



## II. THE SUPER 60's

Willma Cavitt retired in 1960, but ended up staying home for only five years! When Dale Bartell was Principal of Eureka Union Grammar School, each Wednesday was "Hot Dog Day" and the PTA sold hot dogs for 15 cents each.

The 1960's were characterized by a movement away from conservatism. "No longer content to be images of the generation ahead of them, young people wanted change. The changes affected education, values, lifestyles, laws, and entertainment. Many of the revolutionary ideas which began in the sixties are continuing to evolve today."

The average salary in the 60's was \$4,743 and teachers were paid \$5,174. Minimum wage was \$1.00/hour.

Salient features of the 60's included: civil rights movement, sit-ins, Cuban missile crisis (1962), Neil Armstrong - first man to walk on the moon (1969), heart transplants, Beatles, Beach Boys, Elvis home from the army, Woodstock, bell bottom jeans, unisex dressing, skateboards, GI Joe, love beads, troll dolls, bouffant hair styles, go-go boots, Nehru jackets, peasant skirts, granny dresses, mini skirts, hot pants, chunky shoes, Camelot, Hello Dolly, Oliver, Man of La Mancha, Hair, Funny Girl, Chubby Checker and the Twist (1961), The Flintstones. (Kingwood College Library web site)

A PTA-sponsored Halloween Carnival was held on October 28, 1960 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. "to solve the problem of trick or treating." Incidents of poisoned candy and razor blades in apples were news headlines from years past.

The carnival featured the following booths: The Country Store, White Elephants and Plants, Stuffed Animals, Cakes, Pastries and Coffee, Hot Dogs and Pop, Pop Corn, Fish Pond, The Spook House, Snow Cone Booth, Games, Ring-Toss, Cub Scout Booth and Comical Photos. The children's Costume Parade took place at 7 p.m.

PTA members voted to purchase six wooden puzzles and the cabinet to hold the puzzles at a cost of \$15.00.

Construction started in the fall of **1960** on three of the four classrooms in the north wing of **Eureka School**. Mr. Bartell wrote, "The three-room addition will soon be ready for the roof. Hopefully, the black top for the playground will be finished before the rains commence."

The **December 1960** PTA meeting was a Family Christmas Carol Sing. The PTA furnished table-sized Christmas trees for each room and the children decorated them with ornaments they had made or bought.

In the **January, 1961** Eureka Union Communiqué, we are told:

The new 3-room addition is completed, except for the heaters. "With the cold weather, these are a necessity, so as a result we are unable to occupy them at the moment." The contractor finished almost three months ahead of schedule and through no fault of anyone, the heaters were just not available. Another teacher will be hired to teach a combination first-second grade. Our present enrollment is 262 pupils so we are growing."

In an article for the PTA newsette, Miss Ernestine Prather wrote:

We, the first grade, want to tell the world, IT IS SPRING! We know, because we discovered new things around us today. This is a time of many 'NEW' things for us. First - our new room, new desks, crayons, pencils, books and friends. Then, new scenery around us everywhere. On the trip to school we see new lambs, green fields, blossoms, and mud puddles at the bus stop. At school we see a beautiful pear orchard in bloom, acacia trees aglow, grass pushing through hardtop, and a colony of lady bugs in tall green grass. Even the rocks put on spring colors. Our shadow is a different one than we saw a month ago. Our songs are cheerful and swing with spring...

The three new classrooms were opened for student use in **February, 1961**.

On **April 10, 1961**, the Board held a special meeting to discuss teacher contracts for the 1961-62 school year and to discuss the adoption of a written set of policies to govern the school. This was the beginning of our **Board Policies**.

The Friday before Easter vacation a dance was held in the multi-purpose room during P.E. Boys and girls wanting to dance were instructed to form two lines. All boys *not* wanting to dance were told to pair off and do sit-ups. One boy started sit-ups every time a girl asked him to dance. A school sit-up record was made! The girls not wanting to dance did stretching exercises. Boy's and girl's choice in dancing worked fine, with about 60% of all students dancing.

