

Early Public Schools

The first schools in the Western Reserve were the responsibility of local residents, and classes were held in the homes of early settlers. Classes were supported by the few residents and enrollment varied from one to several of the local children. The curriculum was readin', writin' and 'rithmatic and school terms were of varied duration. The teaching was done by a man or woman for little or no pay. In the early days many of the teachers were married women. However when the Ohio Public School System was established, married women were not considered eligible to teach.

The public school system was started in 1821 when the state legislature authorized township trustees and village officials to establish schools and levy taxes for their support. However, the order was not mandatory, and local taxpayers often protested that the cost of education should only be borne by parents of children attending school. The requirements for a teaching certificate were not very great. There were no high schools in the early days, so any person with basic knowledge of the 3 R's and of good moral character was qualified.

The interiors of the one-room schools were much the same: straight, long, hard benches, narrow desks, a teacher's desk and the all-important wood or coal-burning stove. Coats were hung on hooks and nails, and on rainy days the smell of wet wool mingled with that of overshoes and assorted foods in the dinner buckets, which were on the shelves along with caps and tams. Each entryway had benches holding the pail of drinking water, a wash basin, and a soap dish. Some schools had a well and pump in the schoolyard, but most often water had to be carried from a neighboring well. Later schools provided individual students' desks.

Fairview Park's (Rockport) first schools were one room schools on Lorain Road and on Mastick Roads.

An Attendance list from District Number three, Rockport Twp. for May 1846:

Allen, Charles
 Anthony, Sarah
 Greenbrier, Ann
 Greenbrier, Edward
 Greenbrier, Susan
 Jordan, Allen
 Jordan, Ansel
 Jordan, Benson
 Jordan, Cynthia
 Jordan, Hannah
 Jordan, Hesther
 Jordan, Lucy
 Jordan, Mariette
 Jordan, Martha
 Jordan, Mary
 Jordon, Orson

Mastick, Cornelia
 Mastick, Laura
 Parker, Henry
 Parker, Susan
 Potter, Albert
 Potter, Martha
 Potter, Sarah
 Rodgers, Rebecca
 Roxia, William
 Serls, Margaret
 Spencer, Amos
 Spencer, Esther
 Spencer, Hannah
 Spencer, John
 Spencer, Mary
 Sweet, Dermott

Tomlinson, Emily

Students of Rockport's State Street School -

All grades together. **1905**

Ewing, Olive
 Gilles, Fred
 Hacel, Hattie
 Haynes, Lucy
 Heene, Ivy
 Heene, Ruth
 Jordan, Bert
 Jordan, Bill
 Kaiser, Anna
 Kaiser, George
 Potter, Albert
 Speidel, Rose
 Whitehead, Lila
 Yeakley, Frank

Spencer, John
 Spencer, Marion
 Sweet, Gertrude
 Sweet, John
 Thompson, Arthur
 Thompson, Harris
 Wallace, Carol
 Wallace, Edelweiss
 Wallace, Jean
 Walther, Carl
 Walther, Lewis
 Walther, Olive
 Williams, Marie
 Yeakley, Gladys

Rockport's State Street School - 1912

Alexander, Melvin
 Anthony, Donald
 Camp, Helen
 Eggleston, Marion
 Eggleston, Mildred
 Ewing, Olive
 Ewing, Roscoe
 Fontaine, Lawton
 Gilles, Norman
 Gillette, Elmer
 Gillette, Elmo
 Jordan, Bert
 Jordan, Josephine
 Jordan, Ruth
 Jordan, Sara Beth
 Jordan, Warner

Kaiser, Albert
 Kaiser, Carrie
 Kaiser, Herbert
 Kaiser, Julia
 Kaiser, William
 Pape, Caroline
 Parr, Florence
 Pointing, George
 Southack, Eugene
 Southack, Russell
 Spencer, Edith
 Spencer, Frances
 Spencer, Warren
 Sweet, Beulah
 Sweet, Dyer
 Westcott, Harold

Westcott, Marguerite

Sources: "From Rockport to West Park", by Ralph A. Pflingsten;
 "Fairview Park in Historical Review" by Margaret Goebelt



One -room school



Coe School #1, District 5, Lorain Road
 North Olmsted. Built 1878