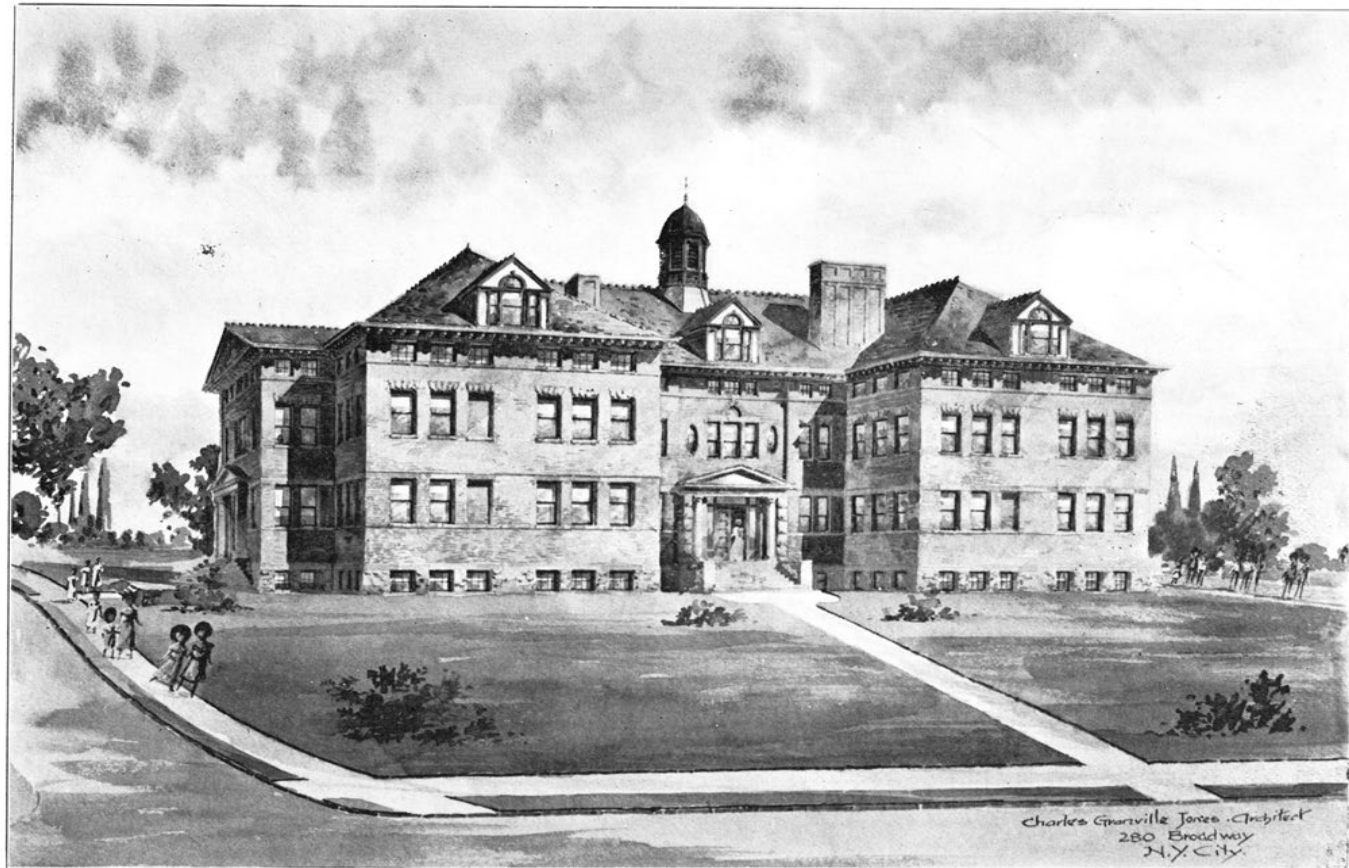


REPORT
OF THE
Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey



March First
Nineteen Hundred and Five



PARK HALL SCHOOL, WITH PROPOSED ADDITION.

REPORT

OF THE

Board of Education

Hutley, New Jersey

MARCH FIRST

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIVE

Board of Education

1904-1905

OFFICERS.

