

## COS COB SCHOOL - 300 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich CT 06807

### **Brief History**

Situated on the eastern end of the town, the twelve-room Cos Cob Elementary School was opened in 1914 with 326 students. From 1920 to the early 1940's, CC designed the school to function as a city form of school government. This meant that there was a Police, Fire, Safety, and Park Chiefs, and Aldermen elected by each class. There was also a Mayor who managed the entire operation. The children even ran candy and supply stores to generate funds for the school. At the end of the year, the entire school would vote on how to spend the profits. Over time the school was modernized, and the structure remained virtually the same until a fire destroyed the school in 1992. The design of the new building included the construction of a large auditorium to foster the concept of a "community school," not a formal meetinghouse.

### **Traditions**

Cos Cob School traditions have a strong connection with past generations. Some of the more popular traditions include Grandparents' Day, May Fair, Veteran's Day Celebration, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Play, and 5th Grade Trip to Plymouth, Ice Cream Social, and annual holiday breakfasts. Academically, Cos Cob has a strong tradition of supporting programs aimed at improving achievement in all students. The annual reading/motivational program is always a success, and Cos Cob was awarded the International Reading Association Exemplary Reading Award. Cos Cob is also committed to community service. Even today, there is the belief that Cos Cob students can do anything - "*Never underestimate the power of a Cos Cobber.*" Bill Young, *The Greenwich Time* 9-12-93

### **Changes**

Additions were made to the school in 1924 and 1929 in order to accommodate the increase in population. The school was rebuilt in 1992 after a fire destroyed it. From the article in the *Greenwich Time, Our Town* edition, the overall sentiment of the CC area is one of a friendly small town atmosphere. Local citizens say that everyone says hello to everyone and it is very family friendly. The early residents included many Italian immigrants and it is now a community of citizens with diverse backgrounds. In addition to the business district on East Putnam, the landscape is varied due to the proximity to water in the south and the northern end is the Pomerance property and Montgomery Pinetum, which has undeveloped parkland. Housing in Cos Cob ranges from apartments, to capes, to mansions. Early settlers would barely recognize the town, however, there are many historic building including the Bush-Holley House, which is one of the oldest dwellings in Greenwich, circa 1782.

### **Anecdotal History**

*"It has a sense of community that is tight-knit and close...caring teachers...classroom is nice and clean and the playground is clean and new...I can ride my bike to school...I like my teachers...we have warm, wonderful families...CC is a great school because I can play soccer and I get better at math, science, reading, and writing...I like the lunches and I would not have been working on division without Mrs. X...we have one of the best gyms in CT...we love the ropes course...the PTA is awesome...the teachers are SO great. CC is a nice, clean, happy school."*

## **GLENVILLE SCHOOL - 33 Riversville Road, Greenwich CT 06831**

### **History**

Situated on the western side of the town of Greenwich on nearly 20 acres, Glenville Elementary School was opened in 1975 and modernized in 1989. The planetarium classroom was renovated in 1995 and a classroom was split at that time to create an additional special education classroom. The school is comprised of 65,000 square feet. The school's current design reflects the open classroom movement, and a major renovation is scheduled in the near future. The Glenville School community is much broader than the geographic community of Glenville. It includes the communities of Glenville, King-Merritt, Pemberwick, Rock Ridge, the Rivesville area east of the Merritt to Round Hill, Baliwick and the new communities developed on the Rockefeller property. The diversity of Glenville School supports an environment that makes the Glenville School a place to learn about people and differences. The student population includes children of day laborers, children of entrepreneurs, children of middle management, children of police officers, children of merchants, children of inherited money, and children of CEOs. These students interact with each other daily; this is what learning is about.

### **Traditions**

Glenville School Traditions have a strong connection with past generations. One of the oldest traditions, begun twenty years ago, is the student operated TV show. Originally called WKID, it is now known as GTV. Since 2000, students participate in Diffendoofer Day, also known as Artwork Day, where students display theme-based art projects. Other annual events that define the Glenville School community include the Harvest Party, Halloween Parade, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony and Softball Game. The school mascot "Snappy the Gator" regularly appears at other Glenville functions like the Zoology Night, Bingo Night, and the Glenville Carnival. Although there are a lot of events at Glenville, the most important aspect is that they bring parents into the school. For years the school has a great relationship with the Parent-teacher Association, which is devoted to improving the school for the students.

