



Shortridge High School
Alumni Association

April 2010
Volume 1, Issue 5

News BRIEFS

Shortridge Records and Transcripts Found

Since Shortridge closed in 1981 a number of people have tried to track down their transcripts and records without much luck. In the fall of 2009 after the reopening of the high school, I personally went to look for them starting with the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Indianapolis Public School headquarters. Both offices informed me that records for the school were supposed to be stored at Shortridge (which until recently was not the case).

I interviewed the former Principal of Shortridge Middle School (now serving at Broad Ripple) to see if during the Shortridge renovation any of the old high school records had been discovered. She indicated that they had found a number of items during the three years of renovation but none of them were the registrar's records from the old high school.

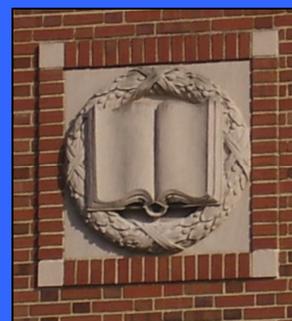
Then during October of 2009 following my interviews, I was visiting with someone at the high school who told me in casual conversation that

the records had been returned to the high school during the first few weeks of the fall after the Reopening Celebration and were now actually in the Registrar's Office.

I immediately went to the Registrar's Office now located on the first floor (a newly renovated office no longer across from the front lobby) and introduced myself to the current registrar, who verified that all the Shortridge records dating back to before 1900 were in the files in her office

All the alumni were in alphabetical order by last name. The files were not on computer or microfiche. And they were divided into two different formats.

The newer ones (starting in 1965) were on an 8 ½ by 11 sheets of paper in a format similar to current college transcripts. They were typed with the individual's name, class year and courses by semester (including grades) and were often pasted onto the sheet.



Written by Al Edyvean

April 2010

Records and Transcripts— Page 2

Brandon, Helen Thomas
 ENTERED 9-1988 AGE AT ENTRANCE 14 YEARS 10 MONTHS
 Thomas Brandon
 GRADUATED 6-1912 CERTIFIED by Normal Indiana
 LAST ADDRESS 1721 N. Delaware St.
 SUBJECT NAME DATE DATE OF PUBLISHED

SUBJECT	MARK	DATE	DATE OF PUBLISHED	SUBJECT	NAME	DATE	DATE OF PUBLISHED
English I	C	1-09		Latin I	A	1-09	
II	C	6-09		II	B	6-09	
III	B	1-10		Chemical			
IV	C	6-10		II			
V	C	1-11		Visual			
VI	C	6-11		II			
VII	C	1-12		General I	B	1-12	
VIII	C	6-12		II	C	6-12	
Math. I	B	1-09		III, IIIa			
II	C	6-09		IV, IVa			
III	B	1-10		V, Va			
IV	C	1-11		VI, VIa			
V				VII, VIIa			
VI	B	6-11		VIII, VIIIa			
VII				G. G. General			
VIII				French I			
Total				II			
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EDYVEAN ALFRED HUBERT JR.
 1-09 A B 1-09 B
 1-09 C 1-09 D
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Accounting Ledgers were used for High School Grades from 1864 to 1965.

More traditional transcripts were used from 1965 to 1981 but many have yearly grades pasted on the sheet.

The transcripts prior to 1965 were hand written, in cursive writing, on old IBM account ledger forms about six inches wide by ten inches tall. And a few go back to the early days of the high school.

"I don't know," she said. "They were dropped off in these file cabinets the first week or so after the high school reopened in the fall of 2009 as if they'd been in storage somewhere but no one said where that was."

I started looking through some of the early transcripts and at times the cursive handwriting was almost unreadable. There was blue or green ink on old thick ledger paper which almost felt like poster board. As I looked through the names under "H", the individual class years read 1903, 1887, 1925, I asked the registrar: "If you have all the graduates filed alphabetically and you don't have them on computer how do you pull out all the students in one graduating class?"

And so begins the process (which we the Alumni Association are taking on) to create an Excel Spreadsheet of Shortridge Alumni dating back as far as the records are readable. Obviously we are not interested in the grades and individual classes of alumni. But we would like to have a complete list of everyone who ever attended Shortridge including their full name the years they attended, their graduating class (if they finished) and their gender.

"Well we don't do that", she said. "I've have a file with a few commencement programs but this office has no need to group graduates by class, we only pull records for individuals looking for documentation of their grades, GPA and actual graduation date."

It's not a lot of information to gather on each individual but if I were to guess there are probably between 25,000 and 30,000 names to transfer from the files. Currently we have put a computer in the Registrar's Office with the intent of beginning the process with student help. Shortridge students participate in a variety of community projects and the Alumni Association is planning a Student Alumni Association to be created in the next year through the Shortridge Student Senate.

So now, I thought to myself, is the time to ask the 64,000 dollar question: "So where have the files been since Shortridge closed in 1981?"