little Mexico" School.

A school bond issue proposed in October, 1915, for the purpose of building a stone or brick building passed by an overwhelming majority. A temporary school building was erected at the southwest corner of the present Intermediate School on Second Street at a cost of \$1,917.12. This was used during the 1915-16 term. Sidney Spencer and Company of Chicago and New York purchased the school bonds for \$50,000. The sale of the bonds was handled by the Temple State Bank. M. L. Wallen was the architect to draw the plans for the new Fort Stockton Public School on Oklahoma Street. Edward H. Harrell and Company of Houston, Texas, was the contractor. The building was started on June 20, 1916, and was completed in 150 days at an approximate cost of \$60,000. The school had its own water system consisting of a large well, windmill, storage tank (on top of the building), six sanitary drinking fountains, sewage system and septic tank. The building was three stories high. The physics and chemistry labs, domestic science department, and manual training department were located in the basement. The first floor housed the Superintendent's office, the library, and seven classrooms. On the third floor were more classrooms and the auditorium.

Through the efforts of H. H. Butz the old Fort Stockton Grade School building by the railroad was sold to the Jesuits in 1916 for a Noviciate. The price was \$3,000. This was during the time that the Catholic Church and its activities were being suppressed in Mexico. A school was opened at Leon Valley October 2, 1916, with Miss Bates of San

Angelo as teacher, in a building near the Frank S. Mills residence. In January, 1916, a Victrola was introduced in the schools. Judge Johnson donated \$9.00 for records for the new machine. A school paper "The Shield" was edited by Floyd Reeves. He was later Superintendent of Fort Stockton Schools from 1931 to 1942.

The new building, which was to become the new Fort Stockton High School on Oklahoma Street, was occupied in February, 1917, with C. V. Compton as Superintendent and an enrollment of about 300. In 1918 the records show Superintendent Compton was earning an annual salary of \$2,000. The school was known as Common School District Number One. A position was circulated and sent to Governor Ferguson asking that the school be declared an Independent School District. The Legislature of Texas at its first called Session by HB59, Special Sessions Acts of 1917, created the Fort Stockton Independent School District. The census showed 514 school age children in 1918. The Fort Stockton Independent School District was organized on October 12, 1917, and Howell Johnson, County Judge of Pecos County appointed trustees H. H. Butz, H. C. Petty, John Odom, W. P. Rooney, F. S. Mills, F. Stanley Wilson and Waldo Williams. H. H. Butz was elected President of the Board. The school was classified as second class in 1917 but was working for first class standing by the end of the year. In 1917-18 the school became affiliated with the State University and was granted eighteen and one-half credits.

The Fort Stockton Independent School District presently encompasses an area of 3006 square miles; enrollment in the six schools, Fort Stockton High School, Fort Stockton Middle School, Fort Stockton Intermediate School, Apache Elementary School, Alamo Elementary School, and Comanche Elementary School was 3272 in 1981-82. Total personnel employed in 1981-82 totaled 413, 254 of which are certified personnel. In 1917-18 schools were still maintained at Valley View, "Little Mexico" and Leon Valley. Auto trucks were used to bring older students to town. There were four trucks, one went east, one west, and two went north. Transporting students by truck was let out for bids. Citizens living in various areas were granted contracts ranging from \$80 to \$260 a month depending on the number of students and size of area. Areas were Leon Valley, Block 2 (7D), and Block 1. In the fall of 1917 W. B. Westerman was employed as coach and the manual training instructor. Track work began and there were four tennis courts

available. Federal aid was granted to Fort Stockton Schools in 1919-20 as the school was one of twelve in the state of Texas to comply with the requirements necessary to receive Federal recognition. The following is quoted from the Austin Statesman of October 27, 1919. "The high school at Fort Stockton is held up as a model for other high schools of the state by Professor S.M.N. Mars, chief of the high school division of the Department of Education. The school now has sixteen credits for affiliation."