GEORGE B. PHILHOWER, M. D.....	<i>President</i>
HENRY W. GOODRICH.....	<i>Vice President</i>
ALBERT B. MEREDITH.....	<i>District Clerk</i>

MEMBERS.

	Term Expires
HENRY W. GOODRICH.....	1905
RICHARD W. BOOTH.....	1905
FRANK T. SHEPARD.....	1905
ARTHUR STAGER	1906
HENRY G. BAILEY.....	1906
CHARLES W. LICHTENSTERN.....	1906
GEORGE B. PHILHOWER, M. D.....	1907
THOMAS J. O'NEIL.....	1907
WILLIAM F. DITTIG.....	1907

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, MARCH 1, 1904, TO MARCH 1, 1905.

RECEIPTS.

Balance March 1, 1904.....		\$7,758.31
From State, \$200,000 appropriation.....	\$ 466.19	
“ State School Tax, 90%.....	5,792.21	
“ State School Tax, 10%.....	465.13	
“ State appropriation.....	2,628.54	
“ Library.....	40.00	
	<hr/>	9,392.07
Special Tax, Current Expenses.....	14,125.00	
“ Bond No. 14.....	1,000.00	
Interest on Bonds and Mortgage.....	2,388.00	
	<hr/>	17,513.00
Rents.....	347.50	
Tuition.....	40.00	
Sale of Old Iron.....	8.50	
Bonds, Park Hall School.....	8,040.00	
Temporary Loans.....	6,000.00	
Insurance, Park Hall School.....	1,940.68	
Warrant Returned.....	18.49	
	<hr/>	16,395.17

\$51,058.55

DISBURSEMENTS.

Janitors' Salaries.....	\$1,531.00
Repairs to Buildings and Grounds.....	1,288.93
Building Supplies.....	98.08
Books.....	578.13
Supplies.....	601.80
Fuel.....	1,353.75
Incidentals.....	117.20
Freight and Express.....	56.23
Lighting.....	117.22
Teachers' Salaries.....	16,295.54
Interest on Bonds and Mortgage.....	2,388.00
Bond No. 14.....	1,000.00
Water Rent.....	160.11
Lectures.....	54.55
Library.....	94.60
Interest and Temporary Loans.....	6,101.45
Printing.....	171.05
Truant Officer.....	13.00
Tuning and Repairing Pianos.....	11.00
District Clerk's Salary.....	100.00
Custodian's Salary.....	100.00
Park Hall Account.....	9,479.80
Balance in hands of Custodian.....	9,347.11
	<hr/>
	\$51,058.55

C. W. LICHTENSTEIN,
WM. F. DITTIG,
THOS. J. O'NEIL,
Auditing Committee.

A. B. MEREDITH,
District Clerk.

Park Hall School Account.

MARCH 1, 1904, TO MARCH 1, 1905.

RECEIPTS.

Insurance.....	\$1,940.68	
Rents.....	280.00	
Sale of Old Iron.....	8.50	
Bonds	8,040.00	
	<hr/>	\$10,269.18

DISBURSEMENTS.

Architect's Expenses	\$360.00	
Printing.....	3.45	
Building Supplies.....	2.43	
Lighting.....	25.66	
Contractor.....	8,513.36	
Janitor.....	190.25	
Fuel.....	220.00	
Water.....	4.65	
Interest on Bonds.....	160.00	
Balance.....	\$789.38	<hr/>
		\$10,269.18

Additional School Accommodations.

To the Citizens of Nutley:

The Board of Education desires to present to the people its reasons for recommending the passage of the resolution authorizing the issue of bonds to build an addition to the present Park School.

Citizens of the town, who have been residents here for ten years or more, will remember that the two fine school houses which the town possesses are both of recent erection. The Park School was completed and opened for school work in 1894. The Yantacaw School was completed and opened for pupils in 1902. As early as 1892 the demand for more and better accommodations and the realization of the inadequacy of the old building were so strong that the citizens authorized the building of the Park School. The pressure for accommodations was so great that eight years later, when the Yantacaw School was built, both schools were nearly full. In the three years since the completion of the Yantacaw School the need for more class room has been greater and greater; and so strong was it during the past winter that the Board has been compelled to use, for parts of the third and seventh grades, rooms that are not fit for school purposes and should not be tolerated except as temporary make-shifts.

