CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR TEACHERS

Teachers are expected to keep the school room clean and neat at all times by:

- Sweeping the floors at least once each day;
- Scrubbing the floor once each week with hot water and lye soap;
- Cleaning the blackboards daily;
- Starting the fire at 7 a.m. so that the school room will be warm by 8 a.m.

Teachers will not dress in bright colors.

Dresses must not be more than two inches above the ankles.

At least two petticoats must be worn.

Their petticoats will be dried in pillowcases.

Teachers will not marry, or keep company with men, during the term of her employment.

She will not get into a carriage, or automobile, with any man, except her brother or father.

Teachers will not loiter at ice cream stores.

Teachers are expected to be at home between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., unless in attendance at a school function.

The teacher will not smoke cigarettes or play at cards.

The teacher will not dye her hair under any circumstance.

It is understood the teacher will attend church each Sunday and either teach a class in Sunday School or sing in the choir.

The teacher will not leave town at any time without permission of the Chairman of the School Board.
School days, school days
Dear old golden rule days
Readin' and 'ritin' and 'rithmetic
Taught to the tune of the hickory stick
You were my queen in calico
I was your bashful barefoot beau
And you wrote on my slate
"I love you, so"
When we were a couple of kids.

Familiar Chorus of Song Written By
Will D. Cobb & Gus Edwards in 1907
MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES PRESENTS
Dickinson County Townships – 1891


Currently (2012) there are four school districts in Dickinson County:

- Breitung Township Public School District;
- Iron Mountain Public School District;
- North Dickinson Public School District (Breen, Felch, Sagola and West Branch Townships);
- Norway-Vulcan Area Public School District (Norway and Waucedah Townships and Faithorn, Menominee County).
Felch Township – October 9, 1882

FELCH TOWNSHIP: Organized October 9, 1882, embracing T42N – T43N of R29W – R30W – R31W (set off from Ely township, Marquette County); boundary changes: (1) T44N of R28W – R29W – R30W attached May 21, 1891, to Dickinson County as organized; (2) T44N of R29W and T42N – T43N – T44N of R30W set off March 9, 1892, and organized as Sagola Township; (3) E ½ of T43N – T44N of R28W detached October 19, 1908, and included in West Branch Township as organized; named for Felch Mountain Range, a belt of iron ore named for Alpheus Felch (1806-1896), governor of Michigan (1845-1847).
Felch Township Schools – 1

**Ader's School** – Graysville area
Erected in 1904 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1904-

**Deerhunt School** – Deerhunt Mine
Erected in 1911-1912 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1912-

**Graysville School** – Graysville area
Erected in ____ – Razed in ___
Years Classes Held:

**Felch School/Washington School** – Felch
Erected in 1905 – Burned on May 10, 1911
Years Classes Held: 1905-1911

**Felch School** – Felch
Erected in 1911-1912 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1912-

**Felch High School** – Felch
Erected in 1914 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1914-

**Groveland School** – Groveland Mine
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

**Groveland School** – Breen Township
Erected in 1910 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1910-
John *son School* – near the Eric Johnson farm
Erected in 1912 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1912-

Leema *n School* – Leeman farm
Erected in 1911 – Razed in ___
Years Classes Held: 1911-1921

Metropolita *n School* – Metropolitan
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

Princeto *n (Chopping) School* – Princeton
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

Sturgeo *n School* – Sturgeon
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

Turner Junction *n School* – Turner Junction
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: ____–1938
Early Schools in Felch Township


Many students and teachers have come and gone since the early days of Felch (then called Metropolitan), Felch Mountain, Milltown, Metropolitan (Farmertown), Graysville, Princeton (Chopping), Clearing, Norway Lake, Turner, Leeman.
LIGHTNING STRIKES THE FELCH SCHOOL

One Child Instantly Killed and Two Fatally Injured.

During a terrific electrical storm yesterday afternoon the school-house [sic – schoolhouse] at Metropolitan was struck by lightning and one child was instantly killed, two fatally injured and nine others severely shocked.

Carl Dixon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dixon, aged ten years, was killed.

All wires connecting Metropolitan with the outside world were destroyed by the storm and The Press is unable to secure any information other that that noted.

LATER – Just as the forms are closing The Press has received a telegram from Former Supervisor Forell containing the information that, in addition to the killing of Carl Dixon, the following pupils were seriously injured:


The school building erected a few years ago was totally destroyed at a loss of $4,000. It was insured for $2,500.
Struck Four Schools.

School buildings were “shining marks” for the lightning to shoot at last Wednesday, four having been struck. In addition to the Felch school, where one child was instantly [sic – instantly] killed and half a dozen rendered unconscious and the building burned to the ground, the new building at Niagara was struck; also the school-houses [sic – schoolhouses] at Channing and Palatka. Not much damage was done at Niagara. At Channing the lightning damaged the roof, entered the building and ripped the plaster off a side wall. At Palatka the lightning struck the flag staff on top of the building, shattering it in pieces, another bolt struck the chimney, scattering bricks in every direction. It followed the chimney to the basement, blew open the doors of the furnace, throwing soot right and left covering everything.
New School at Felch.

John J. Ovist, secretary of the Felch township board of education, arrived in the city last Tuesday evening and will remain until this evening. In addition to attending the meeting of school officers at the court-house [sic – court house], Mr. Ovist was also investigating relative to the cost of materials for a new school building to replace the one destroyed by fire recently. The board is inclined to favor a brick or cement building to contain not less than four rooms. The attendance at the school warrants the erection of a larger building as the old one was badly overcrowded. It is also proposed to increase the number of grades taught. The district is out of debt. It is probable that the question of bonding in the sum of $5,000 for building purposes will be submitted to a vote of the people at an early date and a favorable decision is anticipated. The sum named, together with the insurance on the old building, would give the board a building fund of about $7,500.
FELCH NEWS.

The children who were hurt when the school house [sic – schoolhouse] was struck by lightning have nearly all fully recovered and are again able to be around. It will be a long time, however, before they will get over their fear of lightning.

The funeral of Carl Dixon, aged nine years, was held from the Swedish Aid Society Hall last Friday afternoon, Rev. K.M. Holmberg officiating. The funeral was attended by nearly every resident of the village and vicinity and the family has the sympathy of all in their sad bereavement.
Bond Election.

In Felch township, on Monday next, a special school election will be held for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing bonds in the sum of $5,000 to be employed in the erection of a new school building at Felch to replace the one recently destroyed by fire. The school board has decided upon the erection of a four-room building and it will be of brick or concrete construction. The Felch district has no indebtedness, the needs of a larger building are appreciated by the people, and it is certain that the loan will be sanctioned.

FELCH NEWS.

The school board has decided to erect a four-room building to replace the two-room school-house [sic – schoolhouse] recently destroyed by lightning. The growth of the school population shows that in a short time the four rooms will be fully occupied.
A special school election was held here last Monday for the purpose of bonding the township to raise money to erect a new building at Felch. A bond issue of $5,000 was voted upon and carried with little opposition and Felch will now be provided with a four-room school. It will be one of the finest buildings along the Felch branch.
School Contract.

The contract for the erection of the new school building at Felch was awarded to G.A. Gustafson, of Norway, at a meeting of the township board of education held yesterday afternoon. The contract price was $9,300. Tenders were also received from Nelson & Bergman, of Escanaba, and F.E. King, of Norway. The tender of the Escanaba firm was $9,432 and of King $9,358. The new building will replace the one recently destroyed by lightning, followed by fire, in which one child was killed and several inured. It will be of brick construction and will contain four rooms. The plans were drafted by Architect Parmelee, of this city, and the school will be a model in many respects.
FELCH NEWS.

G.A. Gustafson, who has the contract for building the new school-house [sic – schoolhouse], has the foundation completed and masons are expected in a few days to commence laying brick. When the building is completed we will have one of the best equipped country schools in the state.
FELCH NEWS.

A crew of finishers and painters arrived from Norway last Monday, headed by Gus Gustafson, the contractor for the new school-house [sic – schoolhouse]. They will rush the work as fast as possible to have the new building ready for the winter term of school, which will start Jan. 2nd.
This drawing by Iron Mountain architect F.E. Parmelee appeared in the Iron Mountain Press on January 4, 1912 with an article on the new school proposed for Metropolitan which follows. [Dickinson County Library]
NEW MODEL SCHOOL-HOUSE AT FELCH

Just Completed at a Cost of Ten Thousand Dollars; Opened Last Tuesday; A Credit to the Progressive People of the Town.

