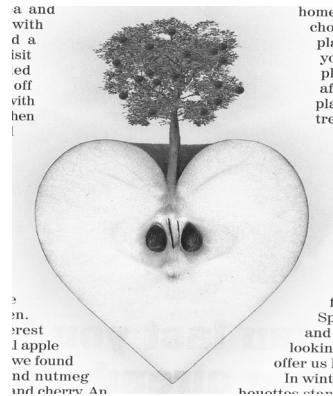


A Brief Historical Timeline of the Education of Students in the Hilton Central School District and its Schoolhouses of Earlier Days



1749

Early colonial schools are predominantly religious including Latin schools which train boys for the ministry. Benjamin Franklin pleads for English-speaking schools which result in the formation of the Philadelphia Academy in 1751.

1784

First meeting of the N.Y.S. Regents which is empowered to found and endow schools.

1812

N.Y.S. establishes Common School System. Early one-room schools are ungraded and are in session only 28 weeks per year. For the first 120 years, the Board of Regents has no control over New York State's Common Schools. Common Schools are maintained by voluntary contributions of the participating families. Often there is only a single trustee. The first Hilton School Commissioner is Jonathan Underwood followed by Jason Tyler.

1897

Professor William R. True is appointed Principal of Hilton Union Free School, the first high school principal. He serves until 1919. Preceptress is Bertha Randall; Intermediate Teacher is Veda Holt Buell; and Librarian is Frances Barnes.



Miss Jennie Mitchell earned first Regents Diploma in 1899.



Prof. William R. True was principal for 22 years

1899

The University of the State of New York grants Hilton Union School a Regents certificate to the High School academic department and Miss. Jennie Mitchell who had earned enough credits to graduate with a local diploma the year before, becomes the first Regents High School graduate. In 1901 Miss. Mitchell graduates from Brockport Normal School with a certificate to become a music teacher.

1900

The lone 1900 graduate of Hilton High School is Clara Bassett Blossom. In 1901 five students graduate: Irene Anderson, Roy Bush, Grace Curtis, Maude Curtis and Berna Hunt.



Hilton Union High School Teachers in 1902 were from left rear, Emma Lee Coleman, Professor William True, Frances Barnes, Estella Mae Buell; front, Marion Lobdell and Rose Torpey Tenny

1904

Teachers' wages are set by the school board: Principal William True - \$1,000; teachers Estella Mae Buell - \$435, Marion Lobdell - \$400, Emma Lee Coleman- \$375.

1919

Professor True is succeeded by Principal Frederick Pearce followed by Charles H. Cooper and Cecil W. Luffman.

1813-15

Six one-room country schools formed in Parma including a log cabin located near present South Ave. in Hilton whose school inspector was town father, Jonathan Underwood. Later, joint districts with Clarkson, Greece and Hamlin are established.

1866

Brockport Training and Normal School founded. Hilton's first Regents graduate, Jennie Mitchell, will graduate from Brockport Normal School in 1901. Early attempts to address the schooling of adult students included the Parma Lyceum [1853] and the Parma Institute which closed in the 1870s.

1872

A federal court case in Kalamazoo, Michigan rules that high schools have legal status as institutions which can be operated by school districts and financed by taxation.

1876

The Lake Ontario Branch of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad, the "Hojack Railroad," is completed linking the agricultural towns along the southern shore of Lake Ontario.

1878

First year Regents examinations are administered.

1892

The North Parma Union Free School [grades 1-8 -Parma District #4] is located at West Ave. and Henry Street.

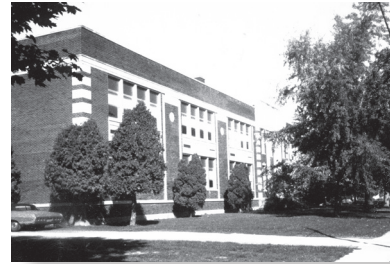
In 1899 grades 9-12 are added. William H. Good is first principal followed by Samuel H. Burnett and Franck Schneck. Leith Cox Wright '29, author of "Hilton-USA" [1984], remembers the dances on the upper floor.



No. Parma Union Free School # 4
torn down in 1929 to make way for
the Henry Street School.

