IN THE NEWS





Alumni Newsletter May 2023

Thank You for Your Input - Taylor Schools - Past & Present

In our March newsletter, page 4, John Pantalone shared a list of Taylor school buildings and solicited your feedback. Special thanks to Paul Thomas, JFK 72, Joe Nimmo, TCH 61, Joan Gebhardt, Retired Principal, Caroline Patts, President of the Taylor Historical Society, and Taylor Alumni Association, for sharing additional details that have helped up provide you with the following updated list. If you have any other information, please email the alumni association.

BUILDING	BUILT	ADDRESS	Comments
Bartlett	1966	9550 Monroe	Renamed to Racho #2
Board Office	1971	23033 Northline	
Brake	1958	13500 Pine	Now Board Annex
Edgewood	1928	23424 Cypress	
Edison	1938	6749 Beech Daly	
Eurekadale	See comments	14616 Duncan	1st Bldg 1950s; 2nd Bldg 1960
Eureka Heights*	1950	25125 Eureka	
Fairlane	1950	24800 Hayes	Renamed Wareing in 1957
Federal	1941	27280 Rowers	
Fletcher	1920	Northline	
Fischer	1957	8882 Beech Daly	Opened as Head Start
Holland*	1959	10210 Holland	
Hoover Middle*	1974	27101 Beverly	
John F Kennedy	1965	13505 Pine	
Johnson*	1962	20701 Wohlfeil	Preschool
Kinyon*	1960	10455 Monroe	
McDowell*	1971	22929 BREST	
Monroe	1959	8843 Monroe	
Moody*	1956	8280 Hipp	
Myers*	1973	16201 Lauren Dr.	
Pine	1960	7275 Pine	Maintenance
Racho	1954	20995 Northline	
Racho 2	1966	9550 Monroe	Bartlett
Randall*	1956	8699 Robert	
Sand Hill	See comments	16490 Weddel	1st ? year; 2nd 1954
Sixth Grade Academy	2007 - 2016	13500 Pine	Originally Brake; now Board annex
Smith	1959	23500 Superior	0, , ,
Taylor High	2018	11211 Beech Daly	Renamed from Truman
Taylor Center Elementary	1949	23490 Kensington	
Taylor Center High	1953	24715 Wick	
Taylor Center Jr High	1958	9551 Westlake	
Taylor Parks*	See comments	20614 Pinecrest	1938 or 1945
Treadwell	1962	6375 Inkster	
Truman Jr High	1973	11211 Beech Daly	
Truman High*	1973	11211 Beech Daly	Renamed Taylor High in 2018
Wareing	1957	24800 Hayes	Renamed from Fairlane
West Middle*	1963	10575 Williams	
Williams	1957	6750 Troy	Now Senior Center
*Buildings still open as of April 2023			

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN TAYLOR SCHOOLS

WDIV/Local 4 Click on Detroit's Tasty Tuesday segment on April 4, 2023, featured our Taylor Career Center's Culinary Arts program, the CB's Café (formerly Chopping Block). Proud of the students under the guidance of Chef Gauthier. <u>See the video here.</u>



FEATURES

Tasty Tuesday: CB's Cafe run by aspiring young chefs in Taylor

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Tags: Cb's Cafe, Taylor Career And Technical Center Cb's Cafe, Features, Taylor School District Michigan, Food, Tasty Tuesday, Aspiring Young Chefs, Taylor Michigan

This Tasty Tuesday, we're highlighting high school students who run CB's Cafe out of the Taylor Career and Technical Center. The aspiring young chefs are always cooking up something new, but are particularly known locally for their yummy desserts.

TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT WORKING THROUGH THE 2021 BOND PROGRAM



After passing a bond for the first time in 52 years, Taylor School District has been working tirelessly through the initial phases of the \$130M project, including installing new playgrounds at the elementary schools, piloting classroom furniture, assessing the district's technology, repairing crumbling concrete at the current high school, and carefully planning the construction of the new Taylor High School.



"When building a new high school, a lot of work goes into the initial planning before hard construction, or even demolition, can begin," said Taylor School District Superintendent Griff Mills. "We're happy we have been able to install new playgrounds at all our elementary schools and work through classroom furniture so that our community can see their bond dollars at work while we prepare for construction on the high school to begin."

Currently, the district is in the schematic design phase of

the new high school, meaning they've recently just started seeing what the "shell" of a new high school could potentially look like. ...continued on page 3.

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"Leading up to this phase, district administration, board members and school principals toured schools around Michigan and Ohio to provide input on what they did and didn't like.

"The schematic design phase essentially shows us a footprint of a new building," said Supt. Mills. "Once we're in the next phase, we really begin focusing on programming and what our district needs to impact the most students. During our last Capital Projects Committee meeting, our school board voted on one of the options we were presented with, which officially allows us to move into the next phase, which is the design development phase. We're very excited about this."

Although there hasn't been much to "see" in terms of work on the site of the new high school, Taylor School District has been busy preparing the land for a new building, including surveying, soil boring and more. "Now that a lot of the initial work is done, demolition of Kennedy High School should begin in late spring or early summer," said Supt. Mills. "We know that this is a big first step for our community, so we will do as much to promote this as we can and hopefully generate some excitement for what will turn out to be a great new building for our students to learn and grow in."