The handsome new school building at Felch is now finished and the several rooms were informally occupied by the pupils for the first time when the winter term of school opened last Tuesday.

The building, when complete, will be the finest school-house [sic – schoolhouse] of its kind in the upper peninsula. It is a four-room structure with concrete foundations, solid brick walls, and a nine-foot basement under the entire building.

There are four school-rooms [sic – school rooms], a wide hall extending the entire length of the building with doors leading to each room separate from the entrance through the cloak-rooms [sic – cloakrooms]. Each school-room [sic – schoolroom] has separate cloak-rooms [sic – cloakrooms] for the girls and the boys and each room is provided with a teacher’s cloak-room [sic – cloakroom] and closet for articles used in the rooms.

[CONTINUED]
A perfect system of ventilation has been installed, with the Smith system of heating.

Ample blackboards of natural slate, the latest improved seats for the pupils of each room, and, in fact, everything of the most modern type of school appurtenances has been provided.

The basement is fitted up as a playroom for the children to be used on cold and stormy days, one part to be used as a manual work shop [sic – workshop].

The high, spacious attic will be divided and one part used for a gymnasium and the other for a laboratory for simple work in chemistry and other school work and experiments.

The outside appearance of the building is very striking and pretty. The body is red pressed brick with white brick for trimmings, with white cornice and the shingles of the roof painted a deep green dipped in stain. There are two entrances to the building, the front one having a large roomy vestibule over which is a deep alcove setting off the entire structure to great advantage.

[CONTINUED]
Felch School, Metropolitan (Felch) – 4

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 33 [Thursday, January 4, 1912], page 5, columns 3-4

At the present time there are to be three teachers employed, as this number of instructors is deemed sufficient to take care of the number of scholars attending the school at present, but as the school population is increasing rapidly, it will be only a few years when the other room will be occupied by an additional teacher. The school board has wisely provided for this by building the four rooms.

There are ten grades taught in the school as follows: First, second and third, taught by Miss Estella Bacon; fourth, fifth and sixth, by Miss Lillian Rian, and seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth, by Wm. Vaughan.

The school board has spared no time or care in having the new building as nearly perfect as it could be built and meeting all the demands of a progressive public school spirit. It is an ornament to the village of Felch and one of which every resident can be proud. Much credit is due the board of education for their honest endeavors and hard earnest work. The board is composed of the following members: Herman Gustafson, Matt Johnson, John J. Ovist, Andrew Rian and Alfred Anderson, who is secretary of the board.

[CONTINUED]
Felch School, Metropolitan (Felch) – 5

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 33 [Thursday, January 4, 1912], page 5, columns 3-4

The new Felch school is a model of school architecture and reflects great credit upon F.E. Parmelee, of Iron Mountain, who planned and designed the building.

In addition to the new Felch school, a one-room school building has been erected at the Deerhunt mine location and will be ready to open school about the middle of January.
Felch School, Metropolitan (Felch) – February 22, 1912

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 40 [Thursday, February 22, 1912], page 5, column 4

FELCH NEWS.

A night school will be opened in the school-house [sic – schoolhouse] the coming week for all who wish to attend. Instruction in writing, spelling, arithmetic and reading will be given. Books and newspapers will also be at the disposal of those wishing to spend an hour or two reading. The school will be free to all, open three nights in the week and under the direction of W.J. Vaughan, principal of the village school.
This unused postcard view, dating from about 1950, shows the Felch High School, located in Felch. The portion of the building on the right was the school designed by F.E. Parmelee and constructed in 1911, opening January 2, 1912. The portion of the building on the left was an addition built of local sandstone in about 1935-1936 as a W.P.A. project. The building was razed – burned on purpose – in 1969, and the Felch Township Hall now occupies this site. [WJC Photo]
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings visited the Metropolitan School, now used as a community center.
Metropolitan School, Metropolitan (Felch)

Boasting a new, red metal roof, the Metropolitan School, now the Metropolitan Hall, also contains an activity center known as Alex’s Place, in memory of 16-year-old Alex Schuiteman, son of Paul and Mary Beth Schuiteman, who tragically drowned in Lake Superior near Marquette’s Presque Isle Park August 5, 2010. Note the original bell in the belfry with a rope attached so the bell can still be rung.
A petition has been circulated for the building of a school at Graysville, better known as Ader & Gray’s farm. A very suitable location has been chosen and as soon as a contract is made with J.M. Longyear, who has possession of the ground where [the] building is proposed to be built, bids will be advertised for erection of [the] building. There are several families in this new locality and the future promises a bigger settlement, as the farming land in this district looks very promising.
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings viewed the site of the Graysville School, located just off of M-69, west of Felch. David’s mother, Pauline (Daniel) Blomquist, taught school here before she married.
It is possible to read mining history into the minutes of the Board of Education. The August 3, 1908 minutes include the following: “Motion was made and seconded that the secretary write to the Huron Iron Mine Co. for a lease of ground for the school house at Groveland Mine and that the Felch Township School District buy the old frame house from Captain H.A. Lawry for school purposes for the sum of $100.”
September 12, 1908: Mabel Massie was hired to teach the Groveland School for a term of 9 months with a salary of $50 per month.

June 1, 1910 minutes read: “Owing to the poor outlook at the present time at Groveland Mine, the board decided not to hire any teacher at the present time for next year.”

Just two months later the board minutes read: “Inasmuch as the schoolhouse at Groveland Mine is too small and inconvenient and not in condition to keep school in, and as there are enough children to compel the board to keep a school at the above Groveland Mine and as the mine is now running and likely to do so in future, be it therefore resolved that the Board build a new schoolhouse at said mine to accommodate all children that are now there and likely to come there. The schoolhouses to be 24x38 with 10 foot 2x4 studdings.”

In October, 1910: “Motion made and seconded that the outhouse at Groveland School be removed further out from the school building. Motion carried.”
The local school board has decided to erect a new school building at the Groveland location. The building will be a one-story structure, ten feet high and twenty-four feet by thirty-eight feet on the foundation. Charles Forshman has been engaged to superintend the erection of the same.
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings viewed the possible site of the Groveland School, located near the Groveland Mine.
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings viewed the site of the Princeton School, sometimes referred to as the Chopping School, located across the street from the Steinbrecker farm. The left portion of the building may have been the actual school structure.
There were buildings from an old logging camp at Turner and one time there were seven homes there. Ore cars, empties and filled, rumbled through as did passenger coaches headed for Channing to connect with the Milwaukee Road there.

William Vaughn had taught school at Metropolitan as early as 1908 when in the early 30’s he was instrumental in securing a railroad coach and having it spotted beside the track at Turner to provide a schoolhouse for the children there. The coach was stripped down and outfitted with school desks and other school necessities, a potbellied stove for warmth and a Victrola to help with the singing, and there was a lot of it.

As at the Metropolitan School and later at Felch, Vaughn was a strict disciplinarian, whacking his pupils across the knuckles if they misbehaved, standing them in corners or “booting them in the rear” if necessary, or calling them “dumbsocks” if lessons weren’t prepared. But those he taught whether it be in Metropolitan, Felch, or Turner agree he had a big heart and would buy clothes, shoes, and provide food from his own garden for families who were hard pressed.

School in the railroad coach continued until 1938 when pupils, and Mr. Vaughn, were transferred to the school in Felch.
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings viewed the Turner Junction School, a railroad coach, which teacher William Vaughn was instrumental in securing in the 1930’s and having spotted beside the track at Turner to provide a schoolhouse for the children there. The coach was stripped down and outfitted with school desks and other school necessities, a potbellied stove for warmth and a Victrola to help with the singing.
In December of 1965 the North Dickinson County School District was formed with the combining of the Channing and Felch school districts. In January, 1966, a new board of education was elected. Chosen to govern the new school district were Elmer Carlson, Clarence Roell, Vernon Anderson, James Jauquet, Donna Cootware, Charles Carey and Melvin Cousineau. Lee Meyers and Einar Eckholm were appointed co-superintendents. Meyers left in 1967 and Eckholm assumed administrative responsibility of the new school district until 1969 when he retired. Steward Oja was appointed superintendent in July, 1969.