From an **April 11, 1961** Communiqué:

*Special Announcement:*

The Board of Trustees of Eureka Union School voted unanimously at the regular monthly meeting to change the title of their administrator, Dale Bartell, **from Principal to Superintendent**. This action was taken because of the growth in the district and because the administrator has been fulfilling the position of Superintendent for the present year.

The administrator will remain on the same salary schedule that he was on prior to the change of titles.



**“Mr. Dale Bartell**, Eureka’s first Superintendent, was born in Otis, Colorado. He entered the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942 following graduation from high school, and served as pilot with the 342<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron in the South Pacific, attaining the rank of major. After WW II, he attended Peru State Teacher’s College in Nebraska, where he received his B.S. degree in Education and Omaha University, where he received his M.S. He also studied at Sacramento State University. At the time of his appointment, he had been with EUSD for six years after ten years spent in teaching and administrative positions.

Dale and his wife Maxine are the parents of three boys: Dennis, Daryl and Douglas. His interests include Foothill Farm’s Improvement Association, Little League, Masonic Lodge and CTA and NEA. The Bartell’s relaxation time includes swimming and camping.” –PTA *Newsette*/Resolution

Back in the 60's, the students were actively involved in preparing and maintaining fields and game areas, as explained in a newsletter.

Each class has selected a baseball diamond on the school grounds which is theirs to keep up, play and practice on. Five diamond sites were laid out and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys have made their bases of sand in burlap bags, picked up the rocks, and are trying to grow grass in the infield, while planning their back stop.”

The students are painting lines on the new asphalt for four square, volleyball, “double” four square, relay and squad lines, shuffleboard and the basketball court. They are using striping paint purchased at surplus for ten cents a can, digging the hole for the basketball goal with shovels purchased at practically nothing and can use the sledge hammer purchased at 85 cents. We will put up the 1" climbing ropes and make some jump ropes for the primary grades from rope purchased at 30 cents for the 90 feet of 1" rope. This makes good Tug-of-war rope, too.

Trading stamps were big in the 60's era. An October 26, 1961 *Newsette* made a plea for Blue Chip stamps. “We are saving Blue Chip stamps to purchase a new electric percolator for our school.”

The PTA sponsored a Bake Sale on Election Day, November 6. The Board of Trustees purchased a third bus for the Eureka School District.

In 1964, the Eureka Student Council sponsored the contest for the “Wildcat” mascot drawing. They also sponsored a volunteer project for the Viet Nam soldiers.

The first **Book Fair** was held on November 10, 12 and 13, 1964. “It is sincerely hoped that this might become an annual event at Eureka School. Total sales amounted to \$311, of which 20% will remain in the PTA treasury.” Those early hopes were realized because Book Fairs have continued to be held since that time. Forty years later, the sales figures were as follows:

SCHOOL	SALES
CAVITT	\$ 2,040
EUREKA	\$10,810
EXCELSIOR	\$12,050
GREENHILLS	\$13,500
MAIDU	\$11,700
OAKHILLS	\$22,500
OLYMPUS	\$ 3,427
RIDGEVIEW	\$12,400
TOTAL (including 7.25% sales tax)	\$88,427

In **1964**, the construction was completed on the four classrooms, referred to now as the sixth grade cluster (west wing) of Eureka School. This complex also contained a resource-instructional material center. An additional classroom and staff room was added onto the north wing and the multi-purpose room was expanded fifteen feet in length during the 1964 construction phase.

In **1965**, the **Student Library** occupied a corner of the Cluster Room at Eureka School. It was open from 2-3:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and was staffed by parent volunteers.

The rapid growth in the sixties necessitated the planning and construction of the second school in the **Eureka District**. A site was chosen in the Rollingwood sub-division off Douglas Boulevard and the construction contract for the east wing was given to Beals and Poore Construction Company for \$166,300. The unit consisted of six classrooms and an instructional media center. The new school, known as **Greenhills**, was opened on **November 15, 1965**, with the 1st through 6th grades in attendance.

Jerry Culbertson served as **Greenhills**’ first principal, as well as teaching his

combined 6th/7th grade class for the **1965-66** school year. Mrs. Cavitt was welcomed back as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.