1930

The Henry Street Hilton School [cost \$145,895] is opened. It is sold in 1980 to the Village of Hilton for use as a Community Center. Cecil Luffman was named Executive Principal of Hilton High School and leaves Hilton in 1956 as Supervising District Principal. Lewis Markham, physical education teacher and



coach taught under Mr. Luffman and then is appointed vice principal and later Supervising Principal until 1968. Hilton High School on East Ave. is dedicated to Mr. Markham in 1981.

1938

Among the early rural school teachers were: Betty Smith, Bartlett's Corners; Amelia Burritt, Burritt's Corners; Maude Berridge, Sands District; Eileen Howard and Helen Nundy, Wright District; Jean Hall, Braddock Bay School; Vira Butcher, Parma #1; Ethel MacDermond, Parma #6.

1949

Residents vote [723-392] June 7, 1949 to centralize 17 area common schools into one school district. Among the incentives: free textbooks to all children; extension of music, art, physical education, library and nurse service; safe and convenient transportation for all children provided at expense of the district. Governor Thomas E. Dewey recommends an increase in state aid for centralized districts. Trustees were: Clarkson #10 - Blanche Mulligan; Greece #6 - William Beadling; Greece #7 - Myron Kelly; Greece #13 - Howard Lum, Jr.; Hamlin #5 - Howard Maw; Hamlin #7 - Ruth Jacobs; Hamlin #11 - George Heidemann; Parma #1 - George Crabb; Parma #2 - Gifford Jackling; Parma #4 - Fred Jennejahn, President, Fred Day, Edward Gable, Donald Harradine, Margaret Dieckman; Parma #5 - John Kagel; Parma #7 - Roy Nundy; Parma #9 - George Weis; Parma #11 - Elwood Peck; Parma #12 - Evelyn Chase; Parma #14 - Walter Kluth.

1952

The West Avenue High School [cost \$930,000] opens as a High School. Hazel Jenkins was the guidance counselor. Today the West Avenue Building houses the Quest Elementary School, district offices including the Network Operations Center. In 1955 Wayne Furness is named principal and serves until 1967 when Arthur A. Herd is named principal. As late as 1967 Hilton High School's "Sod Busters," the Future Farmers Club, is going strong. Hilton High School is "the only school in Monroe County with courses in agriculture" according to newspaper accounts. Bruce Hilton is the teacher of "Farm Production and Management." He has 60 students in his course. James Schiebel is also an agriculture teacher.

1956

Hamlin #14, Thomasville, located near the southwest corner of East Lake Rd. and No. Hamlin Rd., the last independent, one-room schoolhouse in Monroe County, votes to annex to the Hilton Central School District. [N.Y.S. Historical Marker]

1957

By 1957, 8,260 former Common Schools in New York State are included in the centralization movement creating 497 districts. Today there are over 700 centralized school districts in New York State.



1956-60

The Hazel Jenkins [cost \$700,000] and Jonathan Underwood [cost \$1 million] Schools are built. In 1990 the two schools are joined by an addition, the Arthur A. Herd Instructional Media Center, and are renamed the Village Elementary School. Betty Vary and Wendell Hall are the first principals.

Greece-Parma Joint # 13 on Manitou Rd. and Manitou Beach Rd. at bend

1965

Merton Williams Junior High School [cost \$1.8 million] opens. Principal is Joseph C. Lester. The school is named for former Board of Education member [1953-1963] and local farmer, Merton Williams. Later an addition and pool are constructed.

1967

Northwood Elementary School, located on No. Greece Rd., built at a cost of \$2 million, opens. First principal is Betty Vary.

1968

Howard W. Smith is named executive principal of the school district succeeding Lewis Markham. He serves until 1972 when Clifford L. Foelsch is appointed. Mr. Foelsch applies to the State for a superintendency in Hilton. In 1974 the principalship designation is changed to superintendent of schools by the N.Y.S. Commissioner of Education. In 1987 Dr. Arthur A. Herd is named acting superintendent and in 1988 he is appointed superintendent of schools. He is replaced in 1992 by Dr. Christopher Bogden who will resign August 1, 1999.

1969

Hilton Central Schools Teachers' Association contract base starting salary for a teacher was \$6,900. Teaching at the High School came under scrutiny by students for the "packet system" which allowed students to move through subjects at their own pace.

1970

Hilton High School Crimson Cadets Marching Band performs at the World Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan under the direction of Gordon Bascom.