In June, 1966, the people of the newly-formed district voted to build a new K-12 school for the children of the district. Many delays were experienced before actual construction began in 1970. There was reluctance on the part of the Municipal Finance Commission to approve the building project because the Commission didn’t feel the financial resources of the district were adequate. There was a delay in the sale of the bonds because of a ceiling placed on the interest rate of bonds. It took special legislative action to permit the allowable interest rate to rise to 8% to enable the district to sell their bonds to finance construction of the new school. The $1,600,000 bonds were sold at an interest rate of 6.35%.
The new school greatly enhanced the educational program for the children of the district. A modern science laboratory was provided, permitting expansion of the science program. A well-equipped and comprehensive library with a variety of periodicals, audiovisual equipment, and a wide selection of books is now serving the students of North Dickinson. The swimming pool serves both students and community as a recreational facility. The gymnasium seats over 1,000 people and is well-equipped to provide physical education activities for all the children. Almost all graduates enjoy an industrial arts experience. Both boys and girls can enroll in automotive, woodshop and welding classes. The band has been able to use a large area with individual practice areas for the students. All of the classrooms are spacious and conducive to an excellent learning environment. A large commons area doubles as a cafeteria and auditorium facility.

Carl Lemin was appointed principal of the new modern facility to direct the curricular activities of the students.

In 1972 the Board of Education expanded its services to the adults of the community by establishing an adult education program. Many of our senior citizens now enjoy educational, vocational and recreational activities.
NORWAY TOWNSHIP: Organized December 30, 1880, embracing T39N – T40N – T41N of R29W (then part of Menominee County), set off from Breitung Township; named for Village of Norway located therein.

In 1965 the consolidated Norway-Vulcan Area School System was formed, serving the City of Norway, Norway Township, Waucedah Township and the Menominee County community of Faithorn.
First School – Location Undetermined
Erected in 1879 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1879

Second School – Location Undetermined
Erected in 1879 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1879

Curry School – Curry Mine Location
Erected in 1882 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

Norway High School (later the Central School) – Location
Erected in 1892 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1892-

Lake School – Third Ward, South of the West Vulcan Engine House (later used as sewing factory)
Erected in 1899 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1899-

Nelson/Nelson Hill School – Nelson Hill
Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held:

McKinley School – Second Ward
Erected in 1902 – Razed in ____
Years Classes Held: 1902-

Norway High School – Site of present school complex
Erected in 1906 – Burned August 29, 1912
Years Classes Held: 1906-1912
Norway Schools – 2

**Norway High School** – Site of present school complex
  Erected in 1912 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1912-date

**Catholic School** – On top of Nelson Hill
  Erected in 1888 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1888-

**Holy Spirit School** – On top of Nelson Hill
  Erected in 1965-1966 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1966-date

**Curry School** – Location
  Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held:

**Lake School** – Third Ward, South of the West
Vulcan Engine House (later used as sewing factory)
  Erected in 1899 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1899-

**Norway High School** – Site of present school complex
First School – Carpenter Shop, Norway

*The Iron Mountain News*, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume ___, Number ___ [Thursday, **July 1, 1976**], page 8, columns 1-4

**Schools consolidated in 1964**

First Norway public school was a carpenter shop...
...while Vulcan students learned in old log barracks

The history of the Norway Public Schools began in 1879 in a carpenter shop owned by the Menominee Range Mining Co. [*sic – Menominee Mining Co.*] There was no superintendent, but a teacher, Miss Hay, was in charge.

School was held in this shop until the completion in 1880 of a two-room building on the site of what was later the Nelson School.

Norway, at that time, was unincorporated and the township unit was administered by the first board of education of three members – John Perkins, Patrick Flanagan and D. Mullene.
Norway Schools Superintendents

E.F. Abernethy – 1886-1887
S.B. Tobey – 1888-1894
E.P. Frost – 1895-1903
Charles E. Cullen – 1904-1908
George G. Malcolm – 1909-1914
C.J. Borchardt – 1915-1918
George L.B. Greenawalt – 1919-1928
Clyde Hertz – 1929-1934
Hugo T. Swanson – 1935-1962
Donald S. Brumbaugh – 1962-1970
Don Byczek – 1998-1999
Randy Van Gasse – 1999-2011
Louis Steigerwald – 2011-Present
Nelson Hill High School, Norway

This photograph is identified as follows in Norway’s Diamond Jubilee Historical Album 1891-1966 by Jake Menghini: “Norway’s first high school. First part of this school was built in 1880. This picture taken in 1888.” [B.J. “Bert” Peterson – Norway Diamond Jubilee Book]
In July, 1879, a school building 20 by 30 feet was discussed for the residents of the Norway School District. The Menominee Mining Company built the school, renting the building to the district either until it could be purchased by the district or until another school was built. The school had 75 pupils all of whom were taught by Miss Lillie Hay.

In the fall of 1881 F.E. Sealy became the new principal of the Norway schools. The schools were well-attended, even if many students had to walk three miles to attend.
School Improvements.

At the school meeting Monday night it was voted to raise $2,500 for the purpose of building an addition to the schoolhouse and heating the building by steam. The addition is to cost $1,500, and in general appearance will be the same as the north wing of the building. The balance $1,000, [sic] is intended for the purchase of the heating apparatus, provided arrangements cannot be made with the Penn Iron Mining company to furnish the necessary steam for heating purposes. A committee was appointed to wait on the company and see what terms, if any, could be made with them in regard to the furnishing of steam. They have not yet made their report so far as we can learn.

The above is a move in the proper direction. For months past our schools have been too small to accommodate the children of the district, and more than once last winter some rooms had to be dismissed because the heating was defective, leaving no alternative for the teachers and scholars but to go home to get warmed.

The city schools will close Friday of next week, and remain closed until the early part of September. The closing exercises of the present term will end up with a basket picnic, which will be indulged in by the teachers and scholars of the different departments and their friends. The picnic will be held in the grove between the Cyclops mine and O'Callaghan’s mill, and the party will leave the schoolhouse between ten and eleven o’clock in the forenoon. THE CURRENT trusts that its little friends, and all others in attendance, may enjoy themselves thoroughly, and that a kind providence will bless them with a bright and sunny day.
The school closed yesterday for a two months’ vacation. The scholars, teachers and their friends indulged in a picnic in the grove near the mill, and as the day was a pleasant one, all enjoyed themselves to their hearts’ content.

The school picnic Friday of last week was a very pleasant affair, and was highly enjoyed by all in attendance. The scholars, to the number of three hundred or more, formed into line and marched from the school house [sic – schoolhouse] to the grounds, the teachers of the various departments acting as commanding officers. At the grounds a platform had been erected from which the recitations, etc., were given. The school organ was taken out for the benefit of the singers. It was indeed a gala day for the children, and it is a pleasure to note that not only they, but the teachers, parents and visitors all came home in the evening feeling better for the day’s recreation and respite from their everyday toil.
School Improvements.

As briefly stated in our last issue, the contract for building the addition to the school house [sic – schoolhouse] in this district was let to A.F. McGillis. We have since learned that the contract covers not only the building of the addition, but also the basement under the building for heating purposes. The contract was let for $1580, and the work is to be completed by August 25th next. The contractor now has a force of men engaged on the work, and is pushing both the basement and addition ahead as rapidly as possible. When completed, the steam heating apparatus will be placed in the basement for the purpose of warming the building throughout, for experience in the past has taught the school board that stoves are as useless about the place for the purpose they are intended to accomplish as would be an Arctic iceberg [sic – iceberg]. With these improvements, both teachers and scholars will have comforts and conveniences they have been unaccustomed to heretofore.
The addition to the School House in Dist. No. 3, [sic] is being rapidly constructed. The Contractor Mr. A.F. McGillis, [sic] is giving his personal attention to both that and the excavation of a basement, in which it is proposed to put a steam heating apparatus. The coming school year will no doubt show a marked improvement in the comfort of the school rooms, and as a natural consequence, in the improvement of the schools generally.
The schools open one week from next Monday. It is desired that all scholars be present on the opening day.

... The census just taken shows school dist. No. 3 contains 539 children of school age, a gain over last year of 29.

... The addition to the school building in district No. 3 is rapidly nearing completion, the plasterers and painters now being engaged putting on the finishing touches.