### **Changes**

Glenville citizens are proud of the traditions brought by immigrants and industry. The Glenville Polish Club is a busy place with customers stating that they can remember coming to the Club for 45 years. This is due to the fact that many of the Polish immigrants settled in this area of Greenwich. Back then, nearly everyone worked for American Felt Co. (1899-1979) and people say that everyone knew each other. It was a very close-knit community even though people had to go to Glenville to buy every day necessities. There were no grocery stores and the only items available in Glenville were gasoline and liquor. The local variety stores were small and only sold a few items. Everyone remembers that the 18<sup>th</sup> century dam on the Byram River powered the factory. Kids could play in the fields, visit the firehouse, and hang out down by the river. Today, there is a Stop 'n Shop, the firehouse has been renovated, and the factory site is now condominiums, but the people feel that not much has really changed. Some remember throwing pebbles across the river and comment that the cows that were once in the fields are now gone. The locals feel that Glenville/Pemberwick is a community oriented place where people look after each other."

### **Anecdotal History**

Most Glenville students fondly remember afternoon trips to Vinny's Pizza, and the amount of fun they had while at Glenville. "It is in walking distance of Vinny's...tons of fun..." More importantly students feel that their teacher at Glenville had the "ability to communicate essential skills...promotes the right academic skills and social responsibility...a symbol of excellence for other elementary schools."

## **HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL - Western Jr. Hwy., Greenwich 06830**

### **History**

Originally built in 1914, the Hamilton Avenue School is undergoing major transformations and changes that will be physically evident when the new school opens next year. Although the construction has faced a few setbacks, it is the “we do whatever it takes” spirit of the students, faculty, and Hamilton Avenue families that encompass the excitement of the school community. Recently honored with the prestigious Connecticut Vanguard School Award, Hamilton Avenue has seen a positive shift in the performance of its mostly minority students. Located in one of the few sections of town with affordable housing, Hamilton Avenue serves students of all economic background and prides itself on its diversity and its wealth of cultural backgrounds.

### **Changes**

The ‘rebirth’ of the new school includes the many new programs aimed at fostering both academic and social success in students. Classrooms will be enhanced with state-of-the art instructional technology, and students will receive instruction in Spanish. The Renaissance program will also offer a unique physical education program, which will include swimming and ice-skating. A key component to the new magnet theme includes all students participating in a variety of arts in education and museum programs to further enrich their appreciation of art in its many forms. Hamilton Avenue is not only committed to the education of its students, but to their families as well through the school’s on site Parent Center.

### **Traditions**

Although the school is currently located in modular buildings behind Western Middle School, the new school will be right at home on Hamilton Avenue near St. Roch Parish. This community landmark is the site for the time honored St. Roch Feast which includes a community procession through the surrounding streets. The Renaissance School at Hamilton Avenue values its partnerships with PTA and individual parents as well as the larger community, including an excellent, long-standing relationship with the Boys and Girls Club, the Greenwich Arts Council, The Bruce Museum and Community Centers. The diverse population is celebrated at monthly assemblies featuring student work and evening activities that engage families and friends. The school also sponsors Family Math Night and Diversity Book Clubs for parents and their children.

### **Anecdotal History**

Hamilton Avenue instills in students the belief that they there can succeed at anything. It is this sprit that builds the foundation for the new school and its new magnet program.

## **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT DUNDEE - 55 Florence Rd., Riverside 06878**

### **Brief History**

Originally named the Dundee School, the International School at Dundee (ISD) was constructed in 1962 on Florence Road in Riverside, CT. The school served as an elementary school for the Hassake Meadows and Lower Havemeyer Park neighborhoods until it was closed in 1975, owing to declining enrollment. The building was reopened in 1998 for the District's ARCH students and a portion of the building was leased by the Mead School, a private pre-school.

