



The 100 Year History of Laconia High School

Presented to the Laconia School Board
By: Lily Lescarbeau
November 21, 2023

How Has Laconia High School Changed Over the Years?



Diploma of Distinction Project Stats/Timeline-Lily L

1923	1936	1956-1963	1975-1977	1983+2013
Building at 324 Union Avenue opens September 23, 1923	Practical Arts building added to campus. New offerings = substantial increase in enrollment.	Overcrowding at LHS, Grade 9 moves to Opechee Park campus making a 3-3 middle & secondary system	Major additions & renovations adding gym & vocational wing. Building closed. All 7-12 students attend MJHS.	Huot Technical Center is added to the LHS campus. New Huot Building is Opened in 2013

1874



1923

Gilford Academy combined with Laconia to create Laconia High School in 1874.

The first class graduated in 1878 from the building on Court Street.

Later, in 1894, Lakeport School and Laconia High Schools combined.

The school was attended by 25 students, taught by 4 teachers, and led by one principal.



1923



1936

Opened August 1923 as a 6 year school

Included grades 7 & 8 to relieve overcrowding in the grade schools.

Enrollment in 1923 was 603 students and 28 teachers.

From 1923 - 1973, LHS was made up of students from Laconia, Gilford, and Gilmanton.

\$225,000.00 Bond



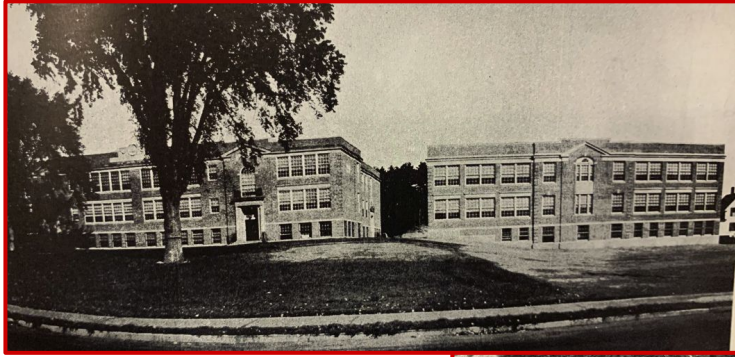
FUN FACT:

LHS is built on the site of the Folsom Chicken Farm

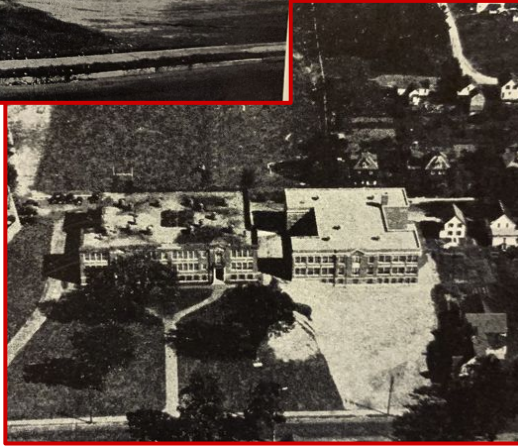
1936



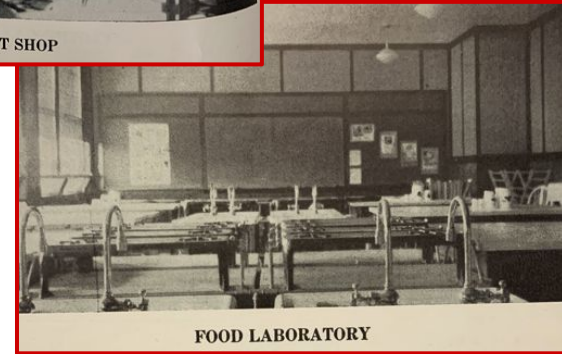
1937



Did You Know:
A tunnel once
connected the two
buildings?



