

The EARLY YEARS

By: Ruth Tupe

The aged brick walls and the antique architecture of this school tell a story of tradition and pride over the past 120 years. Georgetown District High School has undergone many changes throughout the decades; renovations, students, teachers, and principals, but one thing truly remains: the rebel pride we have inside.

Originally named Chapel Street School, GDHS was founded as a small building in Georgetown. The first day of classes were held on January 10, 1887, with 69 students and 2 Teachers. Eventually, the school expanded and purchased the property where GDHS now stands. Edward J. Lennox, who was a renowned architect, (he designed Casa Loma, Old City Hall, King Edward Hotel, and Massey Hall) was appointed to design the new building of GDHS.

Major renovations were made by the 1950's, with additional East & West wings. Unfortunately, the school burned down in 1959 and the building was completely demolished and rebuilt. The changes made during the 1960's dramatically transformed the school and that was the last major renovation. It explains why the hallways and classrooms feel like a time warp, bringing us back into the 60's even though we live in the new millennia.

The old yearbooks of GDHS were appropriately nicknamed 'The Challenge' during the mid 1900's, reflecting the many activities and events that were held at the school. An annual school event called BAZAAR, much like Incommissariat today, was a huge social function for students and staff. Prizes used to be held in the Cafeteria, with elected prom kings and queens. Gensets are never used to exist, instead, 5 courses were taken throughout the entire year.

Original building floor plan
 Mr. Lambert, former principal
 An antique school bell
 1957 Centennial Yearbook
 1959 Yearbook, "The Challenge"
 Students in 1921
 Second building erected in 1960
 School building today with additional East & West Wings, pool, and library
 Students & Teachers in WWI

Rebellious Spirit: 120 Years of Excellence

1887 1888 1889 1890 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916

1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946

1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007

THEN NOW

10 ROLL OF HONOUR OF GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL... THEY GAVE THEIR LIVES... SECOND WORLD WAR 1939-1945

11 ROLL OF HONOUR OF GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL... ON THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

There has always been a core of students who are enthusiastic and have pride, though some years school spirit has been stronger... there will always be a core of students to carry on that spirit.

Ms. Spina

To teach is to cause understanding... so we can all be teachers

- Mr. Castledine

HIGHLIGHTS this year

- Halloween Contest
- Fear Factor
- Free Jellybean day
- Christmas Semi-Formal
- Ivor Wynne
- Medieval Crimes
- The LOVE Chain
- Spirit Assembly
- Incommissariat
- Talent Show
- Prom
- Teacher's Play
- Uganda Ministers visiting GDHS
- Medieval Crimes
- Grad Breakfast
- Film Festival
- Free pencils

Keeping the spirit ALIVE

By: Ruth Tupe

Things have not changed all that much from 1887 to 2007. GDHS still represents the rebellious spirit. It is the ability to stand against all odds, the determination to excel, and the conviction to achieve greatness.

Some traditions have outlived us all, such as the Annual Teacher's play. Some notable Teachers' plays include Beverly Hills 90210, Titanic, Harry Potter, Dallas, and Dynasty. Musicals and dramatic productions have always been a highlight, from Anne of Green Gables to last year's Moonwrecker's production, both traditional and modern stories have come to entertain audiences. GDHS has continually qualified for OFSAA for many sports and even held OFSAA for Cross Country in 1984.

GDHS has had its share of the spotlight, with celebrity appearances, TV debuts, and past students becoming celebrities themselves. The school was involved in making a commercial for the provincial elections in 1985. An aerial photo was taken of the staff and students all dressed in white and clustered together to create a gigantic trillium. Gordie Howe has visited the school along with a number of famous musical groups during their time: Max Webster, Honeyman Suite, Kim Mitchell, Class Tiger, and Tom Cochrane. Bryan Lewis, a former student, became a referee in the NHL and Bob Goldham became a professional NHL player and helped the Leafs win the 1994 Stanley Cup, and went on to win 4 more in his career.

This rebellious spirit has not only driven us to succeed but more importantly, it has meshed the students, staff, and the administration into a close-knit community. This is why so many past students come back as Teachers. It's strange to think that many of the Teachers here have also went to high school at GDHS. This school has also created new traditions recently, with the annual Incommissariat, a 14-hour fundraiser for CASPA, and the Goodbye Assembly to reflect back on the past years. Students and staff still uphold the excellence in athletics, arts, and academics.

Now approaching our 120th anniversary, GDHS will continue to stand the test of time and uphold the same principles and values upon which it was first founded, keeping the rebellious spirit alive.

1. Original building
 2. Wrestling team
 3. Mr. Keast & Mr. Newcombe
 4. Incommissariat
 5. Teacher's play
 6. Aerial photo
 7. Prom
 8. School cafeteria

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BUSINESS HONOUR ROLL

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