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# Slide Show Presentation Part V

USD 500 Schools  
Past and Present

# Stowe School

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- 1894 - August. New school established in two rented rooms on n.e. corner of 4<sup>th</sup> & Walker. First faculty: J J Bass (Principal), Mary E Porter, Carrie Davis, J J Thomas. It was called the "Walker Street School Colored Annex."
- 1896 - Closed one week due to smallpox.
- 1899 - April 4. Mr. Simpson and wife deeded to Milot Hempe, Lots 1 to 4, Block 9, old Wyandotte, located on Virginia Ave between First and Second Sts. for new school. Architect: W. W. Rose, School called Stowe in honor of Harriett Beecher Stowe. (Picture – 1905)
- 1974 - Agreement between City, Bethany Hospital and School district whereby district sold, Abbott, Stowe and Prescott property to the city for park purposes and the district was able to acquire land for M E Pearson school to replace Prescott.
- Tidbit: A house used as a hospital (Bethany) was originally on the grounds.

# Third Ward School

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- The Third Ward stretched north from State Avenue to the Missouri River between 7th and 10th Streets in the town of Wyandotte and was an early home to many African-Americans and whites as well. It, too, became a mostly African-American community after the turn of the century. The 1855 Territorial Census showed a total population of 1,944 in Districts 16 and 17, wherein lies today's Wyandotte County. It also listed 56 slaves and 19 "free Negroes." By 1865, there were 11,622 residents in Wyandotte County, 1,323 of whom were African-Americans. African-Americans were by far the largest minority in the area, foreign born citizens and Native Americans numbering 552 and 259 respectively.
- Opened: First rented two-room building occupied September, 1887. Second rented brick flat located at Ninth and Freeman and leased until 1890.
- The Third Ward School when rebuilt became named Douglass for Frederick Douglass.

# Vance

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- 1967 - Vance (part of USD 201) was attached to the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools (USD 500) on January 1, 1967. Most of the elementary schools of that district were named for communities. Each of them had at one time been a separate school district. Land tract originally awarded to Zane family of Wyandot Indians.
- 1859 - The tract described as: SE corner of NE @ of Sec. 28, Twnsp 10, Range 24, was awarded to Jane L. Zane (husband Noah E. Zane) head of family consisting of Alexander H. Zane, Julia C. Zane and Elizabeth Rebecca Zane, members of the Wyandot Tribe of Indians, signed by President James Buchanan. Patent Class 195, June 1, 1859. Recorded Oct 24, 1861, Book of Patents, page 18.
- 1887 - August 20. Property acquired by condemnation (Value \$150) for the erection of a school building in School District No. 6.
- 1924 - School erected - according to stone on front of building
- 1930 - June: Became a part of Rural High School District #2 when Welborn, Hazel Grove, White Church, Vance, Nearman and Pomeroy districts voted to consolidated for a rural high school geographically centrally located within a new rural consolidated district.
- 1997-98 - School closed. Building sold to Muncie Christian School.

# Walker School

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- Location: Corner of 4th and Walker Streets
- Other Names: Stowe (See Stowe for information.)
- The Walker School preceded Stowe and was organized by the Walker Family, a prominent Wyandot family who settled Wyandotte County.

# Wilson High School

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- Wilson Hall was erected in 1907, and was opened for occupancy by the Wilson High School in September, 1908. The building has a large room used as a gymnasium, in the basement, with lockers, bath-rooms, etc. The building has cost about \$35,000. The late Mr. W. S. Wilson, for a number of years president of the Board of Trustees, contributed largely to its erection.
- In the corporation known as "The Kansas City University," are seven departments. The Collegiate department is known as "Mather College." Students for the ministry are prepared in the School of Theology. The Wilson High School, with a four year course of instruction, serves as a preparatory school to the college.
- Bonner Springs Chieftain - Oct 22, 1931 - "The first school to serve Welborn was in Wilson Hall at the old Kansas City University, Thirty-third and Parallel Street, in Kansas City, Kansas. It was supported in part by county school funds. This arrangement was terminated by a change in conditions at the university and the school was moved to Welborn in 1925."

