



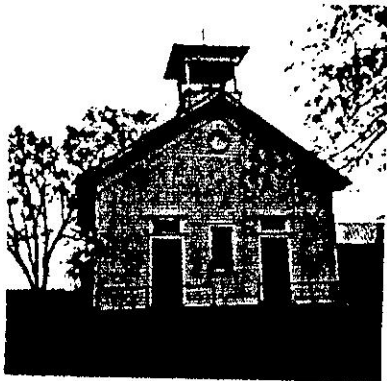
King



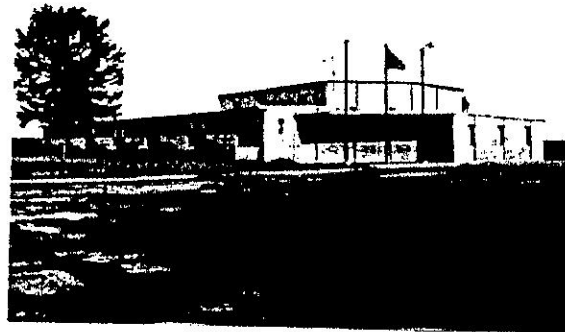
Liberty



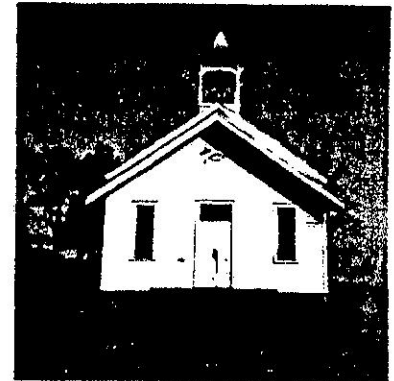
Knoll



Stone



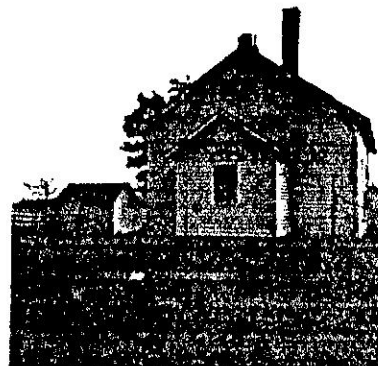
Enterprise



Banner



Heffron



White

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On July 14, 1961, a meeting was held at E.B. Hatch to discuss the consolidation of six small school districts: Banner, King, Jefferson, White, Knoll, and Liberty (Liberty and Stone had recently consolidated). Each of these districts had only a one-room school house where a teacher taught grades 1-8. There was concern as enrollment declined in some schools and increased in others; many of the buildings were in need of repair or modernization.

Alternatives had been discussed for many years with several people actively campaigning to have a new joint country school built. Others suggested repairing or maintaining the old school buildings, but financially that was not feasible. The third choice was to consolidate with Omro, but for the time being that was disregarded because the people in the country wanted control of their own schools. In order to have that, they needed to pay taxes directly to the school district. That is what they had been doing and it worked out well. People in these areas did not pay a school tax to Omro; instead, when their children reached the ninth grade, they paid tuition through the town board. This tuition was then given to Omro, which allowed the children to attend the city high school.

Land owners feared that if they consolidated with Omro, they would lose control of the grade schools. They also knew that a new school would have to be built to accommodate their children and they were afraid it would be built in the city. Parents liked the idea of having the children closer to them out in the country. This would happen if they built their own school. It also would provide the community with a local meeting place, which was important to them.

At the first annual meeting held on July 24, the new Enterprise District received the go-ahead from the Omro Board of Education to build a "six-room plus school building." This was in compliance with a new law that went into effect July 22, 1961. It stated that districts must receive approval of the high school district where the majority of their students attended before building could commence. This was one of the first steps to be implemented in the "Bill 480" which required all districts to come within a high school district by July of 1962.

Norman Lee was the first director of the Enterprise District. He explained to the Enterprise voters what the new school would be like. To meet legal requirements a ballot was taken, even though most knew what the outcome would be in advance. The results were 89 for the building, 9 against, and two blank ballots.

A building committee consisting of Carl Kirk, Roy Fisher, Lowell Knapwurst, Norman Lee, Lewis Hintz, Harland Tritt, Raymond Marks, Harold Schmude, Mrs. Ellen Lee, George J. Stertz, Mrs. Etrel Haedt, Robert Carpenter, Mrs. Esther Marks, Mrs. Jennie Brooks, Mrs. Madeline Roycraft, Mrs. Irene Haedt, and Mrs. Elizabeth Grinnell was then established.