In 1919 the School Tax Office was separated from the county and G. C. Hazeltine was appointed Tax Assessor-Collector. The valuation of the school district was \$5,748.888. The present valuation for 1981-82 is \$1,748,873,820. The Board accepted Mr. Hazeltine's resignation on April 16, 1921, and appointed Mrs. C. E. Gilman. Her office was in the courthouse. On March 29, 1923, Bess Yates Copeland was appointed Tax Assessor-Collector and on January 4, 1924, the Board voted to discontinue the tax office. It was taken over by the Pecos County Tax Collector. This became effective as of March 31, 1924. Tax Assessor appointed was J. L. Moore and the Tax Collector was D. S. Barker. The school tax office was again established in February 17, 1948, and on March 8, 1948, E. F. Triplett was employed as Tax Assessor-Collector and Business Manager. Mr. Triplett served in this capacity until the 1975-76 school year.

The first independent school was used for all grades - one through eleven - until the erection of a new building in 1931 on Second Street on the same school property. The old school then became an elementary school housing the first six grades. When Comanche Elementary School was built in 1953, the first five grades were moved to Comanche Elementary and the old High School on Oklahoma Street was used as a sixth grade building. This first school building was used until 1974 when it was razed.

In March, 1923, Mr. J. W. Head, Superintendent, organized the first school band at the original cost of \$52.55.

In 1923-24 school year auto trucks were still being used to transport the older children. Contracts were awarded to A. M. Warnock, E. H. Warnock, Haskel Gowan and E. R. Dyche and the routes covered the Monahans Road, Buena Vista Road, Seven D and Leon Valley. The building that had been occupied by the Jesuits in 1916 as a school for Catholic priests was again purchased in the summer of 1926 and the three Mexican schools of Pecos County were consolidated that fall. There was an enrollment of 248

pupils and six teachers. Miss Edith Cooper of Sonora was head of the school. Other teachers were Mrs. Byron Durham, Mrs. Marlin Kastner, Miss Marjorie Stansell, Miss Ora Smith and Miss Maurine Stansell. A Domestic Science Department was started during the year and the first Mexican Parent-Teacher Association was organized and federated with a membership of seventy.

The Board minutes of November 29, 1937, reflect that eighty-six votes , were cast on the proposition of issuing bonds in the amount of \$50,000 for purpose of constructing a public free school building. Sixty-six voted for the proposition. This school building, later known as Butz School, was built over a forty year period. Twelve rooms and a gym were built in 1938. The first block of land was purchased in January, 1938 for \$500.00 from Joe G. Montague. A contract was awarded to McAlister and Tucker Builders in February, 1938. The building cost approximately \$75,000. The school opened for the 1938-39 term with an enrollment of approximately 250 students in grades one through eleven and was called Fort Stockton Public School at the time. Mr. Guy Moses, the first principal, knew some interesting stories about the various graves that were found when the first addition to the building was started in 1939. Mr. Moses stated that only one grave was actually disturbed. Mrs. Cleone Crump, Mrs. Kathleen Hinsey, and Mrs. Ruth Triplett were among the first teachers that first year at the new school. Classes were large in the elementary grades and many times the children were late getting to school. Teachers had to be especially flexible to take care of the needs of the children. Some of the other early teachers were Ara Smith, Hellon Harral, Virginia Mitchell Curry, and Norton Curry. The school was actually given the name of H. H. Butz School on April 15, 1941. It was named in honor of Herman H. Butz, an insurance executive, school board president, and an early pioneer of the Pecos County area. Mr. Butz resigned from the school board in October, 1940, after serving thirty years on the board. Butz School did not actually come back under the supervision of the superintendent until June 9, 1942. From May 14, 1940.until June, 1942, it had been operated as an individual school with Principal Moses being responsible to the school board. The young people who graduated from Butz had their own graduation apart from the other high school in town. Around 1948 the grade structure changed at Butz when young people began attending high school on the present intermediate school campus. The structure changed to grades one through

seven then later to grades one through four. In 1974 kindergarten was opened to all children, five years of age, in the community.