Crimson Cadet Marching Band

1972

Hilton High School [cost \$6.9 million] opens on East Avenue and Bennett Rd. - Principal Harold Chapman.



The 'new' Hilton High School opened in 1972 with open 'lofts' instead of self-contained classrooms.

1976-1986

The enrollment of the Hilton School District peaks in 1976-77 at 4,980 students, but by the 1980s the district experiences declining enrollment and is forced to close the Northwood School until it reopens in 1986. During this period friable asbestos was found in the ceiling of the school and following a legal battle and improvements in encapsulation technology, the school is reopened in conformance with environmental safety standards.

1994-1995

The Quest School, an elementary school of choice with multi-age grouping serving all Hilton students, was designated a “Twenty-first Century School” by the New York State Legislature. In 1995 Hilton High School names its first woman principal, Mary Jane Brooke.

1999 . . . 100th Graduating Class

Hilton High School graduates its 100th graduating class. The District’s Staff Development Program is named a semi-finalist in the U.S. Department of Education’s National Awards Program for Model Professional Development.

2001-2007

Voters approve in 2001 a \$67.8 million bond which financed capital projects allowing the district to build a networked computer infrastructure; new classrooms; a new auditorium at Merton Williams Middle School; a Network Operations Center; and a new Aquatic Center at Merton Williams Middle School. Teachers communicate with parents via e-mail and students explore the Intranet.



Year 2000 . . . A New Millenium

In 2005, Hilton High School awards its first International Baccalaureate Diploma. In the

same year, Quest Elementary is accredited by the International Baccalaureate to offer a Primary Years Programme.

Hilton High School now offers three Regents Career and Technical Education endorsements: Pre-Engineering, Business Managment and Early Childhood/Elementary Education.

In July 2005 David Dimbleby, former Hilton High School Principal, was appointed Superintendent of Schools. Full Day kindergarten opened in 2004 and Pre-Kindergarten opens in 2007. In 2010, Merton Williams Middle School was named an “Essential Elements School to Watch” by NYS Education Department for its steady upward academic achievement. On January 11, 2010 elementary teacher Suzanne Monagan Pilon receives the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching presented by President Barack Obama at the Whitehouse. Hilton Central's Music Program is a semi-finalist in the 2011 GRAMMY Signature School program and named one of the “Best Communities for Music Education” by NAMM. In 2011 the Board of Education approves funds to initiate authorization of an IB Middle Years Programme. US News & World Report names Hilton High School a "Top School in the Nation" in its 2012 edition of the "Nation's Best High Schools.”