... At the last meeting of the school board of district No. 3 it was decided to purchase a steam outfit for the heating of the school building, past experience have [sic – has] proven that stoves are wholly inadequate. Messrs. Flanagan and Perkins were appointed a committee to make the selection and purchase of the proper machinery, and they have gone to Chicago for that purpose. The members of the school board are determined that the scholars and teachers will not suffer from cold the coming winter as they have in former winters.
List of Teachers.

The roster of teachers engaged for the present school year is as follows: Advanced Department, J.C. Smyth; Grammar department, Kate Keting [sic – Keating]; 2nd Intermediate department, Susie Hosking; 1st Intermediate department, Ida Felton; 2nd Primary department, Abbie C. Colwell; 1st Primary department, Mamie Hosking; Curry school, Carrie Roche.

Judging from the number of children in the district of school age, as shown by the late census, and the number of the same enrolled in the public schools, THE CURRENT is of the opinion that there is some “hooky” being played, or else parents are very careless about sending their children to school.
Let the School Board Speak.

The school board is being censured by many of our citizens regarding the purchase of the steam heating apparatus for the school building. The citizens referred to claim that the board paid $1,400 for what could have been purchased for $1,000. THE CURRENT does not know anything of the merits of the case, but the members of the board can no doubt enlighten the public. Will they do it? The columns of THE CURRENT are at your disposal, gentlemen.

The steam heating apparatus for the school building has arrived, and will be put in place at once.
Let the School Board Speak.
[To the Editor.]

In your last issue, under the above heading, you state semi-editorially that “the school board is being censur’d [sic – censured] by many of our citizens regarding the purchase of the steam heating apparatus for the school building. The citizens referred to claim that the board paid $1400 for what could have been purchased for $1,000.” This is a very pointed assertion, and if any citizen or citizens made such a statement, they knew it to be not only false, but a malicious slander. Thinking, Mr. Editor, that you may have been mistaken, or that you are misrepresenting the citizens referred to, we ask you, if so, to make the required correction. If you are not mistaken, it is but just that we should know the name of such a slanderer, that no blame may be attached to you for the publication referred to. For the information of the public it is but proper to state that every bid received for putting in the heating apparatus referred to is yet on file in the moderator’s office, and can be seen by any one [sic – anyone] who wishes to examine them, where it can readily be seen that if such a statement was made it is false, and that the board accepted the lowest bid for a wrought iron boiler that was made. SCHOOL BOARD.
In reply to the above the editor of THE CURRENT would state that the article complained of was a simple and true statement of what had been talked of on the streets here for several days. Had this paper seen fit to publish all that was said, the members of the school board would probably have been seen scouring the town with gatling [sic – gattling] guns after they had read it.

That people are apt to be a little hasty at times in accusing public officials of wrong-doing, THE CURRENT is free to admit, and such may have been the case in this instance. There was nothing mentioned about what kind of boiler was to be furnished with the apparatus at $1000 so far as this paper has heard, and it may have been an ignorance of what the board really wanted that started the censure complained of.

THE CURRENT does not wish to enter into any lengthy controversy over the matter, but it wishes it distinctly understood by the members of the school board that it was not mistaken in what is said, nor did it misrepresent the statements made. As stated before, they were current on the street for several days, and this paper published them (that is the mildest portion of them) as an item of public interest.
The school board winds up by stating that the several bids are on file in the moderator’s office, where they can be seen. When did the board advertise for bids for putting in the heating apparatus? Never, so far as we can find out. If the members of the board solicited bids personally, and the same are on file as stated, why don’t they publish them and show the public that they are conducting matters in the interest of the taxpayers. That would certainly put an end to the ugly rumors complained of. This is all THE CURRENT wishes to say about the matter for the present.
Putting the Heating Apparatus in Place.

Men have been engaged during the week putting up the steam heating apparatus in the city school building. They will probably be ready to turn on the steam and test the machinery to-day [sic – today].

Running at Last.

The new steam heating apparatus at the public school house [sic – schoolhouse] is at last in running order, and so far as tested gives good satisfaction. It is apparently an economical arrangement, and it only remains to be tested during some of our cold days, when if it is equal to the task of keeping the school rooms warm and comfortable, our citizens will be able to say to the school board; [sic] “well done.” The question of dollars and cents is not always the principal one in matters pertaining to the public welfare. Mr. W.T. Daniel has charge of the school rooms, and the heating of the same and we congratulate the school board on the good judgment shown in the choice.
We learn that at the close of the school year, Prof. Smith [sic – Smyth] will sever his connection as principal of our public schools. The Prof. has been with us two years, and has shown marked ability in his chosen vocation. We do not know where he intends to locate, but wish him the success his unremitting attention to duty deserves.

The closing exercises of the public schools was held (as per announcement in our last number) at Miners’ hall yesterday afternoon. It was by far the best attended school entertainment we have ever seen in Norway. The program was carried out in full and at its finish, the Revs. A.S. Fair and P. Flanagan addressed the scholars, giving them much good advice. The teachers and scholars then separated to enjoy their vacation, each as his or her own tastes may dictate. To one who was one of the first school board, in March, ’79, the present school system seems of almost abnormal growth. That great efforts have been made to make the schools successful was fully evidenced by the proficiency shown in the rendering of yesterday’s program.
The public school building is being thoroughly repaired and fitted up for the commencement of the next school year. A stone foundation is being built, and a platform and railing built in front. The fences and out-houses have also been put in good shape and we are not too sure that Janitor Daniels won’t be too proud to speak to common mortals, when he gets the contemplated improvements all done.

At the next school meeting let our citizens consider the matter of a school district library. The absence of one is a serious loss to the community.
School Notes.

The books for the establishment of the school library have been selected, and the order given to S.A. Maxwell & Co., Chicago.


SCHOOLS

Norway High School’s first graduating class was in the year 1887. Students who graduated from the old Nelson Hill High School in that year were: Laura Rayome, Amelia Perkins, Mary Perkins, Florence Balsom, Eva Monroe and Teresa Bush.

List of graduates for the following years were: 1888 – Nellie Bush, Agnes Bolon, Aggie Powers and Delia Cootware; 1889 – J.F. Walker, Margaret Walker and Ellen Bergstrom; 1890 – Phillip Bennett; 1891 – Frank Blackwell.
The teachers and scholars of the public school will issue a school journal next week, and if sufficient support is given them by our people, the publication will be continued monthly. We do not know the name of the new paper, but we can assure our businessmen that enough copies will be printed and circulated to make it a good advertising medium. Give them a benefit, and thus benefit yourselves.

The first number of the Norway School News was issued last week, and will hereafter be a monthly visitor to many homes.
The motto of the Norway School News, is – “High erected thoughts, seated in the heart of courtesy.” If some of the editors in embryo, [sic] would display a little more courtesy while going to and from school, instead of knocking little girls off the sidewalk, there would be greater chances of their attaining the standard of gentlemanliness set up for them.

–December 1st No. 2, [sic] of the Norway School News will be issued. Those who wish to subscribe should hand in the small sum of 25 cents to the Business Manager Mr. S. Hosking. Don’t [sic – Don’t] try to be a dead-head [sic – deadhead] for the sake of a quarter, if you do for $2.00.
Postmarked Menominee, Mich., December 1, 1905, this postcard view shows the original high school building, completed in 1892 at a cost of $15,000, and later called the Central School, located on the northwest corner of Norway Street and Tenth Street. Eleven teachers staffed the eight-room school house which included a fair-sized library in the office. [WJC Photo]
Norway High School, Norway

Postmarked Norway, Mich., September 13, 1909, this postcard view shows the original Norway High School, called the Central School after the new high school was constructed in 1906. [WJC Photo]
Postmarked Norway, Mich., April 28, 1914, this postcard view shows the original Norway High School, called the Central School after the new high school was constructed in 1906. Note the fire escape from the second story. This school was razed in 1938. [WJC Photo]
The public schools closed last Friday and the teachers will spend the summer vacation as follows: Myda Corcoran at Escanaba; Walter Dewey at Ellendale; [sic] North Dakota; Ralph Wilbur at Ann Arbor; Paul Stone at Alden; Mildred Coe at Evanston; Elaine Shields at Ann Arbor; Anita Walker at Dowagiac; Irene Cutler at Cleveland; Nellie Moran at Devil’s Lake, North Dakota; Maude Sensiba at Iron River; Edna Bjork at Crystal Falls; Ida Eggan at Ishpeming; Mary Quinn at Caseville; Esther Grant at Ironwood; Mary Blackney and Ellen Hager at Iron Mountain; Jean Lundquist at Marquette; Roth Thorpe at Duluth; June Montieth at Martin; Esther Braude at Sault Ste. Marie, and Loretta Binkley at Goshen, Indiana.
Norway News Nuggets.