At the present, Butz is a Community Continuing Education Center. Butz students were moved to the Alamo Campus at the beginning of the 1981-82 school year. There were other additions and remodeling at Butz such as two additional rooms in 1953. Another two rooms were built in 1955. In 1972-73 the principal's office and the cafeteria were built. In 1973-74 the school was remodeled and air conditioning and heating was installed and new lighting was put in and many ceilings were lowered. By 1942 some of the Mexican pupils were attending high school with the Anglo pupils. In September, 1938, the school board minutes reflect that the first Mexican student (Frank Barron) be allowed to attend high school, but two weeks later the action was rescinded. In September, 1955, Blacks were integrated at the high school level. Mexicans and Anglos were attending school together in the seven and eighth grades in 1953 and in 1956 in the fourth and fifth grades. Blacks were integrated in the elementary school in 1961. Total integration was completed in 1972 when Butz Elementary no longer admitted only Mexican children in the first three grades.

In 1953, a new school for elementary children was erected at 803 North Rio Street and was known as Comanche Elementary. Mr. L. V. Arnett was the first principal. Comanche Elementary was soon too small to house all of the students who were enrolled in the first five grades. A new building was erected in 1958 on the Marathon Highway south of the railroad tracks. It was named Alamo Elementary School. Mr. J. G. Huckaby was Superintendent at that time and Mr. Simmons became the first principal. The fourth and fifth grade students were moved there. At one time after enlargement of the building, the students in the sixth grade also attended at this site. Fort Stockton High School was completed and opened in September, 1962, at 1200 West 17th Street.. James G. Huckaby was the Superintendent at the time. Architects were Groos, Cliff and Ball and W. B. Uhlhorn was the contractor. The original building was 125,943 square feet with an up-to-date vocational training department. Since the original building was constructed in 1962, the building has had five additions constructed over a period of eighteen years. W. R. Weaver donated sixteen oil wells to the school district and the proceeds from the wells

went into the construction of a 922-seat auditorium in the original building. This was in accordance with Mr. Weaver's wishes, for whom the auditorium was named.

A new junior high school was erected in 1971 at 1200 West Second Street with Peters and Fields of Odessa as architects and Area Builders as contractors. The old building on this acreage had housed the sixth, seventh and eighth graders with E. L. Howard as principal. It became known as the sixth grade building and the sixth graders from Alamo were moved back to that location. The new junior high and the old high school building on Second Street were used for eighth and ninth grades.

In 1967 an elementary school was built at 208 W. Eighteenth Street. It became known as Apache Elementary School with Weldon G. Boggus as the first principal. James G. Huckaby was the Superintendent. Peters and Fields of Odessa were the architects and J. W. Cooper Construction Company of Odessa was the contractor.

In the summer of 1981 a new Middle School was completed at 2500 West Fifth Street to house sixth through eighth grades. Huckabee & Donham of Andrews were the architects and BFW Construction Company was the contractor. At this time Butz students moved to Alamo and Butz became known as the Butz Community Education Center; Alamo students moved to the old junior high building and the building became known as Fort Stockton Intermediate and housed fourth and fifth graders. Jon M. Ryan Was Superintendent during construction of the Fort Stockton Middle School. Fred Ellyson, Sr. donated 30 acres of land to the school district on which to build this new facility and the theatre in the new building was named in his honor.

Superintendents of Schools in the Fort Stockton Independent School District since organization in 1917 are as follows:

C.V. Compton	1917 - 1922	M. E. Fincher	1942 - 1947
J. W. Head	1922 - 1925	E.W. (Ike) Smith	1947 - 1953
G. W. Page	1926 - 1927	James G. Huckaby	1953 - 1974
H. H. Crain	1927 - 1929	Otto W. Langlois	1974 - 1976
V. A. Byrd	1929 - 1931	Jon M. Ryan	1976 to Present
J. F. Reeves	1931 - 1942		

Students of Fort Stockton High School have excelled in various sports activities through the years. All of them are too numerous to mention, but some should be noted.

Boys won district championships in basketball in 1947, 1961, 1969 and 1970 with coaches Ben Harris, Sherry Na11, and Joe Moring. Football players won Eastern Half Championship of District 30-B in 1939 with Clyde Parks as coach. In 1963 Fort Stockton became co-champs of District 2-AAA. In 1979 District was won with John Blocker as coach.

