

# Central Junior High Wins Popular Favor

A sampling of opinions from parents of children of grade and junior high school age seems to indicate that Birmingham is "sold" on the idea of a central junior high school to open in September in the Barnum building.

After the news appeared in the Eclectic last week, an inquiring reporter asked the question, "What do you think of the idea of a central junior high school?" Following are the replies of parents selected at random from all parts of the city:

**Expects Criticism**  
"Although the incorporation of the several junior high school units into a single unit, will undoubtedly bring forth a shower of criticism I am really in favor of it. First because I believe in union there is strength.

"Secondly, I believe children coming from the sixth grade will be better able to adapt themselves to the new adjustments of a junior high school than the totally foreign atmosphere of a senior high school.

"I believe as time passes we will see more and greater advantages in this change."

Mrs. M. M. Good  
18270 Berkshire

"I think the proposed central junior high system is going to help our students, teachers and our entire school standards a great deal. It will relieve the ever crowded condition of Baldwin High. It will unite and coordinate those in junior high and will allow them the same and even greater academic, social and physical education opportunities. The several grade schools might benefit in a similar manner.

"I hoped this system will be an economy and the saving allo-

ated to other places where needed.

"We expect the benefits of the new change will overshadow the inconvenience of longer distances traveled by students."

Victor L. Peck,  
1135 Maryland Blvd.

**"Logical Solution"**  
A central junior high school seems the logical solution for school problems in Birmingham. Through reorganizing our junior high schools we will have greater economy of operation, provide more room at Baldwin High School and foster a more democratic community spirit among all students. Consideration of these things together with many other reasons during these critical times are very important."

Mrs. K. L. Bronson  
843 Greenwood Ave.

"A centralized junior high school should result in a wider range of subjects for the pupils to choose from; taught more effectively with less operating cost. The teaching staff and equipment remaining in one building, should bring a better co-ordination of teacher and student activities."

Merle P. Bailey,  
823 S. Bates

"I think a central junior high school is a fine idea. I believe the students will benefit by this change. By working and cooperating together in the many activities for a period of three years is an advantage and should bring our students closer together.

"The adjustments they have to make when entering the senior high school will be easier because of knowing the students from their particular grade through proving and unifying our school system of Birmingham.

"After the necessary adjustments have been made let us hope we shall gain more than has been lost."

Miss Clyde Dalton,  
487 South Street.

**Confident of Improvement**  
In expressing an opinion on the proposed plan to merge all the junior high schools in Birmingham into one school, I can only say that such a move surely has been well thought out by those who have all the facts, with the purpose of improving and unifying our school system of Birmingham.

"After the necessary adjustments have been made let us hope we shall gain more than has been lost."

Miss Clyde Dalton,  
487 South Street.

"I am enthusiastic about the new Junior High for several reasons. First because I believe it gives to that age group an opportunity for more individual and specialized attention which it needs. Their interests are that there is an opportunity to adjust themselves to that larger group before going into Senior High. The maintenance of four one set of 7th, 8th, and 9th grades should make for an economy of operating the school, and advantages in both equipment and ability of the teaching staff. The curriculum can be widened and the standards improved; and the outside activities can be broadened.

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# News of the Public Schools

**Convinced by Superintendent**  
The school system which I think of the junior high school plan. I have thought for many years that we should have a junior high school at Quartan; but after attending a meeting there, presided over by our very able Superintendent, Shilber, who proved to be also a super-salesman, and after perusing his "Junior High School Survey," a very convincing 14-page manuscript, I feel I am practically taking to the soap box on the corner preaching the gospel of the central junior high school at Barnum. Barnum seems the logical building, more centrally located, with adequate space, our best athletic field and a swimming pool. The plan should relieve crowded conditions in the first six grades of Quartan and Adams, and with Baldwin having only senior high school the condition there will be greatly improved.

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with careful and capable guidance. I felt Mr. Shilber's report was so fully and expertly made that it proved Barnum School the best for the school as a whole.

Mrs. Truman W. Eustis,  
371 Linden Road.

"I think it is a splendid idea for boys and girls of the junior group to be in one school as it gives them more advantages.

Mrs. Leo Dalton,  
1243 E. Ruffner

"I heartily approve of having one central junior high school. It would be as convenient for us but I'm sure it will be a much better arrangement for all concerned."

Mrs. E. E. Byrd,  
876 Oakland

**"Heartily in Accord"**  
"I am heartily in accord with the program of the Board of Education in establishing a central junior high school. Dr. Shilber is to be highly commended in his plan. It is a very wise plan. It will do it, may seemingly, hurt some personal and local pride, it will greatly improve the district as a whole.

"There is no question that the new central junior high school will accrue to the boys and girls of our district, and is not possible with the present set-up. The greatest benefits to the boys and girls is why schools exist. The greatest benefits to the people as a whole is why democracy exists. Let's give democracy and the schools ever alive and ever ascending."

J. Mark Hardin,  
4291 Yosemite

"Other cities which have adopted the junior high school have found it very satisfactory. Birmingham will no doubt find a central junior high much more economical of equipment and more efficient for the teachers. It will be better for all students of the district. It will be better for the parents and the community as a whole. This is keeping adolescent problems out of the elementary and the high school. In my opinion the advantages definitely outweigh the disadvantages.