The Central school building was struck by lightning at the southwest corner of the hip roof last Friday afternoon. The gong was sounded for fire drill and the pupils, about three hundred and fifty in number, marched out of the building in thirty seconds. The fire department arrived and extinguished the blaze before much damage was done. It was raining hard at the time and the pupils sought shelter in residences in the vicinity not [sic – . not] having taken time to get their wraps, most of them were drenched with the rain. Repairs were made on the roof and the building dried out so that school re-opened Tuesday.
Souvenir china depicting important buildings within a community was popular in the early twentieth century. Often these illustrations were taken from postcard views by the salesman who provided these items to the retail merchant to sell or give away as premiums. This small plate or pin tray is marked on the reverse as follows: “Made in Germany for Theo. Wolfe, Jeweler, Norway, Michigan, Dresden.” [WJC Collection]
This unused postcard view of the Nelson School dates from between 1918 and 1930. The structure was located on the northwest corner of North Nelson Street (now Main Street) and Penn Avenue (now 14th Avenue). [Jake Menghini Museum]
Postmarked Vulcan, Mich., June 23, 1909, this tinted postcard view shows the new Norway High School, constructed at a cost of $40,000 in 1906 and located where the present Norway school complex is located. A large assembly hall, four recitation rooms and two laboratories were located on the upper floor. [WJC Photo]
Postmarked Norway, Mich., June 24, 1910, this tinted postcard view again shows Norway high school, constructed in 1906 where the present Norway school complex is located. [WJC Photo]
Four classrooms were reserved for the upper grades on the first floor, where the superintendent’s office, school library and studio and consultation rooms for music, drawing, domestic science and manual training instructors were also located. The basement housed the manual training and domestic science departments. This school was totally destroyed by fire on August 28, 1912. [WJC Photo]
Although postmarked June 17, 1914, this postcard view of southeast Norway was taken prior to August 28, 1912, when the high school building pictured in the upper right was destroyed by fire. Directly below the high school building is the McKinley School. The intersection of Ninth Avenue (left) and Norway Street (right) is in the foreground. The church at the far right was the Norwegian Lutheran Church, located at 313 Norway Street. Nelson Street (now Main Street) was one block east of Norway Street. The McKinley School, built in 1902, was located on the northeast corner of Mine Street and Harrison Street. A two-room addition was made to the McKinley School in 1939, during the W.P.A. era. [WJC Photo]
SCHOOL IN FLAMES

High School Building at Norway Was Destroyed Last Night.

The high school building at Norway was totally destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning – the first alarm sounding at four o’clock.

The handsome building is a mass of ruins, only the stone and brick walls are now standing.

The fire is supposed to have originated in the basement, where a [piece of] manual training equipment was being unpacked and erected.

The building was erected nine years ago [sic – erected in 1906] at a cost of $33,000. This does not include the cost of furnishing the building.

The school library was located in this building and is a total loss.

Secretary Perkins, of the school board, telephones [sic – telephoned] The Press that the loss will reach $50,000 [sic - $50,000] with insurance of $35,000.

The building was being prepared for the opening of school on Tuesday, and the fire sadly cripples the educational facilities of our sister city.
The Norway High School was destroyed by fire on Thursday, August 29, 1912. This postcard view shows the smoldering remains of the structure. [Don Khoury]
NORWAY NEWS NUGGETS.

Since the burning of the Norway high school, the board of education has been busy making arrangements for buildings in which to conduct the sessions. At the city hall, the auditorium will be used for the high school assembly room, the council room, the room formerly used by Judge Rowe and the fire chief’s office will be used for classrooms [sic – classrooms], and the basement for manual training and lavatory [sic – lavatory]. In addition the four-room parochial school and the Vankerchove building have been leased. Some of the surplus furniture from the Iron Mountain schools was secured to furnish rooms and everything was practically ready to open the schools last Tuesday morning.
This unused postcard view, probably dating to 1913-1914, shows the Norway High School building which replaced the one which burned April 29, 1912, under construction. The two elementary school buildings – East Grade School and West Grade School – flank the new high school in the course of construction when this photograph was taken. All three of these buildings were razed to make room for the new Norway public school complex in 1991 and 1992. [WJC Photo]
This unused postcard view, taken by the Iron Range Studio in Iron River, Michigan, probably dates from the late 1920’s to the early 1930’s. The front of the three-story structure shows a bank of five two-story high windows which lit the study hall or assembly room. The windows directly below lit the gymnasium which was located in the basement. Note the stake-bed truck backed up to the side entrance. This building was razed together with the two flanking elementary schools in 1991 and 1992 when the present school complex was constructed. [Menominee Range Historical Museum]
This unused postcard view, dating between 1940 and 1950, shows Norway High School and the East Grade School and the West Grade School, located on the south side of Lake Mary between Chestnut Street and Section Street. [WJC Photo]
The musical operetta “The Captain of Plymouth” was presented at the Norway City Hall auditorium on Saturday evening, May 10, 1913, by the high school students. The cast included Ella Blomgren as Priscilla, Paul Soderlund as the Captain of Plymouth, Thomas Cuff as Erasmus, Harold Lindahl as John Alden, Catherine Calcaterra as Mercy, Irene Van Kerckhove as Katonka and Will Eliason as Chief Waftawamuth. [WJC Photo]
Fourteen members of Norway’s 1911 football team, identified from left to right and including their positions for players listed on the roster for the November 4 contest with Iron Mountain, were: Willard S. Perkins, Harold B. Lindahl (with helmet), left halfback; Carl Erickson, right end; Willard Bolitho, right halfback; Sigisfredo “Fred” Ossanna, quarterback; Richard Uren, left guard; Harvey Duvall, also left guard; Fred Pancheri, left tackle; William Ellison, right tackle; John C. Possi, fullback; Hedley Anderson; George Harfoot, center; James Williams, left end; and Raul or Roll Sutherland. Another player named Olson played right guard, according to the roster. [WJC Photo]
This unused postcard view, dating about 1950-1960, shows the fine concrete bleachers constructed on the north side of the football field in about 1939 as a W.P.A. project. The field was later named the Ronberg Memorial Stadium in honor of Alan W. Ronberg, who coached for many years at Norway High School, visible in the background. [WJC Photo]
This unused postcard view, dating between 1950-1960, shows the tennis courts. [WJC Photo]
Lake School, Norway

Built in 1910, the six-room, brick Lake School was located west of the Vulcan Location. This unused postcard view, dates from about 1920. An earlier, three-room building was constructed in the Lake area in 1899. The structure was used for several years as a sewing factory by the Norway Needlecraft Corp., which ceased operations in 1960. [WJC Photo]
Lake School, Norway – December 15, 1904

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 30 [Thursday, December 15, 1904], page 9, column 2

NORWAY NEWS NOTES.

The Lake View school, [sic] which was closed a few weeks go on account of diphtheria is open again. So far there has been but one death caused by diphtheria and the number of cases is growing less.
A Roman Catholic parish was formally established in Norway in 1881. Father Rousseau, the first pastor, built the first St. Mary’s Catholic Church and Rectory on a plot of land overlooking the right-of-way of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. Completed August 15, 1888, the parochial school, built by Father Francis Martin Kehoe, opened in September, staffed by the Sisters of St. Francis, Alverno, Wisconsin, from 1888 to 1895. This postcard view of the Catholic Church and School was postmarked Norway, Mich., 1909. [WJC Photo]
Postmarked Norway, Mich., September 10, 1909, this postcard view shows the first St. Mary’s Catholic Church and School erected by Father Rousseau which served the parish until 1928. In 1895 the Sisters of St. Joseph, Concordia, Kansas, assumed responsibility for the staffing of the school, continuing to teach in Norway until the school closed in 1900. [WJC Photo]
Catholic education in the St. Mary’s parish was renewed in the fall of 1966 with the opening of the Holy Spirit Inter-Parochial School, serving not only the people of St. Mary’s parish, but also the people of St. Barbara’s in Vulcan and St. Stephen’s in Loretto. Staffing the new school were the Missionary Sisters of the Most Holy Spirit, Techny, Illinois. This unused postcard view dates to about the time the school opened 1966. [WJC Photo]
**Vulcan Schools**

