

August 22, 1950

- Warren and Ben Ballard built the 30' long Tiger Muskie. Governor Luther Youngdahl gave the dedication speech per Dean Schmitz.



Warren Ballard, who raised muskies and promoted restocking the fish in lakes and muskie fishing, built Nevis' muskie. Construction of the statue was completed in 1949. At the dedication in 1950 Governor Luther Youngdahl proclaimed Nevis was home to the largest muskie on the planet. Nevis' first summer celebration, Eddie Lof Day, also was held in 1949, sponsored by the Nevis Business Men's Club to welcome the start of Lof's Lumber Co. In 1950 the event was renamed Muskie Days and has continued as an annual festival in the lakeside village.



February 21, 1950

- Mr. Perry Schenk, Nevis agriculture teacher, requested a trip to the Northwest Breeding Association Barns in Duluth as a field trip. The board approved the request with \$.50 per person charged to the students to cover the cost of transportation.
- Junior prom was requested to be held in the auditorium. Superintendent Buck requested and a discussion of past prom activities was held. The prom was denied.

April 13, 1950

- Total valuation of the Nevis School building was \$193,790 with an insurable value of \$127,830 with equipment of \$17,506. The board decided to carry \$99,000 on the building and \$14,000 on equipment.

May 9, 1950

- A new policy was approved, "The school board has authorized dancing as a part of the extra-curricular and co-curricular function of the high school of Nevis at a location approved by the Superintendent, provided that high school students do not participate in outside public dances during the week. When the occasion arises where students violate the public dance rule during the week, the privilege of school sponsored dances will be rescinded at the discretion of the board."
- The school board approved \$20 for transportation to contests, \$5 for district entrance fees, and \$6 for state entrance fees for the agriculture program.

July 20, 1950

- Home economics class ordered new appliances with one gas and two electric ranges, steel cabinets, and cupboards with one piece Formica tops were to be the base cabinets. Porcelain or cast iron was the choice for sinks.

August 3, 1950

- Bids were let for the home-economics equipment
 - Sewing machines were ordered from Orv Reynolds for \$234.
 - A refrigerator was ordered from Orv Reynolds for \$138.
 - Ranges were ordered from Orv Reynolds for \$321.

August 29, 1950

- School bus drivers were Cliff Warren, Harold Romer, and Henry Thompson. Their salaries were discussed. One option was to be paid \$90 per month plus \$.14, \$.16 or \$.17 per mile. The board agreed to a flat rate of \$290, \$235, and \$210 per month respectively.

October 3, 1950

- The old Kimball piano was advertised for sale at \$25.
- A sale of a used sewing machine was made for \$5.

November 30, 1950

- Districts 13 and 51 were at the meeting to discuss tuition and transportation arrangements.
- Idea of a county nurse was discussed due to a letter received.
- A study was received regarding the classroom lighting.
- The valuation of the School District was \$226,441, the levy was 42.52 mills and was increased to \$9,624, plus a \$3,000 special levy for a total of \$12,624.

January 10, 1951

- \$.25 was contributed to the county nurse position per pupil.

May 1, 1951

- Henry Thompson was offered \$650 for the bus, to be delivered to the board at the end of the present school year, in good condition with a change of tires on the front wheels, a good spare, a replacement cushion or \$700 for the above with storage for the summer months.

June 14, 1951

- Bus driver, Cliff Warren, was given a raise to \$300 per month and driver Harold Romer was given a raise to \$245 per month with the district paying for insurance, making deductions from salary and using \$.10 as figures to use for changes in bus mileage.

July 2, 1951

- New lighting was authorized to be installed in the school with 12 lights of 2-tube 40 amp fluorescent lights at a cost of \$336 per room.

September 18, 1951

- Mrs. Lyle Pierson petitioned the county board to have their land set over into District 12 from 36. It was to be heard by the County Board on October 2, 1951. The primary reason was to allow her son to attend Park Rapids School where industrial arts was offered. The petition was opposed by the Nevis School Board as it was contrary to the policies of re-organization and would establish a precedent for others to attempt the same procedure and would result in lowering the assessed value of the district.
- The Clerk was to meet with the County Board and accept District 5 with the request that former debts of District 5 remain with the District 5 residents-otherwise consolidation with District 5 was approved.

September 19, 1951

- \$800 was approved for the purchase of the Westby Garage building for the storage of the school's buses.

January 15, 1952

- Lunch prices were raised from \$.15 to \$.16 per student meal.

February 19, 1952

- Discussions on the consolidation of District 82 with District 36 or 1 - also discussed planning for consolidation with Districts 9 and 64.