Girls, with Mary Ella James as coach, became district volleyball champs in 1964. In 1957 District, Regional, and State championships were won by the girls in volleyball. District titles were also won in 1967 and 1968. Mary Ella James was coach.

The swimming team took the State Championship in 1975. The 440 yard relay team won the State Championship in 1962. Daniel Valenzuela won the 440 yard dash that same year. In 1974 the boys tennis team won Regional and went to State.

Enrollment figures were taken from the Chamber of Commence and School District records as follows:

Year	Scholastics	Year	Scholastics
1920	635	1939	1347
1921	685	1940	1363
1922	684	1941	1427
1924	690	1942	1417
1929	844	1943	1449
1930	896	1944	1467
1931	1048	1945	1602
1932	1079	1952	1574
1933	1058	1953	1777
1934	1111	1964	2455
1935	1144	1970	3205
1936	1187	1975	3256
1937	1307	1981	3272
1938	1306		

The following is a list of the number of graduates from Fort Stockton Schools
from 1913 to the present time:

Year	No.	Year	No.
1913	4	1947	51
1914	0	1948	32
1915	6	1949	35
1916	0	1950	44
1917	7	1951	37
1918	9	1952	44
1919	6	1953	41
1920	9	1954	33
1921	15	1955	42
1922	16	1956	39
1923	12	1957	39
1924	12	1958	41
1925	11	1959	37
1926	18	1960	61
1927	14	1961	81
1928	22	1962	68
1929	32	1963	76
1930	22	1964	69
1931	27	1965	107
1932	25	1966	102
1933	25	1967	113
1934	24	1968	128
1935	33	1969	137
1936	38	1970	140
1937	22	1971	171
1938	20	1972	167
1939	21	1973	166
1940	30	1974	169
1941	29	1975	167
1942	38	1976	157
1943	41	1977	172
1944	21	1978	165
1945	24	1979	211
1946	13	1980	182
		1981	189

The following excerpts are taken from the School Board Minutes:

Date	Excerpt
2-21-1919	F. S. Mills passed away and was replaced on the Board by Dr. A. E. Barrett.
4-18-1919	H. C. Petty was elected Board President.
5-16-1919	J. F. Victory appointed board member to replace H. H. Butz who resigned.
10-25-1919	Victory resigned as board member and O. E. Danielson replaced him on the Board.
4-4-1921	Mark Reeves elected to board to replace J. M. Odom.
4-29-21	Tax rate set at 50¢. (M&O 44¢ - I&S 6¢)
9-8-21	Waldo Williams resigned as board member and H. D. Mendel appointed.
4-3-22	H. H. Butz, Mrs. Carrie Thomson and Harry Durham elected to replace H. C. Petty, H. D. Mendel and Dr. A. E. Barrett.
4-1922	Average monthly payroll - \$3,300.00.
1-26-23	School for twenty Mexican students was established in "Little Mexico" Settlement two miles north of Fort Stockton for students in "Little Mexico" and on irrigated lands.
4-16-23	J. A. Casebier, D. B. Pouncey, D. S. Beeman and E. W. Martin elected to Board to replace W. P. Rooney, O. E. Danielson, Mark Reeves and F. Stanley Wilson. Prior to taking oath of office, E. W. Martin passed away and W. P. Rooney was appointed to remain as a board member.
4-23-23	W. P. Rooney was elected as Board President.
12-20-23	W. P. Rooney and H. H. Butz resigned as board members.
1-4-24	E. W. Gorom was elected to the Board replacing W. P. Rooney.
1924	School finances in bad shape in February and March with an approximate \$10,000 deficit.
4-8-24	Mrs. Carrie Thomson and Harry Durham re-elected to board and T. E. Harral elected as new board member.
4-28-24	No action taken in the election of teachers for Leon Valley or Little Mexico Schools since it is not known when patrons of these schools will want to enter their children.
5-14-24	Twelve high school diplomas were ordered and paid for.
8-29-24	People getting bids on transporting students requested to bring in their trucks for the board to inspect.
10-27-24	Employed one teacher for Little Mexico Settlement.
12-30-24	Discussion in regard to school children going to picture shows during the week. Some of the board felt this should be restricted to Friday and Saturday nights. Action tabled.
2-23-25	School lunches set at 20¢.
4-1925	John Casebier and D. S. Beeman re-elected to Board and S. C. Johnson and H. H. Butz elected.
4-17-25	Animal Husbandry department discontinued.
8-28-25	H. H. Butz resigned from Board because he was a stockholder in the First National Bank.

