

**April 18, 1986**

- Groundbreaking ceremony for the new school building was held on Friday. It was raining at the time so most of the ceremony was moved inside.



Ground Breaking Ceremony

Construction Contractor Al Christiansen, Superintendent Marlowe Halbur, Farmers Home Administration District Officer Gary Pender, School Board Member June Sather, School Board Member Bob Lukken, Construction Superintendent Rick Pater, School Board Chair Tom Stigsell, Principal Richard Magaard, School Board Member Vern Wolff, School Board Member Larry Smith, Architect Bob Rego, Former Superintendent Herb Wolff, County Commissioner Ray Melander, and Architect Abendroth

Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press.

**May 20, 1986**

- It was decided to no longer use the wood bleachers on the football field and to move some of the present indoor bleachers outside during the football season.



Top Left: View from the roof of the old building looking at the new footings.

Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press.

Above: Dirt work done in preparation for the new building.

Left: Band room being removed.

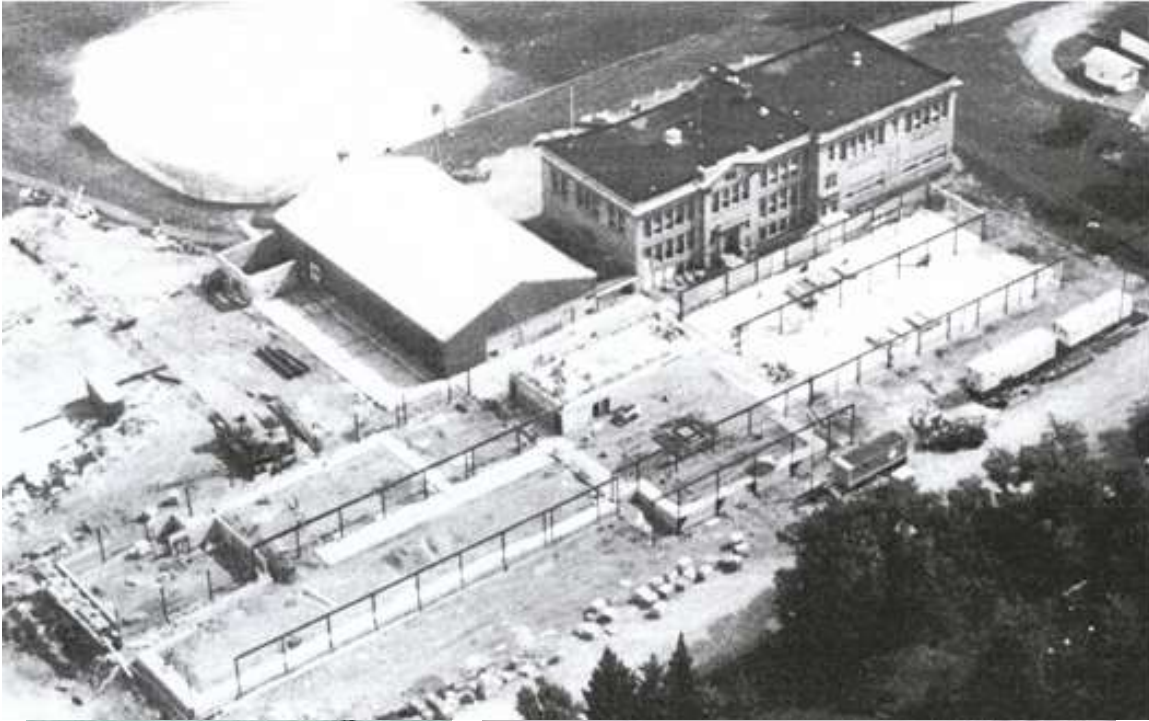


Fencing being put up in front of the old school to prevent students from entering the work zone.  
Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press

A view of the front of the old school and the work zone of the new school with the footings already in for the new building.



Construction on the new building.



Top: Aerial photo of the new school construction.

Bottom Pictures: wall studs and rafters installed.

Photos courtesy of Northwoods Press



Working on the dirt work in front of the high school wing,

Finished dirt work in front of the high school wing.



Pouring the sidewalk in front of the elementary wing.

Students walking between the old and new school.  
Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press.





Sod rolls piled in preparation of finishing the landscaping.

Front of the elementary wing after the landscaping was finished.



Left: North side of the high school wing, current location of Tiger Arena (built in 1994).

Below: Aerial view of the new building in relation to the old building.





#### **1987 Graduating Class – last in the old school**

Front: Brad Jones, Lisa Symanietz,  
 Laurie Evers, Lisa Avenson, Mike Schneider  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Michele Rhodes, Tammie Poole,  
 Debbie Proffit, and Kathy Duncan  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Row Standing: Nancy Wold, Ann Halbur,  
 Scott Koran, Bob Stigsell (leaning towards  
 front), Randy Lundsten, Steve Lund,  
 Knut Rognerud, Kristen Ford, and  
 Tammy Hanson  
 4<sup>th</sup> Row Standing: Gary Dudley, Mark Guetter,  
 Olaf Netteberg, and Dave Newman  
 Sitting on Lockers: Tim Klenk, Stacy Brose,  
 Bert Foster, and Tom Stanfel  
 Missing: Terry Schroeder, Mike Avenson,  
 David Smith, and Larry Amundson



Above: Old school bricks given to each graduate of the Class of 1987. The bricks said: "Final Graduate of the 1912 Nevis High School". The student's name was also on the brick.