March 17, 1952

- District 82 was to be given a proposal to allow them to sell their building to apply on their debt and to allow the present high school students currently attending Park Rapids to continue to attend Park Rapids with Nevis District 36 to provide transportation and tuition. The new high school students would attend Nevis as Districts 82 and 36 were consolidating.

March 17, 1952

- Salaries for the coming school year were set as follows:
Elementary Teachers \$2,465
Academic Teachers \$2,975
Special Teachers \$3,200
Principal \$3,600
Superintendent \$4,650
Vo-Ag teacher \$4,500
Elementary teachers with only one grade would get \$50 less while teachers with two classes would receive \$50 more.

June 12, 1952

- Results of the reorganization election were read with 31 votes cast, all in favor of reorganization.
- Policy: Students must be 6 years old on or before January 1 of the year to start school in first grade.

July 24, 1952

- The election of a new school board to serve the new Independent Consolidated District 5 (new Nevis School District) made up of previous Districts 36, 13, 82, 5, 51, and parts of 12, 64, and 84. The Hubbard County school districts consolidated into five districts from the original 80+. Therefore, new school board members were to be elected and several of the smaller country schools were consolidated into the Nevis School District.

Harold Rossetti and Harry Avenson to serve until July 1953

Darwin Erickson and Dewey Sanford to serve until July 1954

Clinton Richie and J.Russel Fairchild to serve until July 1955

- Other districts in the county were:
 - District 1 – Park Rapids
 - District 2 – Hubbard
 - District 3 – Akeley
 - District 4 – Laporte
 - District 5 - Nevis

August 11, 1952

- Thorpe Township was interested in the District 51 building and site.
- District 13 buildings and materials, no real estate, was to be offered for sale on a bid basis after values were established and anything useful to District 5 (Nevis School District) had been removed.
- Inventories of the properties of Districts 13, 51, and 82 were signed and sent out to the old boards of the old districts.

September 16, 1952

- The District 13 building sale was overseen by Cliff Warren and was to bring \$250.00. After rejecting all bids as they seemed low, a public auction was set to dispose of the items at District 13.

October 14, 1952

- The school board approved the purchase of an electric booster water heater to replace the old coal fired heater.
- An attendance report was done during deer season. It was then asked to allow a hunting vacation for the first Monday and Tuesday of the season with time to be made up during Easter vacation – the time off was to be granted for the 1952 season.

October 30, 1952

- The new valuation of the District was \$390,880.
- A new levy was set for \$26,800.

February 10, 1953

- The school board approved offering a drivers training course to students.

March 16, 1953

- Current teaching staff, Mr. Herb Wolff, Principal Mr. Andresen, Miss Rosie Southard, and Mr. Chuck McDonald, were on the negotiations team (this was the first mention of group negotiations in the school board minutes).
 - Elementary - one grade \$2,700
 - Elementary - two grades \$2,950
 - Secondary \$3,300
 - Special \$3,450
 - Vo-Ag \$4,800 (note: the salary is higher than the principal's as there were many extra duties)
 - Principal \$4,075
 - Superintendent \$5,250

School was in session for 170 days and ended May 29th

April 16, 1953

- A fire marshal report called for a fire escape at the east end of the school building from the second floor level to the ground.
- School board elections were held 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with the terms of Mr. Harold Rossetti and Mr. Harry Avenson up for reelection. They were both reelected with 15 votes each.
- The management plan for a school forest was submitted to the board. This was the first mention of the school forest in the school board minutes. Mr. Perry Schenk was the agriculture teacher at Nevis School from 1949-1955. He helped the school acquire the school forest.



Perry Schenk
Agriculture Teacher 1949-1955

May 19, 1953

- The American Legion purchased the District 13 school building and they were urged to remove it.
- Teacher contracts were discussed: six sick leave days were granted to teachers each contract year with the following conditions:
 - that leave be granted only for illness of the teacher.
 - that leave be granted for death in the immediate family (wife, husband, children, parents, brother, sister).
 - that no pay be given to the teacher for days absent after sick leave has been exhausted.
 - that the substitute pay for teachers shall be three-fourths that of the regular teacher.
 - should an emergency arise and a teacher need more time than the allotted six days of leave, the board will give generous consideration of the situation after the first contract year, if there had been unused sick leave days from the previous year or years.

- 80 acre school forest was established by the State of Minnesota. The location of the forest is the N ½, NE ¼, Section 15, Township 141, Range 33, Hubbard County. There is a total of 80 acres at the site. The first stewardship plan for the school forest was written April 13, 1993. The land was given to the school by the state to use as a resource. In the 1990's the forest was surveyed and it was discovered that a property owner had a building protruding onto the school forest land. The DNR and school negotiated a realignment of the property line to allow the person to keep the building where it was, but he gave up 10 acres of his land to the school in exchange.

