

Principals

There have been constant changes in the principal's role at Cedar Grove. Duties, rules, and salaries have also changed.

Principals are responsible for being the administrative head of the school. A section from the Board Minutes, 1948-1949, states "The principal must be at school at 8:30 a.m. and remain there until the school closes. The only reason the principal is to leave the school is for professional meetings." The principal is also responsible for student discipline and keeping school records.

Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie, a former teaching-principal, said, "You did everything with the students — teaching, recreation, and also feeding them." She believed that everyone had to cooperate with each other since there were no definite rules. Principals also had to sit down and plan with other school staff about what you were going to do.

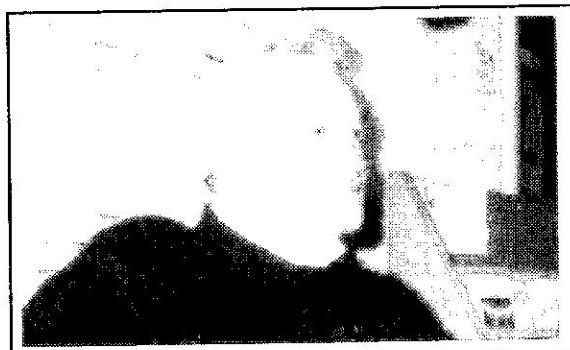
The principal was also responsible for a student's health while they were at school. There were no phones so it was impossible to contact parents, except by carrying a sick or injured child home. Mrs. Mayme Collins Aydelotte told us that it was her responsibility to carry children home several times. Many times after getting the child home, the parent did not have transportation to get the child to a doctor or hospital. Mrs. Aydelotte said there were several instances when she had to carry the parent and child to the hospital or doctor.



Mrs. Mayme Collins Aydelotte, Teaching Principal, 1950-1964

Seeing that the children got a good education and finding the right teachers,

custodians, and lunchroom workers were duties for which Mr. Jimmie Lankford felt responsible.



Jimmie J. Lankford, Principal, 1964-1976

Mrs. Patricia Kitchens Thomas said, "There is much paperwork for the principal to complete." She says a principal hires and evaluates all personnel, plans with teachers and staff, and delegates responsibilities.



Patricia K. Thomas, Present Principal

From the 1950's through the early 1980's, principals had salaries based on their professional degrees and years of experience. In addition, they received a supplement based on the number of students in their school. Mrs. Thomas' salary was once based on her degree. She has an AS-5 which stands for Certificate in Administration and Supervision. After 26 years of experience, you really don't get anymore yearly raises.

The following is a list of some sample salaries principals had before the 1950's. In

1935-36, Miss Lois Oakley's salary was raised from \$110.00 per month to \$120.00 per month. Mrs. Hughie got approximately \$180.00 per month in 1941. Mrs. Mary Alice McClendon Chickering received \$170.00 per month in 1942-46. In 1947, Mr. Sherwin Tucker's salary was \$225.00 per month for being a teaching-principal.

When Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie first came to Cedar Grove, some of the big boys tried to make her leave. One boy flipped her. The others laughed and she told them, "I will see you all after school." She told the janitor to cut eight peach-tree switches. She lined up all the boys and was whipping each one. When she got to the last boy, he pulled a knife out of his pocket. She told him if he didn't give her that knife she was going to hit him with the chair she had behind her. The boy closed the knife and gave it to her. Years later, while in the Navy, that boy came back and thanked her for straightening him out.

Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie also told us about a little boy named Jessie. He lived with his grandparents who had given him a woolen cap to wear to school during the winter. Jessie didn't like the cap so he hid it in the woods. Later, the grandfather sent word for Mrs. Hughie to come to their house which was across the creek. Not knowing why she was being summoned, Mrs. Hughie went to the house, turned her car around (for a quick get away), and left the motor running. The grandfather told her, "If you don't get that cap that you took from Jessie and give it back to him, I am going to M. D. Collins, the State School Superintendent, about you." Mrs. Hughie told him not to worry, that she would find the cap. When Jessie arrived at school the next day, she asked him to take her to the woods to find the hat. He must have been frightened, because he found the cap. Mrs. Hughie didn't get reported to the superintendent.