Right: Halls of the old school on the last day of school.

Photos courtesy of Northwoods Press



**June 21, 1986**

- All School Reunion was held before the old school was demolished. 885 people attended the reunion.
- Mr. Loren Avenson, class of 1952 interviewed on August 10, 2009, said that the original school bell was raffled at the All School Reunion, the year the new school was built. The bell was bought by one of his classmates, Mrs. Dorothy Anderson (Foster). She later sold it to Mr. Kelly Rittgers (class of 1975). Mr. Avenson said that Mr. Dave McCoy was a custodian at the school for many years. It was his job to ring the bell every morning. Therefore, he was the last one to ring it at the reunion. He rang the bell the number of years that it was old.

**September 1, 1986,**

- The legal drinking age changed from 18 to 21, making Minnesota the 39<sup>th</sup> state to change the drinking age. It had been 18 since 1973.

**Fall 1986**

- Teacher salaries for the 1986-1987 school year started at \$16, 544 and ended with \$27,857 after a bachelor degree, 105 quarter graduate credits, and 13 years of experience.

**1987**

- Secondary pupil weighting was reduced from 1.4 to 1.35, affecting school funding.

**February 23, 1987**

- The flag pole was approved to be purchased from the alumni funds.

**March 16, 1987**

- Furniture and equipment for the new building was discussed:
  - \$9,009 student desks
  - \$2,803 student chairs
  - \$6,075 student desks
  - \$1,035 student tables
  - \$3,990 teacher desks
  - \$2,762 secretary desks

**April 7, 1987**

- Inspectors approved the new building for occupancy.

**April 13, 1987**

- The music department and superintendent moved into the new building so that the areas they currently used could be remodeled.

**April 21, 1987**

- The policy committee decided that the new building should be smoke free and not have a designated smoking area. The recommendation went to the school board.

**April 28, 1987**

- The school board approved a new policy stating that the school building and vehicles were to be tobacco free. Smoking on the school grounds was discouraged. The school district also planned to provide funds for smoking cessation programs for employees. The policy was to apply to students, staff, and visitors. Violations could result in discipline procedures for students, termination on the basis of insubordination for staff, and prohibition from use of school property by visitors.
- This was the first meeting of the school board in the new superintendent's office.
- The school board approved having a dance-line extra-curricular group.
- Authorized Superintendent Marlowe Halbur and Mr. Al Wickman to work on brush control in the school forest.
- Approved the bid for construction, staining, and varnishing of new library shelving.

**May 19, 1987**

- A lunch stand at the school auction was approved with proceeds going towards furniture for the teachers lounge and nurses room.

**May 1987**

- The graduating class of 1987 made a time capsule for the kindergarten class of 1999. Miss Tammy Hanson was to keep the safety deposit box with videos, pictures, newspaper clippings and class ledgers. The video included a song with the seniors and kindergarteners.
- Class rank and grade point average (GPA) was calculated based on grades from 10-12, they were on an 11-point scale, and music and physical education classes were not included in the GPA. On this GPA scale A=11, A-=10, B+=9, B=8, B-=7, C+=6, C=5, C-=4, D+=3, D=2, D-=1. GPA became based on all grades 9-12 and all classes in 1993. The 4-point scale was first used in June 2002.

**June 10, 1987**

- An auction was held to sell all items that would not be moved into the new building.

**July 21, 1987**

- Demolition of the old building began, it took three days. The materials were then hauled for another three days south of Nevis to the property owned by Mr. Ralph Rittgers, where it was buried.



**Old School Demolition**  
**July 21-23, 1987**

Photos courtesy of Northwoods Press



**August 8, 1987**

- Ten windows of the new school building were broken when vandals threw rocks through them. The estimated cost to replace the windows was \$1200. A \$1000 reward was offered for information leading to the arrest of the individual(s).

**September 8, 1987**

- First day of school in the new building. The elementary waited for a couple of weeks to get desks, in the mean time they used tables. The kitchen used paper plates as the dishwasher still needed to be hooked up.
- Cafeteria and hallways got new terrazzo flooring.

**October 26, 1987**

- New school was dedicated.



Vandalism to the west  
high school entrance.  
Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press

**Dedication**

Commissioner of Education Ruth Randall, President of Nevis Education Association Carol Collins, Student Council President Ed Glogowski (class of 1988), Principal Richard Magaard, Assistant Architect Bob Rego, School Board Member Vern Wolff, School Board Member Dennis Saak, School Board Member Larry Smith, School Board Member Bob Lukken, School Board Member June Sather, Bethany Lutheran Church Pastor Dan Babine, Superintendent Marlowe Halbur, and School Board Chair Tom Stigsell.

Photo courtesy of Northwoods Press