Carl Kirk became the site chairman and gave a report of the land options available. The choices were to buy from Sherm Barnard, the Haedts, Arnold Schoenscheck, or William Roycraft. It was decided to buy nine acres of land from Sherm Barnard, including the woods. Later some of the woods was traded off for more cleared land to the south.

After the land had been purchased, construction followed quickly because they knew consolidation with Omro was less than a

year away. In order to have the kind of building that they wanted, they had to build right away.

John Bushman from Hancock was contracted to build the school; plumbing was put in by F. A. Peters of Omro; the heating and ventilation was done by Menzel Bros. of Appleton; Getkar Electric of Oshkosh was in charge of the electrical works; Ira Brown, Brandon, dug the well; the food service was taken care of by Air Conditioning Engr. Co., Green Bay; the chalkboards were from Jim Michel Bldg. Specialty, Milwaukee; A.B. Communications, Green Bay, did the sound system; landscaping was done by E.W. Stroshine, Oshkosh; the disposal field was taken care of by Albright and Sons, Oshkosh; the shrubbery was from Fountain Valley, Poy Sippi; and the black top was later poured by Courtney Flummer, Neenah.

Many community people also gave their time and effort to help get the school ready. Carl Kirk was seen almost every day overseeing the construction. A special thanks goes out to him and George Stertz. George is responsible for most of the shelving in the lounge area, the benches in the hall and several other small finishing touches. Mr. Stertz, as did Carl Kirk, did this on his own free time for the betterment of the school.

The building is 13,566 square feet and the cost per square foot, including the architect's fees, was \$11.96. The school board, acting on a suggestion by Mr. Walter Wilde, chose the name Enterprise for the school.

Omro took control of the new school in July of 1962. It wasn't quite finished, but was close to it with a lot of nice features. Rumor has it that some people referred to the school

as a "Cadillac" school. Each classroom is very large, the building is well insulated, there is a big gym with basketball lines included on the floor tiles, there is a good sized stage, a very roomy kitchen, a small teachers' lounge, and a tornado and fall-out shelter area. Enterprise was praised by the Civil Defense of Winnebago County in 1963 for that.

The teachers from the six small schools were asked to choose which grade levels they would like to teach, most of which were $1\frac{1}{2}$ grades each. Fortunately, no conflicts arose; each teacher got the levels she wanted. The following is the list of the first teachers, where they were from, and the grades they taught:

Mavis Smith	Banner School	Grades 1-2
Gen Edminster	White School	Grades 2-3
Ellen Morgan	King School	Grades 4-5
Bonita Hemp	Knoll School	Grades 5-6
Ferne Davis	Heffron School	Grades 6-7
Norma Neubauer	Ham School	Grades 7-8

Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Hemp were the only ones with a four year degree so it was decided that one of them would need to be the principal. Mrs. Morgan took the position.

On September 10, 1962, school started at 8:30 with buses arriving as early as 7:45. Four buses were needed, but only two were available so they both made double rounds. When they got to school, they parked out on the road and the students walked to the building on planks laid across the unfinished parking lot. That whole fall students were not allowed to play outdoors because of the mud, and all recesses and noon hours were spent in the rooms.

No hot lunches were served. Students ate in the classrooms with their teachers. After blacktop was poured, two teachers were on playground duty for one week at a time. Recesses were staggered.

There was no plumbing hooked up in the rooms at this time and no heat. Also, there was no shelving on the north walls.

A Parents' Club was organized and met the second Tuesday of each month. Approximately fifty to sixty parents attended each meeting. In October it was brought to the attention of the club that there was no heat in the building. The following morning, the school was filled with all kinds and types of electric heaters. By Thursday of that week the plumbers were hooking up the water lines, electricians were all over, and men had come to work on the furnace. People were in and out of the classrooms all that day. Heat was installed.

School dismissed at 3:15 with the first two buses leaving at 3:20. They returned about 4:00 for the second load, but often times did not make it until 4:15.

Even with the long days and late hours, the teachers "all appreciated having indoor plumbing, a janitor to sweep every night, and a warm building in the morning."