Date	Excerpt
9-5-25	Jack Hubbs filled vacancy created by resignation of Mr. Butz.
4-10-26	T. E. Harral and Harry Durham re-elected to board and J. M. Montgomery elected as new member.
4-16-26	H. H. Crain from Lubbock appointed new School Superintendent.
5-1926	School was being held in an old building owned by Catholics and rent was paid to the priest.
6-1926	Board voted to purchase school building from the Catholic Church for \$2,500 and payout in five annual payments. Board voted that all Mexican Schools consolidate and all Mexican students go to one school.
8-1926	High School to be connected to city water.
12-1926	Purchased the Leon School Building from Webb Farm for \$150.00.
4-1927	I. T. Pryor, Jr., J. S. J. S. Oates, G. H. Crone and A. Neimann elected to school board. J. M. Montgomery was elected President, J. S. Oates as Vice President, and Harry Durham as Secretary. Superintendent instructed to request teachers not to attend dances or other activities that interfere with school work on a school night.
8-11-27	T. E. (Ed) Harral and S. T. Pryor, Jr. resigned as board members. Tax rate set at \$0.75 per hundred valuation (\$0.10 interest and sinking; \$0.65 maintenance). Board voted that secretary should buy 80 tons of coal for next school term.
9-15-27	Motion voted that no children under six years of age the first of September be admitted to school. S. T. Pryor was reappointed to Board since he had disposed of his bank stock. J.R. Bennett appointed to board to: replace T. E. Harral.
1-1928	Due to an epidemic, it was ordered that all students and teachers be vaccinated against smallpox.
4-1928	Harry Durham re-elected to board and newly elected board members were Marsh Lea and J. L. Mitchell. Reorganized the Board and J. S. Oates was elected President; Marsh Lea Vice President; and Harry Durham as Secretary. V. A. Byrd from Ferris, Texas, was elected Superintendent for 1928-29. Mr. Crain passed away.
1-1929	Board approved purchasing of boys football sweaters.
4-11-29	Names of complete Board mentioned, as follows: President: Marsh Lea Vice President: I. T. Pryor, Jr. Secretary Harry Durham Members: J. S. Oates, G. H. Crone, A. Neimann, J. L. Mitchell.
4-18-29	Board voted that in the event any teacher should marry during the school term, their contract is thereby cancelled.
6-27-29	Board voted that school purchase school bus bodies for transporting American school children.