From a 10/22/65 PTA newsletter: "Mr. Gerald A. Culbertson, Greenhills School Principal, was born in Lincoln, California. He attended Sierra College and received his B.A. in Social Science and M.A. in School Administration, both at Sacramento State College.

Mr. Culbertson spent six years at Ophir School, Placer County, as a teacher and four years as Principal. The American Legion, Placer County Administrators Assn., CTA and SFEA are listed among his special interests. He, his wife Annette and daughter Juliet enjoy the outdoors and hunting and fishing of all kinds for recreational

### **Opened at last!**

Approximately 150 children spent their first day in the new school. Debbie Bell, in Mr. Culbertson's 7<sup>th</sup> grade, wrote an excellent description of the Greenhills School. Here are some excerpts:

"We moved into Greenhills School November 15, 1965. There are six classrooms with one large instructional center which provides us many wonderful books to read...All of the classrooms lead into the center room. We have a piano donated by Mrs. Lewis, six nice tables to study on and a big chalk board...and about 1,000 books...We have also organized a school newspaper called the "Greenhills Gazette"—Orlaine Taylor is the Chief Editor."

Another student reported:

"We have been happy in our new school because it is so modern. From our classroom we have a nice view of Rollingwood."

On **January 13, 1966**, a PTA meeting and dedication ceremony was held for Greenhills School.



DEDICATION-Douglas Shuck, right, president of the Eureka Union School District board of education, watches as Gerald Culbertson, principal of the new Greenhills School, tries out a key to the school during dedication ceremonies held last week. Although in use since Nov. 15, the dedicated building is the first of three planned on the site. It cost the district \$165,000.--Star News photo



OFFICIAL DEDICATION of Greenhills School, newly-constructed in the Rollingwood residential area, took place last Thursday evening at the Eureka Union PTA meeting in the new school's multi-teach room. Accepting the keys to the building above, is Gerald Culbertson, right, principal. Making the presentation is Douglas Shuck, president of Eureka Union School District board of education.

(Press-Tribune Photo)

**On March 7, 1966**, the initial planting was accomplished for the Eureka School Nature Study Trail and Outdoor Classroom.

The Student Council is presenting shrubs and trees for the front lawn area. The 4H Garden Club is landscaping an area along the main walk; Blue Birds and Camp Fire Girls are planting pines at the beginning of the trail and the Girl Scouts and Brownies are sowing wildflower seeds along the nature trail. These are but a few of the items planned for the conversion of the now useless portion of our school grounds into a valuable teaching aid for our children.

The planting of additional native trees, shrubs and grasses along the natural trail formed by the leveling of the playing field will enable teachers to use this area in scientific walks, simple math demonstrations, conservation talks, art lessons and numerous other ways. A primitive classroom will be arranged in the back corner and birds and wildlife of all types will be encouraged to make themselves at home. It is hoped that a bird blind can also be provided.

This work will be done entirely by the students, youth groups and interested parents under the guidance of Miss Ernestine Prather and Mr. Ralph Kiss.

A PTA luncheon was held on **April 28, 1966** as a way of saying thanks to our teachers at Eureka and Greenhills Schools.

The May, 1966, election for an over-ride tax was successful. The Budget Committee had made a recommendation to the Board of Trustees in March of 1961, to ask the voters for an over-ride tax of 26 cents for three years to balance the budget and pay for the purchase of a new bus.

In **September of 1966**, the combined enrollment of the two schools was 730 students. In a PTA communiqué, the following comments were made:

We are still a small school district, but we are no longer the small country school of a few short years ago. It is good to see our schools grow and to welcome new families into our neighborhood, but with it comes the challenge to new and old alike to provide for our children some of the extras the "big city" kids have. Obviously, we cannot compete point by point, since much of what we might want must be accomplished by volunteer help, but we surely can band together and do our best.

Your PTA Board Members have already met and made plans to provide interesting and informative meetings - to hold classroom parties, to serve hot dogs each week, to continue the support of the libraries and to be alert and aware of all areas in which they may be of assistance to our schools.

In October Greenhills got a new first grade class and a new first grade teacher, Mrs. Janet Schimpf.