

**HISTORY OF CONCORD-CARLISLE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Concord was one of the first communities to establish a public high school as we know it today. In 1852, classes were held in the Town Hall, and the high school population numbered one teacher and 63 students. In the following years, courses in science, physical education, and agriculture were added to the original curriculum, which consisted of literature, arithmetic, history, and philosophy.

In 1881, students and staff occupied a new high school located at the corner of Hubbard and Stow Streets. It was a four-classroom building designed to serve 80 students. Another new high school, located at the corner of Stow Street and Sudbury Road, was completed in 1890, and hailed at that time as “the latest that could be desired in school buildings.” Its 126 students were taught by five teachers, each of whom “taught a department in the manner of a modern high school.”

The school’s football team, which had originally formed in 1883, played its first scheduled game in 1893. This contest between Concord High School and Lexington High School began the great Thanksgiving Day rivalry, which continued until 1972, when Bedford High School became the new regular Thanksgiving Day opponent.

In 1895, The Voice, Concord High’s student newspaper, was first published. Its aims were to promote better relationships between classes, give students an outlet for their views, and acquaint the townspeople with the activities and interests of the high school students. By this time William Eaton, who had become Superintendent of Schools in 1892, had established the tradition of personalized service and support for students which has continued to the present.. His successor, Superintendent Wells A. Hall, stressed “giving of individual help to slower students during recitation periods.” This idea, considered revolutionary when introduced in 1910, is at the core of CCHS’s strong commitment to individual attention for students today.

The Concord High School was moved to the Emerson Building soon after its completion in 1929. This new facility included seven classrooms, chemistry and physics laboratories, a cafeteria which could accommodate 225 persons, and a 480-seat auditorium. During the World War II period, courses in radio code, electricity, auto mechanics, and aeronautics were added to the curriculum. In 1947, a full-time guidance program, which included group counseling and guidance trips to business workplaces, was initiated. “Graduates’ Return Day,” a student council, the student traffic guide system, the choral group, the science fair and on-the-job training for students in commercial courses were also initiated in 1947.

Concord High School became Concord-Carlisle Regional High School in 1960. The current building, located at 500 Walden Street, was dedicated in 1960. New facilities were added to the core building in 1965 and 1975, and a major building renovation project was completed in 1993.

Located on more than 80 acres, Concord-Carlisle Regional High School today offers a first-rate academic and extra-curricular program for approximately 1200 students. The school, with community support, strives to keep its classrooms, laboratories, resource areas, library-media center, and athletic facilities well-equipped and its professional team of educators and the support staff among the best to be found anywhere.

Through all of its growth in size, changes in sites, and modifications in programs, the school has placed, and continues to place, a major focus on the development of the individual.

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