July 1953

- Final County Fair held in Nevis. The Fair ran from 1915-1953. The site then became the property of North States Industries, which closed January 2008.

October 13, 1953

- The bid for a fire escape was accepted from Northern Manufacturing Co. in Staples, Minnesota for \$762.40.
- The levies were set at \$21,000 for maintenance and \$6,000 for capitol outlay.

November 10, 1953

- Eight teachers voted for no vacation, six voted for vacation, and four did not vote. Monday of deer season was then declared a vacation day with no make up of time if enough school days were conducted during regular schedule.
- Some discussion was held about the consolidation of the Nevis and Akeley School Districts.

January 15, 1954

- Mr. James Harker, PE teacher, was to be consulted on the complete needs of the athletic department. A request was made for the purchase of warm-up suits for the basketball team.
- Additional desks were needed in the commercial department with Janitor Erickson asked to build what was needed.

March 9, 1954

- A school board discussion on the report of consolidation of Nevis District #5 and Akeley District #3 was held.

March 9, 1954

- Elementary teacher salaries were approved, this plan called for a basic salary for new teachers with increases for years of experience in the local system, plus \$100 for a teacher with a degree, plus \$250 if two grades were taught.
- Secondary teachers' basic salary was \$3,400 with incentives as follows for coaching add \$200, for one play add \$50, one act play add \$20, declamation add \$60, band instruction \$400, home economics \$200, annual \$50, school paper \$50, drivers training \$100.

April 20, 1954

- Teacher base salaries were adjusted to state \$50 extra for experienced teachers.
- Another discussion was held as to consolidation with Akeley District #3.

September 21, 1954

- Lyle E. Lewis, State Assistant Supervisor of Health and Physical Education and Recreation, visited the school and called attention to the inadequate features of the current physical education facilities.

October 6, 1954

- Residents voted on a 25-year \$135,000 building project. The bid went to J.M. Dain & Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota with interest rates between 3.1% and 3.25% – extension, improvement, repair, remodeling, lighting, equipping, and furnishing. This was based on the 1953 report by the University of Minnesota. The vote would add classrooms, enlarge the library, add a clock system, add a gym, and improve the lunchroom. Included were:

25 plastic top desks	\$307.50
2 teacher desks	\$119.00
2 teacher chairs	\$15.80
350 Folding Chairs	about \$4.47 each
3 Chair Trucks	at \$39.50 each
18 lockers 15x15x60	about \$15.00 each
12 lockers 12x12x36	about \$8.50 each

The results of the vote were:

221 yes 48 no 1 spoiled vote 270 total ballots



Aerial photo of Nevis School after the building of the “new gym”.
The gym is the only part of the old school that remains today. Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press.

- Teacher salaries for a five year program starting with 1953-1954 were \$2,600 for elementary, plus \$100 for each year of service and \$3,300 for high school teachers with top salary of \$3,000 for elementary and \$3,700 for high school. Fifty dollars was given for experienced teachers new to the system.

Special Service Allowances:

Elementary Principal	\$100
High School Principal	575
4-Year Degree	100
Coaching	200
Music Teacher	400
Commercial Teacher	200
Home Economics Teacher	200



Arlene Shaw

May 26, 1955

- Arlene Shaw, a sophomore at Nevis, was killed on the way home from the freshman-sophomore class trip. It was the last day of school and the two classes went to Itasca State Park for a picnic. On the way home, one of the vehicles was involved in a two-car collision. Arlene was in the car with nine other students. Two other students were hospitalized for most of the summer. In memory of Arlene, the 1956 annual was dedicated to her.

September 23, 1955

- The elementary gym was dedicated. A description of the gym as it appeared in the newspaper: "The stage is paneled above and below with natural birch plywood which sets off the green velvet curtains trimmed in gold. The rest of the gym is painted a light green with a maroon tiled floor. New chairs have been purchased and the old bleachers freshly painted, will serve until permanent seating is installed. There are lavatories and shower rooms for both the boys and girls to the sides of and below the stage. Above one side of the stage is the band room. In the lobby there are concession booths and the superintendent has a nice new office in the back part of this."