The demand for increased accommodation is a sign of the healthy growth of the town. The number of pupils of school age enrolled in 1894 was 322; in 1899, 662, an increase of more than one hundred per cent.; in 1904 it was 883, an increase of nearly two hundred per cent. over the enrollment of 1894. Meanwhile the accommodation has been increased since 1894 only one hundred per cent. According to the usual calculation, that the population of a town is five times

as great as the number of pupils enrolled in its public schools, it may safely be said that the population of the town since 1894 has nearly trebled.

These figures show the urgent need of additional school room. All of the schools are crowded, and two at least, the Avondale school house and the Park Hall School, are so ill adapted for school purposes that discontinuance of them is imperative. The Board of Education in considering these needs, has determined to present to the people a resolution calling for new accommodations. It is not contemplated to condemn wholly the use of the Passaic Avenue School but to retain it for kindergarten and lower primary purposes, after certain alterations and improvements shall have been made. Its use for the higher grades is no longer possible.

That the school district is abundantly able to provide the additional accommodations is shown by the increased valuation of the real and personal property of the town subject to taxation. The valuations have increased from about \$800,000 in 1894 to nearly \$1,700,000 in 1904.

It is interesting to know that Nutley does not expend as much on its schools as other towns in this vicinity. The yearly cost for educating each pupil throughout the state, the only true basis of comparison, is \$18.26, and this includes cities, towns and rural districts. Hence the cost for the whole state is somewhat lower than the cost prevailing in towns situated like Nutley. The cost at Montclair is \$42.26 per pupil per year; Bloomfield, \$28.49; Plainfield, \$28.61; Englewood, \$32.38; East Orange, \$25.57; while the cost at Nutley in 1904 was \$21.64. Nutley, therefore, has a lower per capita cost than any of the school districts with which it might well be compared, and is only about one-half of what Montclair is spending.

The better the schools a suburban town is able to maintain the more prosperous the town will become, both in the increase in population and valuation, and in the character of the people who come there to live. No more striking instance of this condition can be found than in the neighboring

town of Montclair, whose school statistics have already been given, and whose schools are famous throughout the state; they have attracted an intelligent suburban population and have led to a great increase in the prosperity of the town. Montclair has been lavish not only in the amount it has given for school buildings but in the salaries it pays its teachers; the result has fully justified what may have seemed extravagance.

The plan to add to the present Park School is the result of long and careful deliberation in the Board of Education. Two plans were suggested; first, adding to the Park School, or second, building a new school house in the Avondale section on the property northeast of the present Passaic Avenue School. The reasons for the selection of the first plan are as follows:

1st. The town owns the site of the Park School and the property needed for its enlargement; it would have to pay at least \$3,500 for the Avondale site.

2nd. The recent and the prospective development of the town is not in the Avondale district but rather to the west and northwest of the Park School. A careful canvass of the residences of the children attending the Avondale School shows that if the kindergarten and first grade were retained in the Passaic Avenue School house, very few of the pupils of the higher grades who would come to a new school house would be incommoded by having to come to the Park School rather than to a school on the Avondale site; furthermore, of the pupils who would be transferred from the Yantacaw School in order to make room for the constantly increasing number of pupils in the northwest section of the town, more would be benefited by having the Park School enlarged than by building a new school house in the Avondale district. In order to fill a school in the Avondale section it would be necessary for a majority of the pupils attending it to pass either the Park or Yantacaw Schools. The Park School is almost the geographical center of the township, while the

center of population is considerably to the north and west of this point.

3rd. The schools can be better managed by increasing their size. If a school were built at Avondale, it would require another principal at about the same salary as that paid to the present principals; but by putting all of the children under one roof, a greater economy can be effected. Moreover, the work of supervision can be more immediately and directly controlled by having as many children as possible under one roof. Furthermore, a better gradation of pupils can be made by having an opportunity for more divisions of the same grades, consequent upon the increased number of children in one school.