"However the discipline problem of the school age should be anticipated and planned for in advance. At a time when nutrition and health are such a large part of the national program, at least one nutritious hot luncheon dish should be available to the children who will stay at school all day, to be supplemented by a lunch box. If a complete lunch can not be arranged for."

Mrs. R. L. Rickenbaugh,  
900 Brookwood.

**Guidance Department Reveals Activities**  
The guidance department has been spending the last week interviewing the 10th girls. Questions concerning future plans, interests and activities have been filled out by each of the students.

Mrs. Carol Darling, dean of girls, has arranged for several orientation talks with the girls. The talks have been on how to study and how to enter into extracurricular activity in Baldwin.

In the meantime, the story telling club is getting well under way. With Miss Taylor as its adviser, the membership is growing rapidly.

The guidance department notes with pleasure that the junior high school is to be moved to Barnum and that physical education is going to be compulsory with the senior high school girls next year.

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**GEORGE (PETER ROLL) and Martha Washington (PEGGY ANN READ)** returned to visit a modern home and were amazed at the wonderful inventions which they found there. This was the theme of the Adams School program given by Miss Eleanor Haack's third grade group last Friday afternoon. Several of the third grade children, who are in Mrs. Bernice Manog's "Visual Method" piano class, learned to play the piano accompaniments for the dances and songs. Miss Verne Schaar taught the songs. (Photograph by Malcolm Tindall)

**Many Are Helping Barnum Compares Its Play to Wayne's**

It takes lots of people working behind the scenes to put on the all-school play and now make-up groups, business, properties, ushers, and staging committees are solving problems for "Spooks" to be presented March 19 and 20.

The make-up committee, under the direction of Miss Lucille DeWitt, includes Dolores Anderson, Violetta Andrade, Louise Bolt, Metora Fritz, June Harckett, Laura Rose Keah, Dorothy Taylor, Patricia Tevlin, Wain Mann, Johanna Norstrom, Dorothy Olin, Lorraine Stribling and Betty Jean Thurman.

Ushers and business the workers of Miss Verne Taylor and the all-star staff of Bob Kohn, Edou Anderson, Jane Ray, Nora Kolstad, Ferna Holstad, Barbara Olson, Frances Nordstrom, and Dora Burgess.

Miss Frances Looney's ushers include Jane Schwab, Shirley Pearson, Velma Gause, Helen Allison, Jean Hartman, Dorothy Porter, Dorothy Olin, Nevada McChish, Betty Kullman, and Ravetta Clark. Ushers are also being trained by Hendrik, Bill Gollins, Allan Keen, Randall Johnson, Barton Evers, Ralph Cookston and Charles Mart.

Properties are to be loaned by Miss Emily Walker and the costume sewing unit led by Miss Jeanne DeLannoy, Marilyn Gould, Bill Mann, Mary Nelson, Max Roberts, Dorothy Scott, Miriam Sorenson, Dixie Stanford, Jim Wagner, Ruth Watson, and Jim Woodruff.

**Colleges Report Marks for Study Here**

Records of freshman students from Baldwin High School, now enrolled at the University of Michigan and Michigan State College, reached Ray H. Hecht, principal, last week.

The report shows that 16 freshmen were enrolled at the University of Michigan, 12 boys and four girls.

A total of 75 marks were given in 19 subjects. Of these there were A's, 25 B's, 34 C's, seven D's and three E's. The point average is 2.3 which is exactly the same as that of all students enrolled in the University.

Michigan State College, eight Birmingham students are enrolled and 21 marks were given. Of these there were A's, 11 B's, 15 C's, seven D's, and four E's.

All records are examined by the Baldwin faculty and studied by the guidance department for college preparatory student.

Some of the marks that reached this office are shown in full with a release on page 11.

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**Basketball Team Enters Tourney Friday at Ferndale**

Birmingham takes on Visitation High School Friday night at St. James gym. Berkley will play St. Gregory's. The winners will meet Saturday evening for the district championship.

Berkley has had just an average season with four victories as against eight defeats. Playing on a home- and -visite basis, they

**About Visitation**  
This year with the return of three letter men, Visitation again presents a strong team. Led by their captain, Daniel O'Neill, and their leading scorer, Ward, they were again runners-up in the Detroit Catholic league, losing 19-24 to Lourdes of River Rouge last Friday in the city playoffs. They have lost but one of their league games this year, losing that to the strong St. Gregory five also playing in the St. James district and likely to meet Birmingham Saturday night if both get past their first round opponents.

Marion and Bill have conquered Roseville, Van Dyke, Redford Union, and Northville while suffering defeat by Northville, Trenton, Melvindale, Karl Packer, Roseville and Redford Union.

Coach Charles Robinson has only three lettermen back from the squad of 1940-41. They are Bernard Boujard, Carl Baker, and Milton Hopkins.

St. Gregory has won two and lost six in league competition, while they have won three and lost two in non-league games. The

**JOAN STERLING WINS**

Students at Baldwin have submitted drawings for the trop curtain which will be used by "Spooks" at the district play.

Miss Ruth Hill, director of the play and Mrs. Jane Brier, art teacher, chose Joan Sterling's entry as the most suitable for the curtain.

Other whose ideas were considered were Joan Hadjioy, Anna Stevens, Lynn Lyle, Cheryl Konerman, Jerry Hawk, Virginia Wilkins, Jean Remington, and Harriet Beecher.

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