*Log School House* – Located between Vulcan and the Sturgeon River
   Erected in 1879 – Razed in ___
   Years Classes Held: 1879

*Frame School* – Located between Vulcan and the Sturgeon River
   Erected on June 14, 1879 – Razed in ___
   Years Classes Held: 1879-

*First Frame School* – NE Corner of Main Street and Market Street, Vulcan
   Erected in 1879 – Razed in 1963
   Years Classes Held: 1879-1885

*Green School* – Where Vulcan High School was located
   Erected in 1885 – Razed in 1927
   Years Classes Held: 1885-1927

*East Vulcan Grammar School* – East Vulcan
   Erected in 1901 – Razed in ___
   Years Classes Held: 1901-1925

*Vulcan High School* – Third Ward, South of the West Vulcan Engine House (later used as sewing factory)
   Erected in 1909 – Razed in 1967
   Years Classes Held: 1909-1967

*East Vulcan Stucco Grammar School* – East Vulcan
   Erected in 1925 – Razed in ___
   Years Classes Held: 1925-
In September 1877 Miss Emma Harwick arrived to open the first Vulcan school, the first school on the Menominee Range. Classes were held in the Lewis Whitehead home in West Vulcan. The first school board consisted of Lewis Whitehead, Thomas Rice, and Charles Knowlton. In 1877 a log school house was built between Vulcan and the Sturgeon River. This school was used only one year and on June 14, 1879, a frame school 20 by 36 was built to replace the log school.
1879 – SCHOOLS

In April, 1879, at the location of the Norway and Cyclops mines, two and a half miles from Vulcan, a new school district was set off by the township board. In the planning was a new school with an enrollment of about fifty (50) pupils.

In June of 1879, a frame schoolhouse, 20 by 36, was to be built in Vulcan. This would be the first frame schoolhouse to be built on the Menominee Range. It was to take the place of an old log barracks that was used for a schoolhouse. Crozer and MacIntyre, of the Spalding Saw Mill[,] furnished the lumber an derected [sic – and directed] the building for about $600.00. This schoolhouse was used every Sunday for church services. The above mentioned schoolhouse was recently torn down by Mr. Jerczyk, a member of the present Norway-Vulcan faculty.
Schools consolidated in 1964

First Norway public school was a carpenter shop...
...while Vulcan students learned in old log barracks

An old log barracks was used as the first school house at Vulcan in 1877.
On June 14, 1879, construction started on a 20-by-36 foot frame school house to take the place of the barracks school. Crozer and McIntyre of the Spalding sawmill furnished the lumber and put up the new school building for the sum of about $600. The building was used as a church every Sunday.

Early reports indicate that the school was well attended and some of the scholars came a distance of three miles.

The first school board consisted of Lewis Whitehead, Thomas Rice and Charles Knowlton.
In 1885, the original frame school building in Vulcan was replaced by the “green school,” a two-story frame structure.
Vulcan Schools Superintendents

A.M. Walsworth
In September 1877 Miss Emma Harwick arrived to open the first Vulcan school, the first school on the Menominee Range. Classes were held in the Lewis Whitehead home in West Vulcan. The first school board consisted of Lewis Whitehead, Thomas Rice, and Charles Knowlton. [John Newkirk]
The Green School, Vulcan – 1

*The Current*, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume I, Number 26
[Saturday, August 1, 1885], page 1, column 1

Ed. Parmalee, of Iron Mountain, received the contract for building the new school house *[sic – schoolhouse]* at Vulcan.

*The Current*, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume I, Number 30
[Saturday, August 29, 1885], page 1, column 4

The new school building at Vulcan is being pushed to completion as rapidly as possible, and it is expected to be ready for occupancy sometime during the coming month. In our next issue we will endeavor to give our readers a pen picture of the structure.

*The Current*, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume I, Number 37
[Saturday, October 17, 1885], page 1, column 5

The new school building at Vulcan, although not so large as some, will be, when completed, the handsomest and most convenient of any in the county.
Vulcan’s New School Building.

The new school house [*sic – schoolhouse*] at Vulcan has been completed and accepted from the contractors by the school authorities of the district. The building is the most convenient and handsomest of its size of any in the county.

Vulcan Mites.

Our new school house [*sic – schoolhouse*] is a credit to the judgment and taste of our school officers, and, for its size, surpasses anything on the range in neatness and comfort. ‘Twas money well spent, gentlemen.

The old school house is being fitted up for a church, and when finished it will be a credit to our little hamlet.
Edward Parmelee received the contract to construct the “Green School,” the two-story building with the belfry in the above photograph, at the beginning of August, 1885. The “Green School” was completed by the end of October, 1885. Standing at the northeast corner of Main and Market Streets, the single-story Methodist Episcopal Church at the left, formally organized in 1885, was the original frame Vulcan school built in 1879 by the Penn Iron Mining Company which donated the building to the congregation when the “Green School” opened. The building was demolished in 1963. The small building to the right served as the fire house and hose tower, used to dry canvas fire hoses. The band stand is visible to the right of the school building in the background. [Menominee Range Historical Museum]
Upon completion, the “Green School” was described as “the most convenient and handsomest of its size of any in the county” in the October 31, 1885, edition of the *Norway Current*. The building continued to serve as a grade school until it was replaced by part of the brick elementary school built in 1927 and attached to the old high school.  

[Menominee Range Historical Museum]
On Wednesday last the writer, accompanied by Mr. H.M. Pelham and two members of the school board, Messrs. Whitehead and Copeland, visited the Vulcan School. To say that the school house [sic – schoolhouse] is a fine one conveys only a faint idea of the comfort and convenience of the building; everything in and around the premises (including the teachers) is of the most modern type. The two departments have about the same enrollment each, about 50 pupils. Miss Blaisdell, who was so successful as an instructor in the Norway schools, has charge of the higher department, and Miss Warren has charge of the lower one. For its size, the Vulcan school is by far the best on the range, and the district is fortunate in having a school board who deem it a duty to provide for the needs of the scholars.
Vulcan.

The room in the Vulcan school house [sic – schoolhouse], which has been vacant heretofore is now being furnished with Andrew’s school seats and will be used during the next school year.

The teachers of the public schools for the coming year will be, Prof. John Dwan [sic], Prin.; Miss Bertha Warren, Int. [Intermediate] Dept.;[,] Miss Nellie Stockdate [sic], Prim. [Primary] Dept., [sic] School will begin the first Monday in Sept.

Vulcan.

The public schools now have an enrollment of about 160 scholars.
Vulcan News Notes.

The basement of the high school building has been remodeled and equipped with a modern sanitary sewage and drainage system and is now complete in every arrangement for the health and convenience of the scholars.
Vulcan High School, Vulcan

Postmarked Vulcan, Mich., September 27, 1910, the Vulcan High School (Photo by T. Turtin) was built in 1909. In 1913 the first high school class was graduated. Members of the class were Albert Carlson, Edward Eva, Walter Marinelli, Alvira Campbell, and Millie Eva. The building to the right was the Green School, built in the fall of 1885. [WJC Photo]
This postcard view of Vulcan High School by the Iron Range Studio probably dates between 1915 and 1920. [Menominee Range Historical Museum]
Vulcan High School, Vulcan

Dating from 1940-1950, this postcard view shows the old high school building at the left with the large grade school addition, constructed in 1927. The old high school structure was demolished after the remodeling of the Middle School in 1966. [WJC Photo]
Rural Schools in Norway Area

*Reath’s Corners/Reath’s Crossing School* – Located on State Road in Waucedah Township
  Erected in 1879 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1879

*Waucedah School* – Waucedah
  Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held:

*Pine Creek School* – Norway Township
  Erected in 1888 – Razed in ____
  Years Classes Held: 1888-1928

*Vulcan, Michigan, Centennial 1872-1972, 1972, page 65*

On September 8, 1888 Miss Aggie Flannagan held the first classes at the Pine Creek School. When she arrived she found a class of only one boy playing marbles. In 1928 the Pine Creek School was closed and the children were sent to our present school.
Curry School, Norway Township – July, 1882


1882 – SCHOOLS

A large and commodious school was being built at the Curry mine location in July 1882. It was ready to receive pupils that fall. This school was known as the Curry School. It was a school for several years and later was used as a society hall by two Italian lodges.
NORWAY NEWS NOTES.