As late as 1941, Jere Wells, the Fulton County Superintendent, enforced a rule of his own saying that women teachers who married would lose their jobs. Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie told about her struggle to keep her job. She married in 1941. There was a tenure bill passed by Helen Douglas Mankin in the legislature. It meant after three years of teaching you would be put on tenure. You no longer had to be given a contract, but you were given an assignment. Jere Wells added his own rule which said, "if a woman married she would lose her job." Mrs. Hughie finished out the year at Cedar Grove the year that she married. Then she went to the Decatur City School System and got a job. The people at Cedar Grove had gotten up a petition to ask that Mrs. Hughie not lose her job. The Fulton County School administration didn't listen. Fulton County Teachers' Association asked Mrs. Hughie if she would fight the rule in the courts. Mrs. Hughie went to her superintendent in Decatur for his approval, which she got. When they went to court, Mrs. Hughie was represented by a young lawyer. The final decision, in her favor, was handed down on Christmas Eve, giving about forty married teachers the right to teach in Fulton County. A sad note of this was that the young lawyer who represented Mrs. Hughie died of pneumonia the same day the case was won by Mrs. Hughie.

There have been funny experiences involving principals at Cedar Grove. Mrs. Ellen Hattaway Crawford told about Mrs. Annie Mae Medley, the first grade teacher, leaving the classroom. Mr. David Benson, the principal, hid all of her first grade students as an April Fool's joke.

The following is a list of principals at Cedar Grove from 1924 until the present. We do not have any printed records before this date.

Edna Wingo Estes	1924-1930
Lois Oakley	1930-1935
Mary Jones Hughie	1935-1938, 1939-1942
Clare Shankle	1938-1939
Mary Alice McClendon Chickering	1942-1946
Sherwin Tucker	1946-1948
Martha H. Lewis	1948-1950
Mayme Collins Aydelotte	1950-1964
Jimmie J. Lankford	1964-1976
David Benson	1976-1979
Patricia Kitchens Thomas	1980-Present

Teachers

Some of Cedar Grove's teachers knew that they wanted to be teachers all of their lives. When Dr. Betty Corley Hamil was little she taught her dolls and little brother. Mrs. Jean Ellis told us she had so many aunts and a sister who were teachers that she never had any plans but to be a teacher also.

In 1929, no teacher could be employed by the Campbell County Board of Education unless that teacher had already obtained the equivalent of a normal school diploma or attended a summer school previous to the opening of the school term.



Faculty - 1946: Mayme Collins Aydelotte, Sherwin Tucker, Nannie Coley

At present, teachers must have a bachelor's degree. A bachelor's degree requires four years of college and a master's degree requires five years of college. Two teachers at Cedar Grove now have an Educational Specialists degree. It requires six years of college.

In June, 1935, the normal salary of a teacher was \$120.00 per month. The highest salary at Cedar Grove was \$180.00 per month in 1941. In 1947, the highest paid elementary school teacher at Cedar Grove received \$225.00 per month. In 1950, teachers began getting pay for summer duties and salaries began to increase. The teachers' salaries are now based on the type of degree a teacher has and how many years they have taught. A teacher with a four-year degree and 26 years of experience can get \$3,073.00 per month. Teachers now work 190 days a year, but the students only attend 180 of these days. Substitute teachers get \$51.00 a day.

Teachers have always had to teach spelling, English, social studies, penmanship,

and math. Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie once had to give a boy some extra help in math. He just didn't understand how to "carry numbers over." A friend said he could teach him, which he did. Mrs. Hughie asked the boy how he taught the idea of "carrying." He said he just told him to "tote it over."

Mrs. Susan Segars said that she umpired the ballgames and played with the students. She played the piano when it was needed to learn a new song. She said, "We had lots of fun."

Science could be taught, but no grade was given for many years. Other subjects elementary teachers taught included art, music, and physical education. Health was added as a graded subject in the 1987-1988 year. Any textbooks students needed are provided by Fulton County.

Some teachers at Cedar Grove have been honored in many ways over the past years. Once, Mr. George McElreath, Jr., and Mr. Charles M. Jones, Jr., former students, sent Mrs. Jean Ellis thirty-three dozen red roses for her 33rd year of teaching at Cedar Grove. When Mrs. Janice Benefield Burdette was in the fourth grade, her class decorated their teacher's chair making it look like a throne. They made her a cape and a crown. They made Mrs. Sara Jones "Queen for a Day." Also, Mrs. Jones tells the story of being honored by one of her former students, Chris Loumakis. Chris had always been interested in paints and painting. He now heads up a chemical and experimental paint plant in Chicago. He bought Mr. and Mrs. Jones an



Teachers - 1948: Clarice Brock Shaw, Nannie Coley, Martha Lewis, Mayme Collins Aydelotte, Betty Corley Hamil

airplane ticket to Chicago to see him at his work. Every Christmas, since she was his teacher, he comes to visit her.