# Arrowhead Middle School

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- 1959 - Property acquired through condemnation process from Robert Maupin (deeded from Indians - Delaware land). Record of condemnation is on microfilm and available through Surveyor's office (1624-B).
- 1960: Construction of Arrowhead Jr High School by Washington District.
- 1961 - First occupied in March.
- 1967 - January. Part of USD 201 attached to Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools (USD 500) in January, 1967.
- 1969 - Enrollment more than 1320 - almost double normal capacity.
- 1970 - Ninth grade assigned to Washington High School because of overcrowding. Washington on split sessions.
- 1973 - Eisenhower Junior High School opened. New boundaries established. Ninth grade returned to Arrowhead. Enrollment at 875. Washington back on regular day.
- 1977 - Northeast Junior High School closed because of desegregation court order. Students reassigned and attendance areas redefined. Approximately 175 seventh and eighth grades to Arrowhead (non-contiguous zone).

# KC Area Technical School (ATS)

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- Manual training was established in the Kansas City, Kansas school system in the early nineteen hundreds. In 1917, Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Act, called by some the "landmark in advance of federal centralization in education." It created a Federal Board for Vocational Education to promote training in agriculture, trades, industrial commerce, home economics, and the teaching of vocational subjects. State of local boards had to match any grant received for such work. Later the act was extended to include vocational rehabilitation and other aspects of such training.
- In 1968, the Kansas City, Kansas School Board approved the formation of the Area Vocational Technical School to meet the needs of the community for technical skill training.
- 1968-69 - Moved program at 1033 Argentine Boulevard to 1122 North 8th Street
- 1971 - First unit of AVTS facility built at 2220 North 59th. Programs included electronics, business, radio-TV repair, practical nursing, printing and drafting.
- May. Moved programs at 831 and 1230 Minnesota Avenue to new facility.
- 1973 - Expanded part of operation to a section of the Argentine Middle School and 820 Cheyenne.
- 1999 - Changed name to Kansas City Area Technical School .



# Coronado Middle School

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- 1960 – Construction begun by Washington District. Opened March 1961.
- 1967 – Attached to KCKs Public School as part of Washington District.
- In operation in 2004.



# Eisenhower Middle School

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- 1957 - Land purchased for new junior high school (34.55 acres). City agreement to purchase adjoining land for joint school-park use of entire site. New school to relieve overcrowding at Arrowhead and Coronado. To remove grade 9 from Washington.
- 1970 - Voters passed a \$24.5 million bond issue to provide for new schools, additions to schools, remodeling, less crowding, etc.
- 1973 – First occupied
- 2004 – In operation



# Eugene Ware

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- 1925 - Previously part of Kerr, District 2. Two one-room, temporary buildings were erected on Bradish Road. Transportation to Kerr was withdrawn by the Board of Education and a school district organized. Two teachers taught four grades. The school on Bradish Road became known in September as Eugene Ware. The first school named for the poet had been a one-room building on North 12th Street near the Waterworks.
- 1950 - April 6: New, one-story, buff-colored, brick building completed
- 1953 - Work begun on addition with ten classrooms, activity room, and library.

# Frances Willard

- Previous to 1911 this was a county school on the northwest corner of 32nd and Orville.
- 1911 - Frances Willard came into the Kansas City School system and the original building was a 4-room school, with the Principal's office was a desk in the middle of the hallway. Principal's taught 1/2 day in the 6th grade. The old Frances Willard was west of the current building. Named Frances Willard after "president of greatest ladies organization (Women's Christian Temperance Union) in history of mankind."
- 1956 - New building occupied - one-story modernistic, 11 classrooms and Kindergarten, L-shaped building.



# Harmon High School

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- The Rosedale Senior High School was merged with the Argentine Senior High School to form the J C Harmon High School located near 21st and Steele Road . The school was named for Mr. J C Harmon, a former Principal of Argentine High School from 1924 to 1954. The new school opened with the 1973-74 school term with Bill D. Todd as Principal."

# Hazel Grove

- Mr. William Gregg, local historian, tells us that Hazel Grove was organized in 1867 on J. M. Mahany land, and that it was named for the Hazel Nut trees growing in the vicinity. The 1924 school in the picture was built approximately in 1911 (with outside privies) and burned in 1933. At that time, Mr. Gregg (and all 8 grades from Hazel Grove) attended Hazel Grove classes in Washington High School until a new 4-room building was completed (north portion of current building).
- Addition of classrooms to original building in 1952, 1955 and 1956, with east annex being built in 1958.
- 1967 – Became part of KCKs school with Washington District.



Hazel Grove School  
1924



# J F Kennedy

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- 1965 - First occupied in September.
- Assumed named for President John F Kennedy.
- 1967 - January: Part of USD 201 attached to Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools.
- 1972 - New, one-story addition constructed on west side of school. Harry Fink, architect.