While the district continues to plan for the new school, they aren't immune to the volatile construction market that many other districts, and businesses, around both Michigan and the country are experiencing. "We've all heard this a lot, but \$130M won't go as far today as it would have in 2021 when this bond was passed. That's a problem many people are experiencing," said Supt. Mills. "At the beginning of this process, we pulled out an additional \$20M from our general fund to help combat this, but even that doesn't cover all of the increased costs after inflation."

The district has specific rules they must follow with the money they receive from this bond program that are set by the State of Michigan, including committing to spend a specific amount of money in the first three years, which prohibits them from "waiting out" the market that experts believe will not come down for many, many years. "According to our owner's rep Plante Moran Cresa, there's over \$4B of construction happening just in the City of Detroit alone," said Supt. Mills. "And with a limited number of construction workers and many businesses and schools wanting to renovate or expand their footprint, it's continuing to drive up construction costs. "Obviously we'd love to build a high school that includes everything possible for a school to include, but the reality is we'd run out of money and be left with a half-finished building, which is something we cannot do for obvious reasons. Like many other districts around Metro Detroit, we're working hard, trying to include as much as we can with the money we have, and leaving room for future expansion."

Despite the challenges with inflation, the district knows the finished product will be one the community will be proud of. "Our goal right now is to have the high school finished by the beginning of the 2026-27 school year," said Supt. Mills. "When it's finished, it will be a state-of-the-art new facility where our students and staff will be proud to come to school and work. And that's what this is about – our Taylor School District community."

Bond information, including a Q&A section, presentations from CPC meetings, upcoming CPC meetings and more can be found on taylorschools.net/bond. On that page, there is also a form where you can ask any bond question. That question will be directed to the district's administration.

TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE SPONSORS SPRING FLING



The Foundation who gives out scholarships to the graduating seniors is sponsoring a spring fling at Taylor High School on May 13, 2023.

There will be a dunk tank where 2 honor students along with the Taylor Deputy Chief Mike Lividini have volunteered to participate in that. There will be a "Rage Room" where people can beat up on a car or the teachers and staff could have fun beating up on copy machines. And of course, a Corn Hole competition where the winner gets 2 tickets to a Tiger game which includes a suite, food, and parking!

It should be a fun day. If you are in town, come by and enjoy!

Upcoming events

May 4: Senior Convocation (Alumni scholarship given) May 9: Alumni Meeting 6:00 pm (at the Taylor Historical Museum in Heritage Park) May 18: Taylor Schools Unified Special Olympics May 20: Taylor Historical Society Log Cabin Open House, 11am – 3pm (Heritage Park) May 24: Taylor High School Class of 2023 Parade in Heritage Park 5:00pm

***Just a reminder that anyone wishing to support the Alumni Scholarship Fund can send your donations to 11501 Beech Daly, Taylor, MI 48180

MEMORIAL DAY

Remember the fallen & their families this Memorial Day. Honor those who have so honored us. Remember the difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day before you start tagging friends and family in social media.



Memorial Day is about remembering and honoring every single man and woman who has <u>died</u> for <i>our freedoms -- men and women who were mommies and daddies, sons and daughters, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, patriots, incredible Americans and really, really great friends.

Thoughtful ways to show honor and respect for this holiday:

You want to honor and celebrate patriotism and the military this Memorial Day? Then you have to honor the complicated feelings surrounding it. Express your knowledge that this day is about remembrance.

Attend a memorial service at a national cemetery. Run or walk a mile to benefit the non-profit Krista Anderson started in memory of her husband, and then pledge your mile for wear blue: run to remember.

Talk to your kids about sacrifice, service and what this three-day weekend really means.

(Credit Military.com)



A Little Memorial Day Humor from an elementary school student:

What is a cow's favorite holiday? Answer: Moomorial day



OBITUARIES

The Alumni Association members would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the former classmates mentioned below. You will forever be in our thoughts and prayers. Please Note: If you know of a deceased graduate that is not listed in the Memoriam section of our website, please let us know the name, school, graduating class and date of passing.

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

> Thomas Davis, Class of 2020 (passed April 3, 2023)

TAYLOR CENTER HIGH SCHOOL

- > Carol Mann Range, Class of 1957 (passed March 26, 2023)
- Carole Cyganski, Class of 1962 (passed April 4, 2023)
- > Kenneth "Ken" Lorincz, Class of 1963 (passed March 27, 2022)
- > Martin Dragone, Class of 1969 (passed February 22, 2022)
- > Timothy Colasinski, Class of 1969 (passed March 21, 2023)
- ➤ Matthew Donnelly, Class of 1969 (passed April 10, 2021)
- > Dean Elliott, Class of 1977 (passed April 2, 2023)

HARRY S TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Cindi McMillan, Class of 1977 (passed March 27, 2023)

JOHN F KENNEDY

- > Juan "Tony" Valle, Class of 1984 (passed March 10, 2023)
- Gregory "Greg" Cowell, Class of 1969 (passed March 2023)
- > Mark Robinson, Class of 1970 (passed April 10, 2023)
- > Juan "Tony" Valle, Class of 1984 (passed March 10, 2023)
- ➤ Kimberly "Kim" Falzon Hickman , Class of 2000 (passed April 1, 2023)

STAFF

➤ Margaret Winkleman, Teacher (passed April 14, 2023)

For more information about the deceased and their families, please visit tayloralumni.org and click on "In Memoriam".