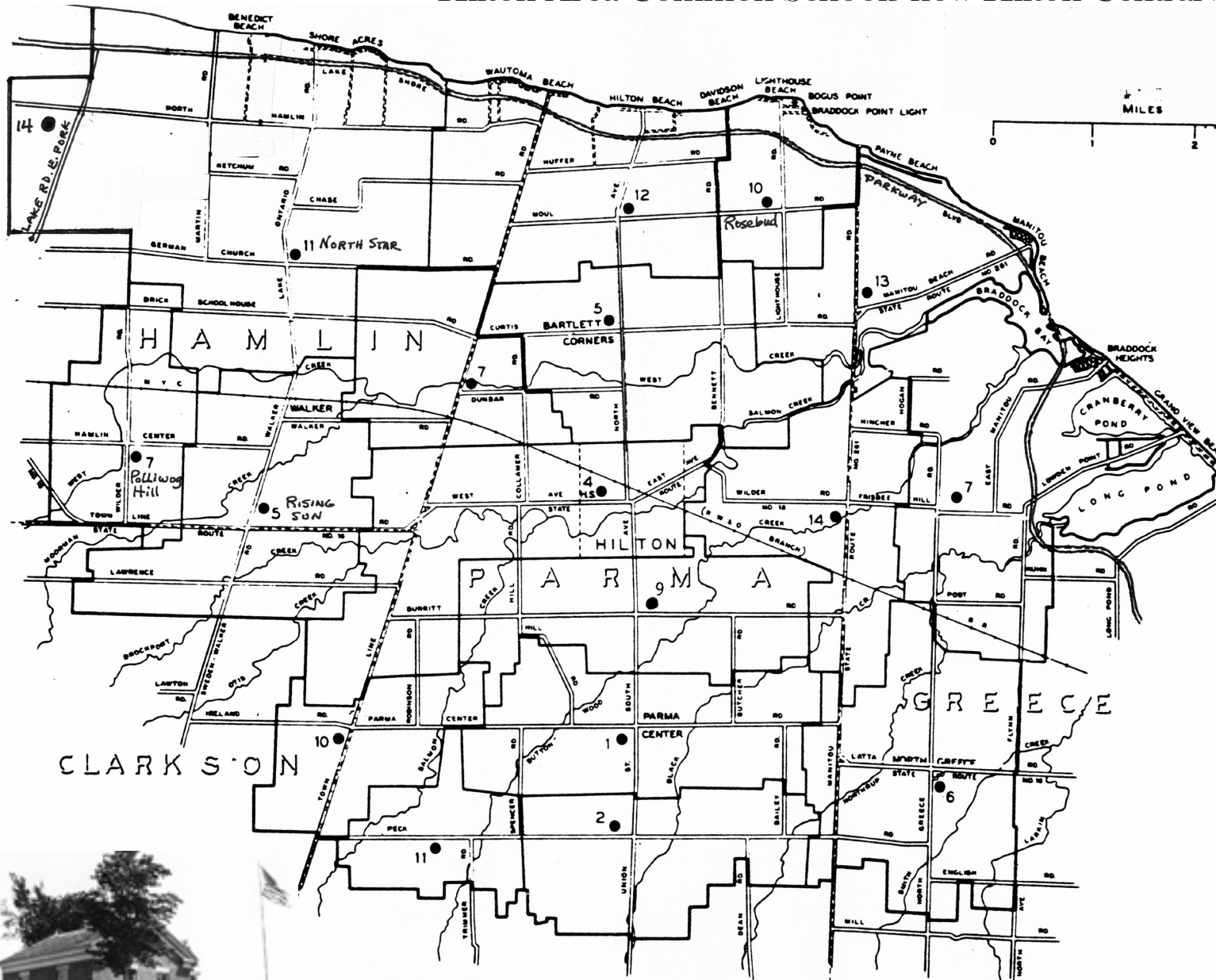


Brief Historical Timeline compiled by Barbara A. Carder, Hilton Central School District Director of Communications and Community Education, with help from the Monroe County Historian's Office; the Village of Hilton Historian; the Parma-Hilton Historian; the Town of Greece Historian; Town of Hamlin Historian and the Archives of the Hilton Central School District.



Hilton Central School District
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Hilton Area Common Schools now Hilton Central School District #1



- Parma #1 - Hill Rd.
- Parma #2 - Hunt's Corners Peck Rd./Rt. 259
- Parma-Hamlin-Clarkson Joint #4 - North Parma Union Free School West Ave. at Henry St.
- Parma #5 - Bartlett's Corners, Cross District Curtis Rd./Rt. 259
- Parma-Hamlin Joint #7 Wright's Corners Dunbar Rd./Hamlin-Parma Townline Rd.
- Parma #9 Burritt Rd.
- Parma #10 Rosebud School Moul Rd.
- Parma #12 Sands District Moul Rd.
- Parma-Greece Joint #13 Manitou Rd. at Manitou Beach Rd.
- Parma-Greece Joint #14 Manitou Rd./Wilder Rd.
- Greece-Parma Joint #6 Goose-neck School - College Ave. in North Greece
- Greece #7 Frisbee Hill School Frisbee Hill Rd.
- Clarkson-Parma Joint #10 Knapp's Corners Ireland Rd.
- Hamlin-Clarkson Joint #5 Rising Sun Rt. 18/Walker-Lake Ontario Rd.
- Hamlin #7 Polliwog Hill Wiler Rd./Hamlin Center Rd.
- Hamlin #11 Northstar - Walker-Lake Ontario Rd./Church Rd.
- Hamlin #14 Thomasville East. Lake Rd. /No. Hamlin Rd., the last independent, one-room school-house in Monroe County.

NOTE: Some of the early school districts were combined or moved locations. Of the 17 districts which voted in 1949 to centralize into the Hilton Central School District, only nine came in with children enrolled. Some had already been closed and parents were paying tuition at the "Henry Street School." In 1952, the last one-room schoolhouse came into the District, Thomasville Hamlin #14. Three Parma schools were centralized into the Spencerport CSD: Parma #3, Parma #8 and Parma #13.

