

Field School Chronology

1946: Town Meeting voted to build a new elementary school and appropriated funds for a building “of modern construction without ‘useless decoration’” that could be expanded to accommodate at least 800 pupils. Land formerly belonging to the Case family was acquired from Harvard University’s Arnold Arboretum at a cost of \$10,000. The chosen architect was local resident Harold B. Willis of the Boston firm of Collens, Willis and Beckonert.

April 7, 1948: Weston High School (located in what was then known as Brook School Building C and is now Brook School Apartments Building C) suffered a disastrous fire that gutted the inside. As a result of the fire, plans already prepared for the new elementary school were adapted to a 20-room high school for grades 7-12. The building committee added a gymnasium to the plan and found space for a cooking room, automotive shop, woodworking shop, and mechanical drawing.

January 5, 1950: Classes begin in the new building (now called Field School). The building cost \$950,000 and was the largest public building in Weston at the time. Furniture and equipment salvaged from the burned school were used wherever possible. Grades 7 to 12 are located here.

Fall, 1955: Seventh and eighth grade students move into the former Building A, which was available because of the opening of the Country School earlier in 1955.

Fall, 1961: New High School opens in the fall and is dedicated on December 2. The old high school (now Field School) becomes a junior high school.

1970: With the completion of the present junior high school in 1969, the existing junior high is remodeled and is ready for occupancy as the elementary school known as Field School, beginning in September 1970. Field is used as an “intermediate” school for grades 4, 5 and 6.

1981: Due to drop in school enrollments, Field School becomes the second Weston school to close (Brook School closed in 1976). Unlike Brook School, Field is not converted to another use but rather is leased to organizations that could use the classrooms, thus preserving the possibility of reopening the school if enrollments were to increase. Field School housed a variety of education, civic, and recreational programs including Weston wing, a day care center, and the Children’s Center of Weston, an after-school program.

1995: Field school is renovated and opens as a school for 4th and 5th grades.