That first year school opened with 186 children. It later climbed to 198 pupils making it "wall to wall kids." At that time, the elementary teachers grades 1-3 were paid for an overload in their classroom; and overload consisted of thirty or more students in one room.

The first two years an eighth grade graduation was held.

In the spring of 1964 a new high school was completed. At that time plans were made to open a middle school of grades 6-8.

Mrs. Hemp and Mrs. Davis left Enterprise to teach sixth grade in town. Enterprise was now composed of grades one through five.

In the spring of 1965 the first grade class was moved to where the present fourth grade is and another blackboard was added on the south wall. Mrs. Val Williams was hired to teach kindergarten on a half time basis. In the fall of 1965 the first Enterprise kindergarten began.

Mrs. Williams stayed until the spring of 1966 at which time she left to be a mother to her newly adopted son. Barbara Timmerman was hired to replace her.

When the kindergarten discontinued in 1972, the first grade moved back to the west end of the building.

Enterprise School received many extras from the Parents' Club. They raised money to help provide:

- mats for the gym
- draperies in the office and teachers' lounge
- playground equipment
- Christmas trees every year in each room and on the stage
- all the Christmas tree decorations
- coffee pots and dishes for the club use
- a picnic with free ice cream and beverages at the end of the year

Money was raised by holding card parties which were held in the gym. Sometimes as many as 27 or 28 small tables were set up. Smear and sheephead were the main games played.

Later this was replaced by gift type items being sold in the fall.

Today the volunteer club still exists, but the name has been changed to the Enterprise Club to include teachers. Sadly enough, now the attendance at the club meetings averages between three and

ten people with only a handful doing most of the work. Declining interest may cause the end of this club altogether.

Last fall they still sell gifts and most recently have provided teachers with name plates for their doors, a microwave oven, and money for field trips. It is hoped that parents will continue their support and take an active part in the education of their children. This will help Enterprise remain a strong school and a school to be proud of.

Enterprise Faculty

Teachers

Kindergarten

Val Williams - 1964-1966
Barb Timmerman - 1966-1972

Grade 1

Mavis Smith - 1962-1975
Sharon Bingen - 1975-1978
Viona Ginnow - 1978 to present

Grade 2

Genevieve Edminster - 1962-1963
Barbara Johnson - 1963-1964
Mrs. Flynn - 1964-1965
Mary Beth Freund Monday - 1964-1966
Etrel Haedt - 1966-1977
John Schiessl - 1977-1980
Kathy Haralson Thompson - 1980 to the present

Grade 3

Ellen Morgan - 1962-1976
Carol Kachelmier Nehrbass - 1976-1978
Helen Moller - 1978 to the present

Grade 4

Norma Neubauer - 1964-1970 and 1973-1974
Faye Johnson - 1970-1973
Mavis Smith - 1975-1982
Nancy Sweet - 1982 to the present

Grades 4 and 5

Bonita Hemp - 1962-1964

Grade 5

John Olson - 1967-1968
Nancy Murphy - 1967-1968
Norma Neubauer - 1968-1969
Theresa Sobieski - 1969-1980
John Schiessl - 1980 to the present

Grades 6 and 7

Ferne Davis - 1962-1964

Grades 7 and 8

Norma Neubauer - 1962-1964

Special Education

Barbara Timmerman - 1982 to the present

(Note: Several of the earlier teachers taught combined grades but are only listed once.)

Chapter 1 Reading

Cindy Pulver - 1975-1976

Jacqueline Klimaszewski - 1976 to the present

Chapter 1 Math

Cindy Pulver - 1975-1976

Jacqueline Klimaszewski - 1976-1978

Kathy Haralson Thompson - 1978-1980

Dorothy Wolfe - 1980 to the present

Chapter 1 Aides

Arlys Kumbier

Kay Engstrom

Barb Gebhardt

Dawn Bultman

Winifred Yana

Principals

Ellen Morgan - 1962-1974

Sharon Bingen - 1974-1978

Mavis Smith - 1978 - 1982

Vionna Ginnow - 1982 to the present

Janitors

Frank Bartel - 1962-1965

Louis Carpenter - 1965-1969

Joe Klapoetke - 1969-1974

Louis Kratz - 1974 to the present

Secretaries

Maureen Kreuger

Patty Maronn

Kitchen Help

Marion Lee

Charlene Hart

Norma Bartel

Eleanor Hess

Ginny Bielke

Pam Albashian