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J.B. Page Primary

J.B. Page became principal of the former East Belmont School in 1927. During his tenure, he helped raise teacher salaries, education standards and community involvement. He added libraries, home economics and music to the school. He died in 1945. The community honored him by naming the new school J.B. Page Elementary in 1974.



J.B. Page

W.P. Grier Middle

Named after William Pressley Grier Sr., a former superintendent of Gastonia City Schools. He was born in Mecklenburg County in 1884. He was elected principal of Gastonia Schools in 1911. He was appointed superintendent of the school system a decade later. He died in 1947.



W.P. Grier

Ida Rankin Elementary

Named after longtime educator Ida Alexander Rankin. Known as "Miss Ida," she lived from 1881 to 1969. She taught in local schools for 54 years as a primary supervisor and second-grade teacher. In 1952, she was named Mount Holly's Woman of the Year.

W.B. Beam Intermediate

Named for late Cherryville resident William Blaine Beam, who served on the Cherryville Board of Education for 12 years when the city had its own school system. He worked to obtain the land where the current Cherryville High was built.

Carr Elementary

Named in honor of Mitchell Carr, who served as principal at Dallas High School from 1930 to 1964.

Stuart W. Cramer High

Named for Stuart Warren Cramer, the late 19th- and early 20th-century textile mill engineer and inventor. Cramer designed 150 mills in the South, including in Gaston County. He is responsible for designing a model mill village known as Mayworth, which was later renamed Cramerton. Stuart W. Cramer High opened in 2013.



Stuart W. Cramer

Edward D. Sadler Jr. Elementary

Named after Edward D. Sadler Jr., who served for 38 years in Gaston County Schools as a teacher, principal and superintendent. The name replaced the old Arlington Elementary School while Sadler was acting superintendent in 2004. Sadler served as superintendent from 1995 until he retired in 2006.



Ed Sadler

Hunter Huss High

Named for Cherryville native Webb Hunter Huss. He began teaching in 1923 in Cramerton. He later served seven years as principal of Cherryville High and was named superintendent of Cherryville City Schools. He served as superintendent of Gaston County Schools from 1937 to 1968. When Hunter Huss High opened in 1962, he chose the school colors to resemble those of the UNC Tar Heels.

John Chavis Middle

Named after missionary, preacher and educator John Chavis. He served for three

years in the Revolutionary War as a soldier in the Fifth Regiment of Virginia. Chavis opened a school out of his Raleigh home, where he taught white students during the day and black students in the evening. He preached to white and black congregations throughout his life.

O.L. Kiser Elementary

Named in honor of the longstanding and highly respected Stanley elementary school principal, O. L. Kiser.

H.H. Beam Elementary

Named for H.H. Beam, the former principal at the now-demolished South Gastonia School. First- through ninth-graders attended classes there for more than a century before H.H. Beam Elementary was built in its place in the early 1990s.

W.A. Bess Elementary

Named after W.A. "Willard" Bess, who spent 41 years in education. He was principal at Robinson Elementary for 32 years before retiring in the mid-1970s. He also served as a U.S. Army medical corpsman in World War II. W.A. Bess Elementary opened in 1979 without a name, but in its first year the Board of Education gave it the name it carries today.



W. A. Bess

W.C. Friday Middle

Named for William Clyde Friday, who was the longest-serving head of the University of North Carolina system, serving from 1956 to 1986. He was raised in Dallas and graduated from Dallas High School. He was also a sports reporter for The Gazette.



W.C. Friday