The Curry schools were closed last Tuesday morning, diphtheria having broken out amongst the children.

Miss Anna Sullivan, teacher at the Curry school, left for her home at Menominee last Tuesday morning.
Lower Pine Creek School, Norway Township

This snapshot view of the Lower Pine Creek School, dating to about 1918, shows a group of young scholars in front of their school building. On September 8, 1888, Miss Aggie Flanagan taught the first class at the Pine Creek School. When she arrived she found a class of only one boy playing marbles. The Pine Creek School was closed in 1928. [Kay Palmcook]
This snapshot view shows the interior of the Lower Pine Creek School, possibly dating to about 1916. [Kay Palmcook]
This snapshot view shows an early school bus used to transport students to and from the Lower Pine Creek School, possibly dating to about 1918. Note the barn behind the bus and the cement silo to the right. [Kay Palmcook]
SAGOLA TOWNSHIP: Organized March 9, 1892, embracing T44N of R29W and T42N – T43N 0 T44N of R30W; set off from Felch Township; named for Village of Sagola located therein.
Sagola Township Schools

Sagola School No. 1 – Sagola
  Erected in 1893 – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held: 1893-

Sagola School No. 2 – Sagola
  Erected in 1908 – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held: 1908-

Channing’s First Grammar School – Bell Avenue (“Back Street”) and Fourth Street, Block Three, Channing
  Erected in 1904 – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held: 1904-1908

Channing’s Second Grammar School – Bell Avenue (“Back Street”) and Sixth Street, Block Six, Channing
  Erected in 1908 – Razed in 1932
  Years Classes Held: 1908-1932

Channing High School – Channing
  Erected in 1922 – Razed in 1972
  Years Classes Held: 1922-1971

Randville School – Randville
  Erected in ____ – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held: ____-1938

Wells School – Sagola Township
  Erected in ____ – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held:

Groveland School – Breen Township
  Erected in 1910 – Razed in ___
  Years Classes Held: 1910-
This unused postcard view shows Channing’s Second Grammar School, located on Bell Avenue (“Back Street”) and Sixth Street, Block Six, Channing. The school was erected in 1908 and razed in 1932. [Robert Kennard]
Sagola School, Sagola

Six women wearing their best hats posed with a group of elementary school students in a classroom in Sagola in this postcard view, dating between 1910 and 1920. [WJC Photo]
In the spring of 1906 students gathered on the steps of the Sagola schoolhouse, later St. Margaret’s Catholic Church, for the photographer. Pictured from left to right are: back row (standing), Myrtle LaCourt, Fern Couillard, Agnes Kramer, Miss Mary McCole (teacher), Eddie Olson, John O’Callaghan, Jim LaCourt, Felix Meyers, Curtis Pringle, Harry Carlson. [Ida Swanson]
Pictured from left to right in the spring of 1906 are: third row (standing), Arthur Wifler, Clarence O’Callaghan, Julia Johnson, Patrick Hebert, Oscar Carlson, Edward O’Callaghan, Veronica Wifler, Alma Kramer, Nina Erb, Margaret Jeppeson, Maggie Shannon, Gertrude Kramer, unidentified, Hazel Fruik, Gunhild Broadland, Dora Plankey. [Ida Swanson]
Pictured from left to right in the spring of 1906 are: second row (seated), Lawrence Meyers, Margaret Theisen, Margaret Kramer, Theresa Theisen, Elizabeth Broadland, unidentified, Pearl Plankey, Rose Shay, Pearl Hebert, Ray Shay, Lil Jeppeson, Della Wifler, Alfred Johnson, Martin Rasmussen, Olive Christy, ----- Rasmussen, Darius Steele. [Ida Swanson]
Pictured from left to right in the spring of 1906 are: front row (seated), Bob Peterson, Emil Wifler, Russell McGregor, Chester Carey, unidentified, Lester Carey, Walter Carlson, Hebert, Elmer Wellendorfer, Esther Johnson, Hebert, Art Carlson, Sam Plankey, Frank Dorfler, Victor Peterson. Theresa “Tess” (Theisen) LaPonsie, pictured above, was born October 3, 1895, and easily identified her classmates in September, 1991. [Ida Swanson]
This group of unidentified Sagola elementary school students posed in front of the school early in the twentieth century. [Ida Swanson]
This postcard view, probably dating to about 1917, shows a group of elementary school students posing in their classroom in Sagola. Note the ornate iron scrollwork on the desks with the fold-up wooden seats and wooden writing surfaces with an ink well in the upper right corner. [WJC Photo]
Bundled up for winter weather, and possibly out for recess, this group of Sagola elementary students posed for the photographer, probably on the Sagola Lumber Company Store stairway. [Ida Swanson]
WAUCEDAH TOWNSHIP: Organized March 9, 1892, embracing T39N – T40N of R28W and S $\frac{1}{2}$ of T41N of R29W, set off from Breen Township; named for Village of Waucedah located therein.

In 1965 the consolidated Norway-Vulcan Area School System was formed, serving the City of Norway, Norway Township, Waucedah Township and the Menominee County community of Faithorn.
Waucedah Township Schools

**East Waucedah School** – Location Unknown
   Erected in _____ – Razed in _____
   Years Classes Held: _____-_____

**Loretto School** – Loretto
   Erected in _____ – Razed in _____
   Years Classes Held: _____-_____

**Martin’s School** – Location Unknown
   Erected in _____ – Razed in _____
   Years Classes Held: _____-_____

**Reath’s Crossing School/State Road School** – On State Road near Vulcan
   Erected in 1879 – Razed in _____
   Years Classes Held: _____-_____
Wauncedah Township Schools

**East Wauncedah School**
1908 – East Wauncedah – Hannah Danielson.

**Loretto School**
1908 – Loretto – J.C. Crawford, principal; Elizabeth Kennedy, primary; Corice MacNiel, intermediate.
1909 – Loretto – J.C. Crawford, principal; Ethel Ayres, intermediate; Blanche Ferris, primary.
1910 – Loretto – Alvin Stricklan, principal; Ethel Ayers, Mabel Pope.
1911 – Loretto – Joseph Walsh, Ethel Ayers, Elizabeth Kennedy, Blanche Trottier.
1912 – Loretto – Joseph Walsh, Sylvia Vanitvelt, Blanche Trottier, Margaret Hanley.
1913 – Loretto – J.E. Quinlan, St. Ignace; Sylvia Vanitvelt, Wauncedah; Blanche Trottier, Loretto; Margaret Hanley, Loretto.
1921 – Loretto – Joseph Walsh, Margaret Harding, Lillian Rian, Minerva McInnis, Blanche Trottier, Loretto.
1923 (February) – Loretto – Joseph Walsh, superintendent, Blanche Trotter [sic – Trottier], Adele Erickson, Edna Anderson, Ellerine Tanquay, Minerva McInnis.
Waucedah Township Schools

**Martin’s School**
1905 – Martin’s – Olga Grotte.

**Reath’s Crossing/State Road School**
1909 – State Road – Myrtle Reath.
1911 – State Road – Leone Valentine.
1912 – State Road – Myrtle Bigger.
1913 – State Road – Hanna Danielson, Loretto.
1915 – State Road – Helen Edgren.
1916 – State Road – Malvina Plourde.
1921 – State Road – George Nelson, Vulcan.
1922 – State Road – Joseph H. Barker, of Vulcan.
1923 (February) – State Road – Joseph Barker.
In 1879 the first school at Reath’s crossing on State Road was built. This school was built by the State Road farmers – James Rice, Eugene Liberty, and Richard Reath, as it was impossible for the children to attend the town school because of the distance and the crossing of the river. Miss Burdock was their first teacher. Before building the school, classes were held in the James Rice home, now the Guiliani farm. [Dr. David L. Reath]
This two-story brick schoolhouse was designed by D. Fred Charlton, Marquette architect, and constructed in 1911, by G.A. Gustafson, a Norway contractor, for $7,950. W.M. Ramsdell, of Norway, provided the heating plant for an additional $1,838.34. The six-room school was dedicated near Christmas, 1911. This postcard view probably dates between 1912 and 1920. [Jake Menghini Museum]
Public School, Loretto – June 8, 1911

In another column the Waucedah township board of education advertises for sealed proposals for the erection of a new $10,000 school building at Loretto. The plans may be seen at the office of Secretary Chellew at Loretto.

