

# BUILDING PROGRAM

The purpose of our building program is to provide the best and most economical facilities consistent with improving and expanding our instructional program and to house growing enrollments.

The specific projects are planned to help teachers teach and children learn. Staff members at all levels have a part to play in their planning.

The current building program began with a survey conducted by the Bureau of Research and Service, Ohio State University. This report recommended a total long-range budget of \$20,000,000 based on the projected enrollment at saturation and on curriculum improvements desired by the community.

After careful study, the Board of Education and the administrative staff reduced this amount by 40% to an estimated \$12,000,000. This will be accomplished through a decision to build fewer and more economical buildings. The immediate building program was cut to \$5,590,000. This amount included funds for Westchester School, approved by the voters in 1957.

After further study and approval by a citizens' advisory committee last summer, the voters approved a \$4,915,000 bond issue in November, 1961. Thus, assuming an average annual growth in enrollment of 400 pupils, the current program will take care of housing needs for a five-year period.

Following is a summary of the most important items which have been accomplished so far.

## NEW BUILDINGS AND ADDITIONS

- \_\_\_ Westchester School occupied September 6.
- \_\_\_ Additional rooms at Bloomfield Village (four), Franklin (six), Harlan (nine) and Pembroke (four).
- \_\_\_ Meadow Lake School to be occupied in December.
- \_\_\_ Central service and supply building completed.
- \_\_\_ Four science rooms now being added to Barnum Junior High.
- \_\_\_ New junior high under construction on Valley Woods site.

## SITES

### New

- \_\_\_ Twenty-acre junior high school site on Inkster Road.
- \_\_\_ Five-acre elementary site on 13 Mile Road, Franklin area.

### Additions

- \_\_\_ Adams School—three lots.
- \_\_\_ Barnum Junior High—three lots.

### Improvements

- \_\_\_ Blacktopped combination play and parking area at six schools.
- \_\_\_ Blacktopped play area at six schools.
- \_\_\_ Blacktopped parking lots at four schools.

## OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

- \_\_\_ Improved library facilities in all elementary schools.
- \_\_\_ Showers and stairways and improved library at Barnum Junior High.
- \_\_\_ Extensive improvements to existing service systems at Barnum to accommodate present and future additions.
- \_\_\_ Purchased extensive amounts of science equipment.
- \_\_\_ Driver training range at Seaholm.
- \_\_\_ Provided city water to Harlan School.
- \_\_\_ Permanent sewage connection at Valley Woods School.
- \_\_\_ Improved counselors' offices and science storage at Derby Junior High.
- \_\_\_ Improved administrative area and materials center at Pierce School.
- \_\_\_ Repaired aged windows at Quarton School.
- \_\_\_ Improved lighting, sanitation and administrative areas at Walnut Lake School.
- \_\_\_ Increased counseling space at Seaholm High School.
- \_\_\_ Installed darkening facilities in 50% of the district's classrooms.

Following are some of the features incorporated into the current building program:

- \_\_\_ Reduction in non-teaching space by eliminating single-loaded corridors.
- \_\_\_ Reduction of glass area to about 1/3 of wall area to facilitate audio-visual teaching and to provide better heat and glare control.
- \_\_\_ Reduction in number of exterior walls.
- \_\_\_ Use of materials having high durability and low maintenance cost.
- \_\_\_ Incorporation of folding partitions to facilitate large and small group instruction and team teaching.
- \_\_\_ Multiple use of space wherever possible.
- \_\_\_ Purchase of new building sites while they are still available at reasonable cost.

Completion of the current building projects has resulted in the following important benefits to pupils and teachers:

1. All elementary pupils transported out of their home schools last year have now been returned.
2. With the completion of Meadow Lake School in December, all libraries, art and music rooms being used as classrooms will revert to their intended use.
3. Some growing space will be available in elementary schools located in the most active home building areas.
4. Completion of the new junior high school at Valley Woods and the resulting redistricting between Groves and Seaholm will relieve the present over-crowding at Derby Junior High and Groves Junior-Senior High.
5. Many improved library and counseling facilities will result.

For every dollar spent, your Board of Education and the architects they have employed have labored diligently to insure maximum return in material, teaching space and aesthetics. Final cost figures cannot be determined until all projects are completed. However, indications are that all major projects, with the exception of the Barnum addition, will be completed at, or under, the original budgeted figures. Each figure initially could have been considered conservative.