ISD was reopened in 2000 as the town's first Magnet School after an intensive search by both parents and administrators for the appropriate theme, The International Baccalaureate Program Primary Years Programme was selected (IBPYP). The IBPYP requires a rigorous implementation and application process, which the staff and parent body continues to constantly review and improve. In 2003, ISD received the prestigious IB Accreditation from the IB Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland and is one of a few IB Accredited primary school in Connecticut.

### **Traditions**

ISD further enhances its curriculum through collaborative educational partnerships with cultural institutions in all grades (3<sup>rd</sup> grade with The New York City Ballet, 4<sup>th</sup> The Guggenheim Museum, 5<sup>th</sup> grade The New York Metropolitan Opera). The primary grades partner with the New York Botanical Gardens, Soundwaters, and the Audobon Center. The partnerships run throughout the school year and typically culminate in a performance or project.

A key goal of the IB program is also the development of character of the student by utilizing attitudes and actions that promote an atmosphere for learning and develop model citizens for our society. ISD emphasizes tolerance, respect for one another and personal integrity to develop an ethical framework for the decisions of life. To reinforce the character element of the curriculum, ISD fosters an environment for student involvement (1<sup>st</sup> grader ran lemonade stands to raise funds for an orphan program, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders earned pennies for teddies given to Kids in Crisis, 5<sup>th</sup> graders raised funds for the removal of land mines, etc.)

One third of ISD's more than 300 students have been attracted by choice from outside of the school's attendance district. The school's PTA is very active and runs the ISD Renaissance Festival as its annual fundraiser in June. In addition, the PTA works with the school on the many cultural partnership and other programs, such as "Classical Café", Arts & Education, Junior Great Books, and more.

### **Changes**

The gymnasium was added in 1974.

### **Anecdotal History**

ISD uses the IB program to enrich and enhance the core Greenwich Public Schools curricula. The IB program focuses on the development of inquiring minds with five essential elements (knowledge, concepts, skills, attitude and action) across all cultures through the interrelatedness of its six subject areas (language, social studies, mathematics, science and technology, arts, personal, social and physical education). In the spirit of internationalism, the students are taught a second language, which at ISD is Spanish. ISD students study Spanish on a daily basis and have the language incorporated into all their classes beginning in Kindergarten.

## **JULIAN CURTISS SCHOOL - 180 East Elm Street, Greenwich CT 06830**

### **Brief History**

Centrally located in downtown Greenwich, Julian Curtiss School opened in 1946, serving students in kindergarten through grade eight. Having undergone renovations and updates over the years, the school became the district's third magnet school in 2003. The school's motto, a *World of Excellence* is quite fitting for the school's magnet theme of world languages. As a school of world languages, Julian Curtiss offers students in grades kindergarten through grade five the opportunity to study French or Spanish, and celebrates the rich diversity of its student body and faculty who come from fifty-two countries, speaking thirty-two languages. The school's annual United Nations Day, International Food Tasting Day, and Parade of Nations, are just a few of many activities that embrace the cross section of students from all backgrounds and highlight the multicultural spirit of the school.

### **Traditions**

In addition to world languages and culture, Julian Curtiss School fosters a family-like atmosphere. One of the first family traditions students take part in is the Ringing-in and Ringing Out Ceremony. Upon entering the school in kindergarten, each student participates in the first part of this long-standing school tradition, and rings a special, prized bell. At the fifth grade graduation ceremony, each student again rings the bell, signifying graduation from the school. School spirit is constantly the focus of the daily J.C. Today Show, and students show their spirit by proudly wearing the school's colors on Green and White Day, which is celebrated the first Friday of every month.

### **Changes**

Like all schools in Greenwich, Julian Curtiss is committed to working as a partner with children, families, and the community in order to provide students with a "quality education that has high expectations for student success and excellence." Students have earned recognition in various programs including the national Word Masters Challenge and Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth. The staff has been highly trained in Readers and Writers Workshop methods from Columbia College, and physical education teachers have been trained in Project Adventure and other teamwork initiatives. Besides building academic success in students, Julian Curtiss is also committed to building the whole child, and recently implemented the Excellent Eagles program, focusing on social and emotional wellness. The student hosted, J.C. Today Show also serves as a venue for student accomplishments where student work is shared and honored.