At 7:35 the Akeley band played a concert. Among the songs they played were "Minnesota State Song" and "Star Spangled Banner". Superintendent L.C. Purrington, acted as Master of Ceremonies. The guest speaker was Mr. P.J. Brown, Director of Schools from the State Department of Education. A solo was performed by Mrs. Gordon Hewitt accompanied by Mrs. Harold Hanson. The keys to the building were handed to Mr. Clinton Richie, chair of the school board. Mr. Spencer Holy, the steel contractor, presented a new basketball to the basketball coach, Mr. Jim Harker. Information from Hubbard County News.

October 31, 1955

- School budget approved for 1956-1957 was \$41,000.



Main street in Nevis looking west.



Muskie Park (right) made Nevis a popular place to visit. This view looks north on Paul Bunyan Drive.

March 15, 1956

- The Hubbard County Paper: "Many changes have taken place in the last 60 years. All our fine forests have been cut. Most of it driven down the Crow Wing River. All our best iron ore mined, our muskies gone and we are in debt more than our property is worth. From our towns and villages to our national government. Not a very rosy legacy to turn over to the boys and girls of today."



1955-1956 Track Team

Johann Hacker (class of 1959), Edward Bolton (class of 1956),
Daryl Gruis (class of 1956), Coach James Harker, Rasmus Rand (class of 1956),
Larry Hensel (class of 1956), James Christenson (class of 1957)

August 24, 1956

- Policy approved: All student vehicle keys must be turned in to the principal upon arrival at school. Any student failing to turn in the keys would be suspended from school.



1956-1957 8-man football started

Front: David Gruis (class of 1958), Larry Hensel (class of 1957), Gale Lego (class of 1958), Don Sylvester (class of 1957), James Christenson (class of 1957), and Johann Hacker (class of 1959)
Middle: Jerry Wambolt (class of 1958), Harold Husby (class of 1959), Chris Tschouban, Joel Kowalke (class of 1958), and Andy Hamblin (class of 1959)
Back: Coach Peter Mandich, Manager Dick Carpenter, Jerry Gulsvig (class of 1959), Arlo Johnson, Charles Stombaugh (class of 1960), and Manager Bobby Wambolt (class of 1961)

1957

- State funding formula allowance was \$240 per pupil.

July 1, 1957

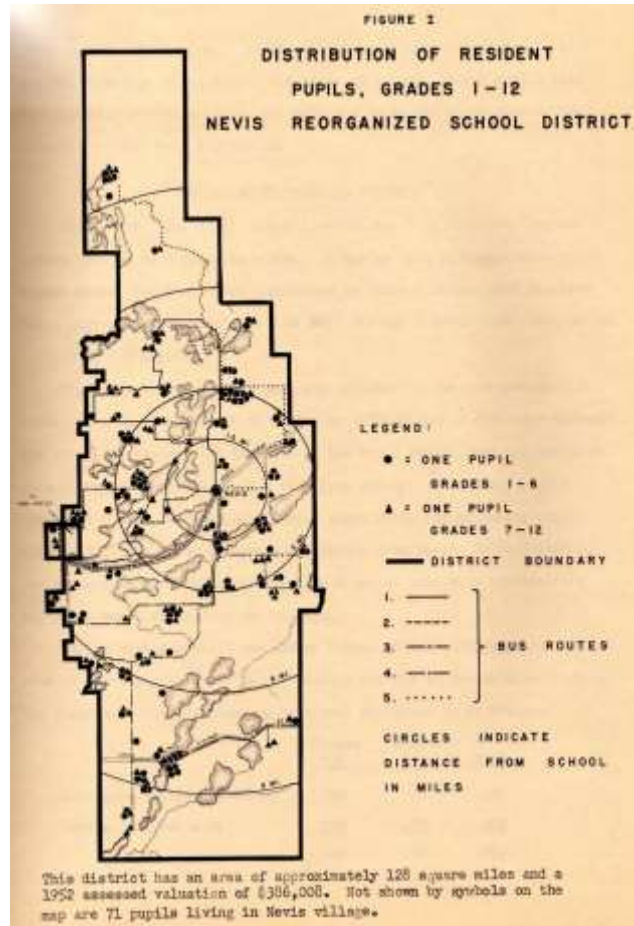
- Nevis Post Office was given its first 2nd class rating. The post office was established as a 4th class post office February 21, 1899, with Jacob Rasnick serving as the first postmaster. In January 1900, Walter W. Pearson was appointed the second postmaster of Nevis. On July 1, 1957, it was given a 3rd class rating. Then, on September 14, the “New Post Office” (the 2010 location of Northwinds Grocery) was dedicated with Mr. George Reishus directing the band. On September 17, 1934, Justin Brown was appointed the third postmaster. On August 1, 1945, Harold Rosetti was appointed the fourth postmaster. The amount of mail grew from 14,000 pieces delivered in 1934 to 53,000 delivered in 1961 with 1,577 patrons and around 4,500 summer guests (information reported in Nevis Paper by John Meon December 28, 1961)

July 15, 1957

- A new Carpenter school bus was purchased for \$5,865.