School Bonds Sold.

The Commercial Bank of this city has purchased the $10,000 worth of bonds voted by the Waucedah township school district. The money will be employed in the erection of a new school building at Loretto similar in design to the one erected a year ago at Foster City. Loretto has outgrown the present building. It is expected to have the new building ready for occupancy for the fall term of school.
Contract Let.

The contract for the erection of the new school building at Loretto was let last Monday to G.A. Gustafson, of Norway. The contract price is $7,950. The contract for the heating plant was awarded to W.M. Ramsdell, of Norway, the price being $1,838.34. The new building will be a two-story structure of brick and will contain six rooms, four of which will be finished at once. The plans for the building were drafted by D. Fred charhton [sic – Charlton], the Marquette architect.

LORETTO NOTES.

School opened last Monday morning.
LORETTO NOTES.

The new school-house [sic – schoolhouse] is nearing completion and will be dedicated [at] Christmas with an entertainment.
WEST BRANCH TOWNSHIP: Organized October 19, 1908, embracing T43N – T44N of R27W, set off from Breen Township, and E ½ of T43N – T44N of R28W, set off from Felch Township; named for the West Branch of the Escanaba River which passes through the area.
West Branch Township Schools

**Alfred** – Alfred
- Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
- Years Classes Held: ____-1936

**Kates** – Kates
- Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
- Years Classes Held: 1909-1910

**Kentucky Town School** – Lindsley (Kentucky Town)
- Erected in ____ – Razed in ____
- Years Classes Held: 1913-1920

**First Ralph School** – Ralph
- Erected in 1910 – Razed in ____
- Years Classes Held: 1910-1922

**Second Ralph School** – Ralph
- Erected in 1922 – Razed in ____
- Years Classes Held: 1922-1953
Education was very important to those who had immigrated from other countries to start life over in the United States. Many sacrifices were made by children and their parents to send their children to the larger towns, paying room and board for them, so they could earn their high school diplomas.

There were schools (elementary) located at Kates, Alfred and Ralph that became a part of the formation of the West Branch Township School District in 1908 when the area was designated as a new township. Other schools had been operated before this, either in Felch or Breen Township before this year. There was a school at Camp 12, and at one or two settlements known as Kentucky towns. We have no written records of those schools.

The first West Branch Township School Board was chosen at an annual meeting held on July 11, 1910 at 3 p.m. Those elected were: Hugh A. Campbell, A.E. Quick, W.E. Rublin, August Anderson and Joe Trudeau. Mr. Trudeau failed to qualify so John Clarke was appointed to fill that vacancy.

One of the first actions taken by the Board was to advertise for bids on building a new school in Ralph and to discontinue the school at Kates, making it necessary for the children to travel to Ralph or board with some of the residents. Kates school was closed that year, in 1910.
John Scott was awarded the bid to build the school. His was the only bid received and it was for $980.00. The school at Alfred remained active to serve the many children living there at that time. The school, at the time, in Ralph was held in the log building next to the town hall that was built as an office for the Mann Brothers.

Many requests were being made to the West Branch Board, as well as the Breen Township Board, for a school to be built in Kentucky Town. The town was located so close to the border of the townships that there was a question as to which township was responsible. It was finally determined, on March 3, 1913, that Kentucky Town was located in West Branch Township, so it was decided to give the school a trial period. March 31, 1913 minutes show a school being started up at Lindsley (Kentucky Town) between Ralph and Alfred, just beyond the Ford River Farm. The last mention of a school operating in Kentucky Town was at the end of the 1920 school year.

The new school that was built in Ralph was completed and the final payment was made on November 21, 1910, and the new building was accepted as complete by the Board.
A motion was made at the June 24, 1912, school board meeting to include studies in agriculture in the curriculum. This shows the interest in turning the area into a more diversified agricultural producing territory.

Records show the following actions taken to raise funds for operational expenses in the West Branch Township School District: 1910 – $2,500, 1911 – $1,100; 1912 – $1,200; 1913 – $1,100; 1914 – $800; also, for the library in 1912 – $100, and in 1913 – $50. On June 27, 1910, action was taken to pay Charles Anderson and Phillip Jacobs each $2.00 for filling the woodshed at Alfred with wood during the winter. Board members were paid $2.00 per meeting in 1910.

Some of the excuses for absence from school given in those days showed the need of more hands to provide the necessary money to raise a family. One, in 1910, shows that action was taken to “Excuse Ernest Fay from attending school, his help being needed to help support the family,” as requested by his father, Sam Fay.

The school that had been built in Alfred before the turn of the century was built with lumber salvaged from a 100-year-old house in Detroit and hauled up here by rail. The Alfred School continued operating until the end of the school year in 1936.
A new one-room school was built in downtown Ralph on an acre of land purchased from the Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad Company. This Standard School served kindergarten through eighth grades. The building was built with a full basement which was divided into two sections, one to house the furnace, with separate rooms for storing wood and coal. The other, adjoining room was finished and was used as a library, study and activities room. The main floor consisted of one large classroom and two smaller cloak rooms and four small supply closets. A bell in the tower called the children to classes and was a pleasant sound to hear.

Playground equipment, consisting of swings, ocean-wave and monkey bars, was installed and the entire area was fenced in with cyclone fencing.

The school was shut town by the State of Michigan on June 24, 1957, due to lack of students. Consolidation with the Felch Township School District was forced on the West Branch Township School District at that time. Memories of the good times still remain with those who attended school and who served as teachers in the district. Upon closure, the building was sold to the township and has since served as the West Branch Township Hall. One of the two walls of slate has been paneled over, but the rest of the main classroom remains the same. The old maps are still on the wall and are studied by alumni on their return to the area.
RALPH SCHOOL
NOW OCCUPIED

The new school building at Ralph is finished and occupied. It was erected by Leaf and Abramson, the local contractors, and F.E. Parmelee & Son were the architects. The building was recently visited by an inspector of the state department of public instruction, who stated that it fully complied with all the requirements of a standard school.
On a “road trip” on April 2, 2012, David Blomquist and William Cummings viewed the Ralph School, opened in 1922 and currently serving as the West Branch Township Hall. The school was shut down by the State of Michigan due to lack of students on June 24, 1957 and consolidation with the Felch School District was forced at that time. The building was then sold to the township.
Florence County, Wisconsin

Help is needed in identifying this postcard view, dating from 1910-1915, marked with an embossed identification reading “Florence Gallery”, but otherwise unidentified. [WJC Photo]
Unidentified One-Room School, Wisconsin

Forty-one pupils lined up roughly by age and height with their teacher outside of this unidentified one-room frame school, probably somewhere in Wisconsin in about 1910-1915. [WJC Photo]
The District 6 School pupils from either Stockbridge or Chilton, Calumet County, Wisconsin, posed with their teacher on May 11, 1910, as indicated on the slate held by the youngest pupil. [WJC Photo]
The District 6 School pupils from either Stockbridge or Chilton, Calumet County, Wisconsin, posed with their teacher on May 11, 1910, as indicated on the slate held by the youngest pupil. [WJC Photo]
RULES FOR TEACHERS IN 1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps and clean chimneys.

2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day’s session.

3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.

4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.

5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.

6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.

7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.

8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barbershop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.

9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.
RULES FOR TEACHERS IN 1915

1. You will not marry during the term of your contract. You are not to keep company with men.
2. You must be home between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. unless attending a school function.
3. You may not loiter downtown in any ice cream stores.
4. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have permission of the chairmen of the board.
5. You may not smoke cigarettes.
6. You may not under any circumstances dye your hair.
7. You may not dress in bright colors.
8. You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he be your father or brother.
9. You must wear at least two petticoats.
10. Your dresses must not be any shorter than 2 inches above the ankles.
Grammar (Time, one hour)


2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no Modifications.

3. Define Verse, Stanza and Paragraph.

4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb. Give Principal Parts of. lie, lay and run

5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case.


7. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.
Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft deep, 10 feet long and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1050lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of $35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at $50 per month, and have $104 for incidentals?
5. Find cost of 6720 lbs. coal at $6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of $512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at $20 per meter?
8. Find bank discount on $300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at $15 per acre, the distance around which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.
U. S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U. S. History is divided.

2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.

3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.

4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.

5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.

6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.

7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?

8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.
Orthography (Time, one hour)
1. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: trigraph, sub vocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u! '.
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.
1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall & Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.