

The Public Schools

Report of the schools of Polk County for the school month ending October 2, 1914.

Number of schools reporting correctly and on time	41
Number of schools not reporting on time	2
Number of pupils remaining at last report	10
Number of pupils registered new during month	2217
Number of pupils registered secondary during month	0
Number of pupils readmitted during month	11
Total number pupils on register during month	2208
Number of pupils dropped during month	41
Total number on register at this report	2197
Number of days taught during month	7.5
Whole number of days attendance	14951.5
Whole number of days absence	449.5
Whole number of times late	67
Number of pupils neither absent or late	1925
Average number of pupils belonging	2063
Average daily attendance	1996
Per cent of attendance	97.2
Number of visits by parents	50
Number of visits by members of school board	37

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for having made 95 per cent in attendance or over: Dallas, Pedee, Ballston, Salt Creek, Monmouth High School, Monmouth Grade School, Orchards, Polk Station, Ward, Gooseneck, Rickreall, Independence, Buena Vista, Buell, Montgomery, McTimmons Valley, Concord, Oakdale, Guthrie, Powell's Camp, Falls City, Mountainview, Hopville, Highland, Maple Grove, Fern, District No. 72.

The following schools have been placed on the roll of honor for having made no tardies during the month: Pedee, Lewisville, Salt Creek, Parker, Monmouth High School, Monmouth Grade School, Polk Station, Ward, Fairview, Gooseneck, Rickreall, Independence, Buena Vista, Oakdale, Montgomery, Suver, Maple Grove, McTimmons Valley, Concord, Hopville, Highland, Mistletoe, Fern, District No. 72.

The following improvements and repairs have been made in the following districts:

Dallas—Dallas added the Manual Training and secured a Manual Training Teacher. Also added a music teacher.

Smithfield—Smithfield built an addition to the school house, which gives Smithfield a modern two-room building. They also built a shed for horses as many of the children are riding to school.

Red Prairie—The Red Prairie School Board have changed the windows of the school house until they have a building modern in every way. Placed in new blackboards and painted the building inside, which gives them one of the most pleasant buildings in the county.

Bethel—The Bethel school board have thoroughly cleaned the school building and have had the floors oiled and everything up in excellent shape.

Polk Station—Polk Station has painted their school room inside and placed in new blackboards, painted the cloak-room and have placed new hooks in same. The desks are nicely varnished and the floor painted, fixing their building up in excellent shape.

Orchards—The Orchards people have painted their building inside and out and placed it in excellent condition.

Oak Grove—The Oak Grove school board have changed the windows and added a cloak-room. They have put a new roof on the building, painted it inside and out, placed in new blackboards and a new bookcase. Oak Grove is now lined up with the modernly lighted and equipped buildings of the county.

Oak Point—Oak Point has a new well and pump, and is the first rural school in the county to secure all of the play apparatus under the new standardization points.

Brush College—The Brush College School has their building

painted inside and out, and they have their building changed so that the two rooms may be thrown together. Brush College has an ideal community center.

Greenwood—The Greenwood building has been painted, which gives it a neat appearance.

Falls City—The Falls City Board has placed a new teacher for manual training.

Mountainview—The Mountainview School still maintains its reputation of having as clean grounds as can be found in the State. They also have established the play apparatus required by the standardization points. It would do anybody good to go by the Mountainview School and watch those people work.

Dist. No. 73—This is a new district located in the South West part of Polk County. While they are back in the mountains they have a nice school house and keep it in excellent shape. The school is being taught by Miss Elsie Fatland, who is doing some good work.

Many of the schools in addition to the standardization requirements and the Teachers Aims, which we have put out, have been planning work that they intend to carry out for the year, having something definite in view. As fast as these plans are reported to us we are going to publish them. The first one to be reported is from the Antioch School with Miss Fairy Neal as teacher, who desires the co-operation of the directors and patrons of the district and all interested in carrying out the plans she has for the year, which are as follows:

AIMS OF ANTIOCH SCHOOL FOR YEAR 1914-15.

- 1—Polk County Teacher's Aims for 1914-15 completed.
- 2—A play shed and attractive room.
- 3—A good course in agriculture and nature study carried out.
- 4—A reading table with the best magazines and papers upon it.
- 5—Improved grounds and kept clean.
- 6—The best year's work we have ever done.

We have asked the different teachers of the county to report to us from time to time on the improvements or anything of note that may transpire in their schools. These will be included in our monthly report and will be published each month. We will also receive reports from the school board or anyone in the district who may care to make a report.

The Industrial work for the county is started in good shape. While Polk County did not secure first place at the State Fair this year, Polk County did secure more blue ribbons and more second ribbons and more ribbons altogether than any other county in the State. Also we secured four of the ten trips to San Francisco with all expenses paid. Taking it all in all we feel that we are still leading the State. The point now is to get busy for next year and we ask the co-operation of every teacher, school officer, parent and child in the county in preparing an exhibit for the County and State Fair, which shall surpass that of the past.

The Club Work this year is now being arranged by the State and is going to count more than ever in this work. Any who do not understand this Club Work, just write to some of those who handled the work last year and you will soon see the benefits of the work.

The Parent Teachers Association

are beginning to meet over the county and we earnestly hope that every district in the county will have a live Parent Teachers Association this year, because we know the benefits of these meetings and this getting together of the people in the district and the improvements and betterment of the schools over the county is due largely to this effort.

Respectfully,

H. C. SEYMOUR.

County School Superintendent of Polk County.

Abstracts promptly made by Brown & Sibley, attorneys and abstracters.

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