September 6, 1957

- Hubbard County Nevis District 5 name was changed to Minnesota Independent School District 308. Previously, District #1 was Park Rapids, District #2 was Hubbard, District #3 was Akeley, District #4 was Laporte, District #5 was Nevis. The new district numbers were given alphabetically by county first and then alphabetically by school name. The following school districts were in Hubbard County:



Akeley	Number 301 (now part of Walker-Hackensack-Akeley School District)
Farris	Number 302 (now part of Bemidji School District)
Guthrie	Number 303 (now part of Bemidji School District)
Hubbard	Number 304 (now part of Park Rapids School District)
Lake Alice	Number 305 (now part of Park Rapids School District)
Laporte	Number 306
Nary	Number 307 (now part of Bemidji School District)
Nevis	Number 308
Park Rapids	Number 309

Information from Shirley Sanders at Minnesota Department of Education on 10-24-06.

	R.35W.	R.34W.	R.33W.	R.32W.	
	BELTRAMI COUNTY				
T.145N.	Fern Page 74(75)	Rockwood Page 76(77)	Helga Page 78(79)	Farden Page 80(81)	T.145N.
T.144N.	Lake Hattie Page 66(67)	Schoolcraft Page 68(69)	Guthrie Page 70(71)	Hart Lake Page 72(73)	T.144N.
T.143N.	Lake Alice Page 54(55)	Lake George Page 56(57)	Hendricksor Page 58(59)	Lakeport Page 62(63)	T.143N.
T.142N.	Clover Page 44(45)	Clay Page 46(47)	Thorpe Page 48(49)	Steamboat River Page 52(53)	T.142N.
T.141N.	Arago Page 36(37)	Lake Emma Page 38(39)	Mantrap Page 40(41)	Akeley Page 42(43)	T.141N.
T.140N.	Todd Page 22(23) PARK RAPIDS	Henrietta Page 26(27)	Nevis Page 30(31)	White Oak Page 32(33)	T.140N.
T.139N.	Straight River Page 10(11)	Hubbard Page 14(15)	Crow Wing Lake Page 16(17)	Badours Page 20(21)	T.139N.
	WADENA COUNTY				
	R.35W.	R.34W.	R.33W.	R.32W.	

October 1957

- The Soviet Union launched Sputnik I.

June 1958

- Nevis School was awarded an emergency aid grant by the State Board of Education to rewire and purchase new lighting fixtures for all the rooms in the Nevis School building. The school also moved the library to the social studies room, moved the social studies room to the agriculture room, and moved the principal's office to the library.

November 11, 1958

- The skating rink in Nevis was maintained by the school.

December 17, 1958

- A student was suspended for 2 weeks for driving with other students in the car.

January 15, 1959

- Teacher salary schedules were based on their education for the first time in the school board minutes:

1958-1959 Salary Schedule

BS degree \$3,500-\$4,100

MA or MS \$3,700-\$4,300

March 10, 1959

- The Nevis Fire Department was approved to construct a baseball diamond north of the football field at their expense.

April 29, 1959

- Math, natural science, and music were declared emergency fields due to teacher shortages and approval was given to offer contracts over the adopted salary schedule.

August 11, 1959

- School lunches cost \$.18 for students and \$.23 for adults.

September 9, 1959

- Removed the jack pines from in front of the school to protect the spruce trees.

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD FOR THE YEAR 1959-1960									
NAME					GRADE 12 SCHOOL Nevis				
His Week's Periods	Days Present	Thurs Tardy	Conduct	Effort	Eng	Soc	Sc	Ind	A
1	A				B+	D	B	B	
2	A				B+	C	B	C	
3	A				D	D	B	C	
4	A				B+	C	B	C	
5	A				C	F	B+	B	
6	A				B+	B+	B	C	
Yr.					B+	C	B	C	

The pupils best interests require close cooperation between the home and the school. Parents are requested to visit the school and confer with the teachers or the head of the school in regard to the progress of the pupil.

Form 4 Flynn-Ume Simplified Record System
Parsons Stationery & School Supply Co.

H. WOLFF
Superintendent of Principal

December 8, 1959

- Superintendent Mr. Louis Schroeder read a letter from Dr. Walter Cook, Dean of Education at University of Minnesota suggesting all students age 6 by January 1 be allowed to enter school and that it is not based on IQ score.

1959-1960 12th Grade Report Card