The teachers have had and still have rules to follow. The rules have changed. Rules before 1916 were not printed out in black and white like rules are today. They were mostly just common sense rules. An example of one rule in 1916 and earlier, which seems strange today, is that teachers couldn't date. Teachers could be married and teach in Campbell County, but in Fulton County you couldn't teach if you were married until after the early 1940's. All teachers had to be in their classrooms ready to take charge of all their pupils at least five minutes before the opening of the school.



Faculty - 1949-50: Betty Corley Hamil, Lucille Wilson, Shelly Dobbs, Martha Lewis, and Mayme Collins Aydelotte in the incompletely library of 1950 addition.

Teachers today have more responsibilities written out in rule books. Here are some examples of rules they have. Teachers have to be at school at 7:30 a.m. and stay at least 15 minutes after pupils leave. They are supposed to come one week earlier than the students and they stay several days after the students are gone. Teachers are responsible for keeping very accurate records of attendance, grades, and health. Report cards or progress reports are given out six times a year. Teachers have a conference once a year with at least one parent of every student. They also have to provide physical education on the days that the physical education teachers are not there. Teachers plan and supervise field trips. They attend P.T.A., plan performances for their students, and make games and activities. They attend required workshops. They administer standardized tests at all grade levels. Teachers are also responsible for maintaining a neat and well-planned classroom. They make bulletin boards, plan learning centers, and arrange the students' desks.

Many of the students over the years have stated that sometimes the teachers they

had could be strict in punishment. However, the teachers were usually fair. All teachers expected their students to act like ladies and gentlemen.



Present faculty at Cedar Grove.

Sometimes teachers must leave their classes. One experience that happened when a teacher left her class was while the brick building was under construction. Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie had to approve some plans for the new building. She took all of the classes outside the wooden building and left them in the care of Mrs. Mayme Collins Aydelotte. She went down the road to the new building. In a few minutes she suddenly realized it had gotten too quiet in the old school yard. When she got back she found a man talking through a throat horn to the children. They were around him in a big circle, fascinated by the way he was talking.

Mrs. Martha Lewis remembered that one boy always liked to go down to Mr. Brock's store in the afternoon before he went home on the bus. He left school and she got into the car and went down to the store. She could see him running through the corn field. She got down there before he did and he was shocked. She told him to get into the car and come back because they weren't supposed to leave the school. Leaving the school was against the rules.



Jean Ellis with her thirty-three dozen red roses.

Classroom Teachers

Shirley A. Anthony	Margaret D. Jackson
Andrea G. Archer	Barbara B. Johnson
Mayme Collins Aydelotte	Dianne S. Johnson
Mr. Beckett	Evelyn Barbara Johnson
Belle Beecher	Barbara Jones
Rosie Mae Brock Bomer	Sara Perkins Jones
Geraldine M. Bonner	Kathy Smith Kirby
Barbara W. Browning	Floy T. Latham
Kathy Jo Brusch	Martha Lewis
Katherine Anne Bruce	Ethel L. McCree
Willa T. Carter	Annie Mae Medley
Mary Alice McClendon Chickering	Kathleen B. Miller
Jewel O. Cochran	Elizabeth C. Mitchell
Peggie Jean Cofield	Sandra K. Moeckel
Nannie Coley	Phronie Hubbard Morgan
Elizabeth B. Collins	Barbara Dew Neal
Grady Cook	Harriet E. Nutt
Foy Cox	Lois Oakley
Betty Lou Dabney	Ione M. Parrott
Adalee Dailey	Daisy Pennington
Martha Ann Rutherford Davidson	Jane B. Poole
P. Elizabeth Death	Louise Miller Putnam
Shelly Dobbs	Janie Rivers
Thelma Dorris	Marie B. Roberts
Katherine B. Dower	Erlene Scarbrough
Delores Green Dyson	Jessilee Sims Shaddox
Sherley A. Easterling	Clare Shankle
Jean Stewart Ellis	Clarice Brock Shaw
Edna Wingo Estes	Suzanne Shaw
Barbara D. Fitzgerald	Emma Skeine
Effie Gardner	Kaylene L. Smith
Nancy Kunkel Grayson	Sandra I. Stanger
Patricia P. Hall	Elsie B. Stapleton
Betty Corley Hamil	Mary Sumner
Pearl Rivers Harris	Carol S. Sunderman
Judy M. Hattaway	Velma Teal
Margarite Hearn	Sherwin Tucker
Tommie Hearn	Linda A. Turner
Dorothy S. Henderson	Mr. Watkins
Mary Jones Hughie	Frances H. Webb
Elizabeth D. Hutchens	Lucille M. Wilson