PRINT SHOP



FOOD LABORATORY

Addition of the PRACTICAL ARTS Building

1974



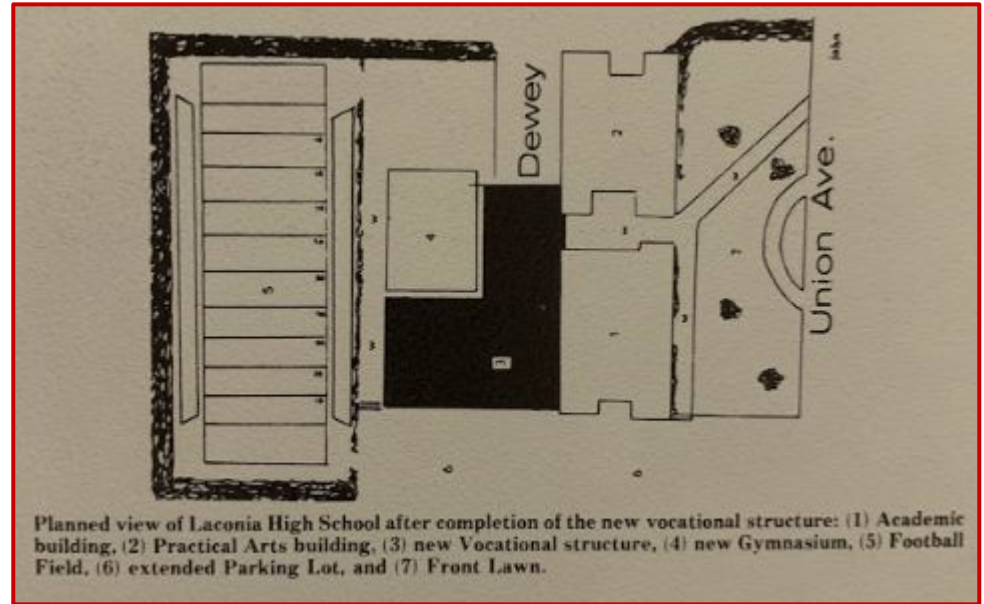
1976

Connected the 1923 and 1936 buildings

Addition of the vocational school AT LHS

Expansion of athletic fields

All students 7-12 attend double sessions at Memorial Middle School during construction



**Memorial Middle School opened in 1962 for Grades 7-8.
Grade 9 was added 2 years later**



Notable People

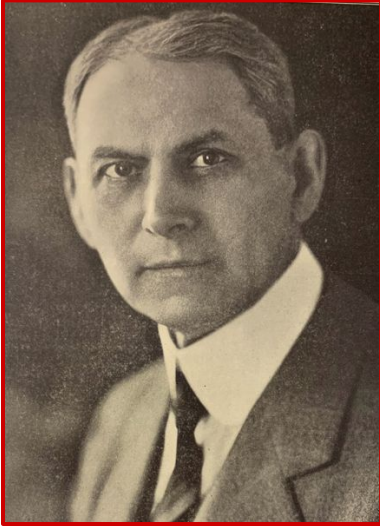
LHS Interesting Fact:

*In the first 77 years on Union Avenue,
only 5 people served as Laconia High School Principal*

Notable



Principals



Verne Whitman
Headmaster
1923-1940

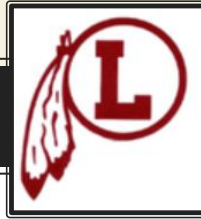


Donald J. Piper
Principal
1949-1973
LHS Auditorium
dedicated in his memory



Robert St. Lawrence
Principal
1979-2000
LHS Library dedicated in his
memory

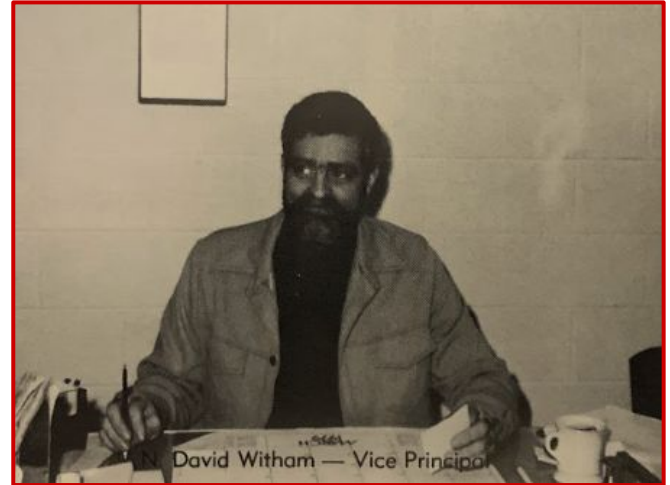
Other



Notables



John S. Gilman
Superintendent
1923-1940



N. Dave Witham
Assistant Principal
1979-2000



Sachem PRIDE

Through the Years

Traditions



Legacies



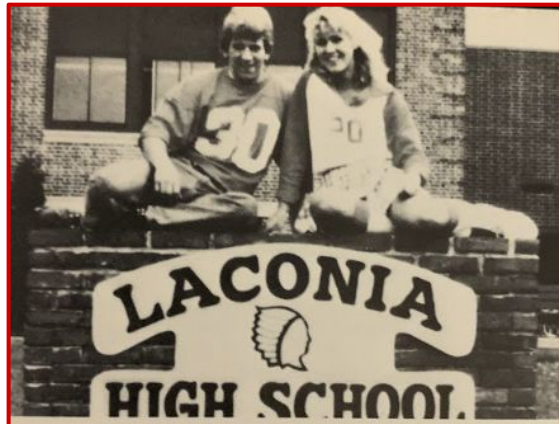
Winter Carnival



Traditions



Legacies



Laconia



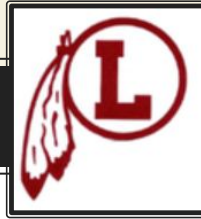
Mascots



Laconia Sachems since 1946

Pride in our tradition.....A tradition of PRIDE!

Sachem



PRIDE

OUR STANDARD

L oyalty to a high purpose.
A dvancement in the best thought.
C ourage to be true.
O pposition to all evil.
N obility of character.
I nterest in the purest pleasure.
A bility to “carry on.”

Laconia High School



Characteristics of Success

Personal Responsibility - Own Your Choices

Respect - Self, Others, The Institution

Integrity - Doing Right at All Times

Determination - Persevere Regardless of Circumstances

Empathy - Understand Others Feelings



Thank You !