4th. The Board of Education has recently decided to lengthen the high school course from three years to four years. Nutley is the only town of Essex County which has a high school course of but three years. The Board has been able to lengthen this course to four years, with practically no increase of expense to the town. In order to accomplish the best work in the high school, an end which the Board of Education is striving to reach, it is necessary to make special arrangements of class rooms, recitation rooms and laboratories. The high school, of course, should be at the Park School, which in its present condition is not fitted for high school work; for effective work in a high school demands that there should be a single large room in which the pupils may have their desks, and in which no recitations should take place, the room being reserved for study; while recitations should be conducted in rooms smaller than the usual grade classroom. If a school were built in Avondale, considerable remodelling would have to be done in the Park School in order to render the work of the high school most economical and efficient.

The Board of Education has prepared plans for the addition to the present building. The arrangement contemplates the erection of an addition, about the size of the present building, to the south end of the present Park School.

In the basement there will be new heating and ventilating apparatus which will not only heat and ventilate the addition, but will also furnish additional heat to the present structure and thus end a cause of much complaint during the past two severe winters. There will also be space for the use of the manual training classes, should the Board at some future time decide to use this part of the building; at the present it is not contemplated to finish the rooms. On the first floor there will be a Board Room and Superintendent's office, and class rooms of the same size as the rooms in the present building. The second floor of the addition will be used mainly for the purposes of the high school and the arrangement contemplates a large room in which all the pupils of the high school may have their desks; together with three or four recitation rooms, two laboratories, one for chemistry and one for physics, and also a library. For the third floor it is contemplated to use only a portion of the space, possibly for a gymnasium for light physical exercise. This will leave the auditorium free for the assembling of the whole school, an arrangement which is not possible now because of the lack of proper heating facilities. The Board believes that the daily assembling of the school, which will probably number five hundred, is a good influence upon the subsequent work of the day.

The plan as submitted by the architect shows a dignified and imposing building. It is kept in harmony with the present building and the Board believes that the new structure will be one of the handsomest school houses in the County.

A careful estimate of the probable cost, together with a bid from a responsible contractor, has led the Board to ask for the sum of Forty-eight thousand dollars. The Board has made the estimate large enough to cover good and substantial construction, but it is in hope that all this money may not be required. It is, however, unwilling to ask for any less than this amount, believing it better financial policy to have on hand at the completion of the work, unexpended

moneys than to be compelled to go to the people for a further appropriation.

In conclusion the Board desires to put itself emphatically upon record as asserting the imperative and immediate need of greatly increased accommodations. The town is growing rapidly and school accommodations must keep pace; at the same time the assessed valuation of town property justifies the expenditure of the sum of money asked of the citizens. We can not go along as we are. We must have new schools. If Nutley continues to increase in population as it has in the last ten years, it will need a new school house for about 300 to 350 new pupils every five years. At present the increase in population in other parts of the town than the Avondale district, demands that the school house should be erected in connection with the present Park School building.

Budget 1905-6.

INCOME.

State School Tax.....	\$9,500.00	
Rent.....	150.00	
Tuition.....	100.00	
District Tax.....	19,000.00	
		\$28,750.00

EXPENSE.

Teachers' Salaries.....	\$19,000.00
Janitors' Salaries.....	1,500.00
District Clerk.....	100.00
School Supplies.....	750.00
School Books.....	850.00
Repairs to Buildings.....	1,100.00
Library.....	300.00
Building Supplies.....	100.00
Printing.....	200.00
Incidentals.....	350.00
Fuel.....	1,600.00
Water Rent.....	175.00
Repairing Pianos.....	25.00
Lighting.....	150.00
Expressage.....	75.00
Lectures.....	100.00
Insurance.....	700.00
Custodian.....	100.00
Special item.....	1,550.00
Truant Officer.....	25.00
	\$28,750.00

In presenting the foregoing budget of the needs of the schools for the ensuing year some explanation is necessary.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Education it was decided to change the ending of the fiscal year from the first of March to the thirtieth of June. The last named date was chosen in compliance with the State Law which requires all financial reports to close at that time. In order to tide over

the four months from the first of March to the thirtieth of June in the year 1905, and to enable the Board to commence its accounts for the ensuing year on the first of July, it was considered necessary to add between fifteen and sixteen hundred dollars.

The increase in the amount of this year over last year also includes a certain amount necessary to pay off a floating indebtedness carried along from year to year due to the Board's having underestimated the growing needs of the school. For instance, two more teachers and more school books and supplies than estimated by the Board last year have been required. There has been no large increase in the items over the budget of 1904 except for the purposes named.