### **Anecdotal History**

Partnerships with outside organizations has allowed students at Julian Curtiss opportunities to access programs sponsored by the YWCA, Community Centers Incorporated, Bush Holley House, the Bruce Museum, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. Over the years, the school has maintained its neighborhood charm, with many students and their families walking to and from school each day. Its proximity to downtown and the business district affords the Julian Curtiss School access to many of Greenwich's historical landmarks. With its commitment to learning and focus on excellence, the diverse Julian Curtiss School family continues to challenge and prepare students for their future success.

## **NEW LEBANON SCHOOL - 25 Mead Ave., Greenwich, CT 06830**

### **Brief History**

In 1893, the corner stone for the “original” New Lebanon School was laid. A second school in Byram, the Byram School, was later built to accommodate the increasing enrollment in the Byram area. In 1957, a “new” New Lebanon school was built “up the hill” after the closing of the original school. In the late 1970’s, in the face of declining enrollment, the Byram School was closed. To this day, New Lebanon School is a neighborhood school with no school busses. All families are within walking distance, which adds to the closeness and sense of community within the school.

### **Traditions**

There are several long-standing traditions that are special to students and families of the New Lebanon School. Field Day activities are designed to integrate athletics, academics, music (band), and art (tie-dyeing t-shirts and banners). The students are divided into gold or purple teams and cheered on by staff and parents. Grandparents’ (Grandfriends’) Day is in its 29th year at New Lebanon School. Every year, students in grades K-5 have the opportunity to participate in our ice-skating program at Dorothy Hamill Rink. United Nations Day is also an important tradition that celebrates the ancestry and diversity of our families. End of year class picnics are held at Byram Shore Park.

### **Changes**

New Lebanon School has changed over time. Additions were made to the original building that added four classrooms and a media center. Over the past fifteen years, a growing number of families from South America have relocated to Byram. Over the past three years, the instructional program has focused on improving the academic performance of all children. Balanced literacy, including guided reading and writer’s workshop, are the core of reading and writing instruction. Everyday Math has been implemented in every grade. There is a strong emphasis on word study in the primary grades and spelling skills in grades 3-5. For the 2006-2007 school year, a pre-Kindergarten class was added making New Lebanon a pre-K-5 school.

### **Anecdotal History**

Byram’s history dates back to late 1600s. At the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was a destination for Slavic, Italian, and Irish immigrants. Since the mid 1990’s, Byram has welcomed many families from South America. At the center of the community are the New Lebanon School, the Byram Shubert Library, the Byram Veterans’ Association, and the Byram Archibald Neighborhood Center. The Byram Archibald Neighborhood Center (BANC) sponsors several youth athletic teams, runs summer and winter camps, has an after-school program, and serves as a neighborhood meeting place. An active voice for the community is the Byram Neighborhood Association (BNA). The New Lebanon School PTA is active in supporting school programs and promoting parental involvement. Many families have generations of relatives who have attended the New Lebanon or Byram Schools.

## **NORTH MIANUS SCHOOL - 309 Palmer Hill Road, Riverside, CT 06878**

### **Brief History**

North Mianus opened at its present location in 1925. Prior to that the school occupied multiple locations including the building currently known as the Mianus Community Center and shared an itinerant principal with Glenville School. In 1950 the Town approved the first of several additions to the twelve-room school, adding classrooms, a library, a lunchroom and a gym with a stage. With the completion of Eastern Junior High in 1955, North Mianus became a K-6 school. In 1972 the library media center was renovated and in 1996 the most recent construction project was completed adding classrooms, air conditioning and creating an open-air courtyard.

### **Traditions**

There were only two principals between 1910 and 1973, Cleon Dunn (1910-1949) and Victor Leonard (1949-1973). During the 34 year period since 1973 there have been six different principals, the longest serving 11 years. The school has always valued the history of the neighborhood, including teaching about Dumpling Pond and the Mianus River. The Mianus Pow Wow, the school fair, celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1996.