Date	Excerpt
10-31-29	A. Neimann resigned from Board and Clayton Williams was appointed to serve the unexpired term. Also J. S. Oates and I. T. Pryor, Jr. resigned.
2-10-30	H. H. Butz was elected to serve term of I. S. Oates and Harry Harris was elected to serve. term of I. T. Pryor, Jr.
4-7-30	Marsh Lea and J. L. Mitchell were replaced on board by J. A. Casbier and H. M. Long.
1-19-31	Board approved the location of the new high school building to be built in the center of Missouri Street.
3-6-31	H. M. Long resigned from Board and J. A. Frederick was elected to fill unexpired term.
4-13-31	Following election, the board was reorganized as follows: President: H.H. Butz Vice President: Harry Harris Secretary: Harry Durham Members: W. A. Hadden Waldo Williams
7-23-31	Advertised for bids on gas piping for Mexican and grammar schools. Prior to this they had coal heaters and took bids for the purchase of coal.
9-21-31	High School complete. Board approved and paid contractors.
11-25-31	Physical Training required and credit to be given on course.
4-13-32	Durham, Casebier and Frederick were re-elected to board.
4-5-33	W. A. Hadden and Guy Rachal elected to board.
3-22-34	H. H. Butz and Waldo Williams re-elected to board.
5-31-34	Voted to notify all married lady teachers that after the next year, 1934-35, they will not be considered for re-election. No other married women will be employed.
1-10-35	Waldo Williams resigned from board and Dr. E. A. Robertson appointed for remainder of term.
1-31-35	One Hundred Dollars allowed for band uniforms.
5-15-35	W. A. Hadden and E. A. Robertson resigned from board because they qualified as City Attorney and City Alderman. G. W. Hillger and S. C. Douglass filled the positions.
8-20-35	Contract for band hall was let to J. L. Mitchell at a price of \$4,189.72.
9-18-35	J. A. Casebier and Harry Durham resigned from board.
10-24-35	Goerge Baker and Fred J. Ellyson were appointed to fill vacancies on board. Mrs. J. M. Montgomery and Mrs. Will Harral elected to board.
4-23-36	J. A. Frederick resigned and W. E. Lawrence filled the vacancy.
5-28-36	Married women to be hired (action of 5-31-34 rescinded).
9-24-36	First grade to be divided and another teacher to be hired.
11-7-36	No hiring of married women teachers during 1936-37 term.
4-2-37	Dancing in school facilities to be permitted.
9-1-37	Present Board: Mrs. W. R. Harral, George Baker, W. E. Lawrence, George W. Hillger, H. H. Butz, F. J. Ellyson and Mrs. J. M. Montgomery.

Date	Excerpt
7-26-38	Board voted to purchase two school buses. Routes were 7-D Route 3, El San Pedro, Leon Valley, Little Mexico and Blocks 1 and 2, Longfellow-Sanderson.
4-1939	Mrs. J. M. Montgomery resigned from board and Mrs. J. W. Butler appointed to fill position.
4-4-39	Plans were discussed for adding twelfth grade.
8-18-39	W. E. Lawrence resigned as board member.
10-3-39	M. Clayton Puckett appointed to fill position.
10-15-40	H. H. Butz resigned after 30 years on board.
11-4-40	J. R. Alexander appointed to fill position.
12-21-40	Board voted to build new football field and two tennis courts for \$1,600. Lights, grandstand- and fence owned by School, City and County moved from old field to new field.
4-1941	Following election, board members were: M. C. Puckett, George Baker, Fred J. Ellyson, Mrs. W. R. Harral, J. R. Alexander, Mrs. J. W. Butler, and George Hillger.
4-15-41	Latin-American School named Herman H. Butz School.
5-1942	Board declared May 4 and May 15, 1942, as holidays for registration for Sugar Rationing.
6-9-42	Superintendent Reeves resigned and M. E. Fincher was appointed Superintendent effective July 1, 1942 at an annual salary of \$3,400.
9-1-42	F. J. Ellyson resigned from board.
10-10-41	George Baker resigned from board. O. W. Adams and L. D. White appointed to fill positions.
4-6-42	Clay Adams elected as new board member.
8-11-45	Board voted to purchase one A-25 airplane for \$100 and have it delivered in back yard of high school.
4-2-46	Clyde Park and Tom McKenzie elected as new board members.
2-12-47	Mrs. Fred P. Harral resigned from board.
4-5-47	Joe Hinson, Clyde Smith and Mofyt Russell elected as new board members.
4-28-47	Summer Recreation Program set up with the City and School being responsible.
9-8-47	Board approved money to start a school paper.
3-8-48	Purchase portable bleachers jointly with County. Bleachers installed at football field by George O'Neil in 1948. Purchase two - 48 passenger buses from Carpenter.
4-5-48	Harrison Dyche and Lee Hunter elected as new board members.
6-14-49	Purchase order system established. Purchases of \$50 or more must have board approval.
10-11-49	J. Harrison Dyche resigned from board and Harry Carpenter appointed.
11-8-49	Board voted to purchase a 72 passenger bus.