### **Changes**

The school's enrollment has ebbed and flowed, resulting in the opening, closing and re-opening of Dundee School. As recently as the 1950's there was extensive open space and a working farm adjacent to the school. Much of the land has now been developed and the attendance zone for the school has been reduced over time as more school-age children live closer to the school. While the school community has preserved many elements of its rich and diverse history, the area has gentrified over time.

### **Anecdotal History**

The school community is defined by its traditions (Mianus POW Wow), the continuity in leadership, and the rich history of the area in which it is located. It has also been defined by the diversity of the school community with the historical presence of Italian immigrants, some of whom worked in the felt mill, the arrival of families seeking affordable housing after World War II, and the affluence of Hillcrest Park. As former principal, Victor Leonard, noted in a 1977 oral history report, "North Mianus has always been a focal point of the school community...there was a great mixture, a great variance in the backgrounds of the people; and we tried to mold those into a unique group of cohesive people working together."

## **NORTH STREET SCHOOL - 381 North Street Greenwich, CT 06830**

### **Brief history**

North Street School was built in 1954, with major renovations completed in 1987. In 1997, six new classrooms and an expanded cafeteria were added. The school is located in a residential area in central Greenwich on 23 acres. The current principal and assistant principal have worked together as a team at NSS since July 1993.

### **Traditions**

The school's motto is "Character is who you are when no one is watching." The school's social emotional learning program is an important part of teaching and learning. This includes: R.E.A.C.H. (Respect, Exercise, Responsibility, Acceptance, Cooperation, and Honesty) Special assemblies are held three times a year to recognize students who have gone "above and beyond the call of duty." Individual students are regularly recognized through "DRAGON ROARS" commendations.

The Student Council (Grades 3-5) participates in activities involving various community agencies, e.g. Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive, Nathaniel Witherell Nursing Home. NSS has also established a relationship with an orphanage in Bogotá, Colombia. An annual fund raiser (Run for Life) is held in the spring to raise money to fund the medical needs of the children at the orphanage. Diversity is celebrated at North Street School during International Week. The week long celebration culminates with an International Dinner. Other special events/programs at North Street School include North Street School on Stage, Olympic Book Fairs, Writers in Residence, and Literary Magazine.

### **Changes**

The Character Education/Social Emotional Learning program has evolved over the past eight years and now all of the Student Council and Service Club. The program now serves as a model for the entire district. Over the past five years, the relationship with the Colombian orphanage has grown to include exchange visits between members of the North St. School community and representatives from the orphanage. The addition of the Spanish language instruction in grades 3-5 has helped to strengthen this partnership.

### **Anecdotal history**

The teachers describe North Street School as a "community of learners." As one teacher stated "Every teacher at NSS is dedicated to helping the students reach the highest levels of achievement and become life long learners." The school is supported by extremely active parents who are involved in the life of the school in myriad ways. As one high school student said of his experience at North Street School "the sense of community at North Street School is what makes it stand out." First graders said "It's like a home to us. Like the biggest house ever."

## **OLD GREENWICH SCHOOL - 285 Sound Beach Ave., Old Greenwich, CT 06870**

### **Brief History**

Old Greenwich is the oldest settled section of Greenwich, bought in July 1640 from American Indians for a few coats. Old Greenwich only became “Old” because neighboring Horse Neck (now Riverside) became a trendier place to live in the late 1600. Old Greenwich was known as Sound Beach for many years, and in fact today’s Old Greenwich School was built in 1902 as the Sound Beach School.

The current building was built in 1902, but children went to school in Old Greenwich long before then. On the site of the current Firehouse used to stand a one room schoolhouse that served the community’s children.

### **Traditions**

Special traditions at Old Greenwich School include the *Halloween Parade*, *Holiday Caroling* through village shops, *Family Math Night*, *Ambassador’s Club*, *Music on the Menu*, *Read Across America*, *2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Street Festival*, *Jump Rope for Heart*, *Poetry Slam*, *Veteran’s Day*, *Arbor Day*, *4<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance Program*, *5<sup>th</sup> Grade Play*, and the wildly popular trip to *Nature’s Classroom*. In addition, the Old Greenwich School PTA hosts Pumpkin Patch every fall, which is the school’s largest fundraiser, as well as the very well attended Progressive Dinner every spring.

### **Changes**

Additions to today’s Old Greenwich School were made in 1924, 1950, 1957 and 1997. The school was modernized in 1949, 1950 and 1983. In 1993 two classrooms were added, and two Special Education Preschool classrooms were created using existing space. In 1995 the front steps were replaced, and the front plaza was enlarged.

### **Anecdotal History**

Old Greenwich School serves a geographically small community, so most students are within walking distance of school. The school plaza was enlarged in 1995 because it is such a gathering place for the community. Old Greenwich School is located at the southern end of a vibrant commercial area, which ensures that it is driven by, or walked by, by a large percentage of Old Greenwich residents several times each day. Sound Beach Avenue shuts down for the Halloween parade, when all the children and their teachers march to the sound of the band in costume, and every shopkeeper and shopper stops to watch.

Old Greenwich is home to an international community of expats, so several languages are heard in the school yard. In 2004 Old Greenwich School was selected as a Blue Ribbon School.

Organizations and groups that are active in Old Greenwich include the Old Greenwich Garden Club, the Perrot Library, the OGRCC, and the Old Greenwich Association. The Sound Beach Volunteer Fire Department organizes the Memorial Day Parade, which is attended by people from all across town.

## **PARKWAY SCHOOL -141 Lower Cross Road, Greenwich CT 06831**

### **Brief History**

Parkway opened in 1959 and is one of the newer elementary schools. It closed due to declining enrollment in 1981 and re-opened in 1990 to house Cos Cob when the school burned down. Parkway reopened in 1993. In the late 1990's the school underwent additional renovation, recapturing space used previously by Greenwich Emergency Management Service (GEMS) for classrooms. With 17 acres Parkway is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest elementary school in terms of land. Most recently there was extensive work done on the well to accommodate expanded use of the adjacent barn by GEMS. Parkway is the only District elementary school that uses well water. Parkway was one of five designated "open schools," but eventually restored classroom walls and returned to traditional spaces through renovation. With approval from the Board of Education, the Parkway PTA raised more than \$600,000 over four years to air condition the building. Work was completed in 2006.

### **Traditions**

There is perhaps no more powerful evidence of tradition than the more than 300 people including former PTA leaders, administrators, teachers and staff involved with Parkway for the past 50 years who recently began organizing a reunion, scheduled for late May. In spite of the school openings and closings there is a strong sense of commitment to the school as a center of community activity. With no commercial center, library, or other gathering place in the area, the elementary school has served as an important hub and center of activity.

The Parkway School community incorporates a number of neighborhoods including Round Hill and Banksville. There are four neighborhood associations---Round Hill, Northeast, Northwest and Banksville--and a number of churches. While there are a number of community resources located in the Parkway attendance district, including the recently renovated Audubon Center, they are usually identified with the Town as a whole.

### **Changes**

The Parkway school community is the largest in the Town of Greenwich, more than half the total area. Over time the area surrounding the school has evolved from remote and rural to upscale and developed. Farmland has given way to upscale development including Conyers Farm. There are still several working farms. Some have suggested the definition of backcountry has changed over time. Over the years, the adjacent barn has housed both an arts center and the Town's emergency medical service.

### **Anecdotal History**

Current and former students often cite teamwork as a defining characteristic of the school community. Members of the school community demonstrate respect for themselves and others through a strong community service organization run by the students called *Kids with a Purpose*. They value fairness and like to do things for other people. Special programs include a longstanding relationship with an elementary school in China, the Editorial Board Program (writing and performance/publication program), and Responsive Classroom. The school community is proud and appreciative of their new playgrounds. Through an energetic and able bodied, strong PTA, Parkway has an extensive Before and Afters program which helps foster our sense of community in the backcountry as a center for activities.

## **RIVERSIDE SCHOOL - 90 Hendrie Ave., Riverside, CT 06878**

### **Brief History**

In the years before Riverside School existed, children who lived in Riverside attended the Old Greenwich School. In the 1920s, Riverside parents took a door-to-door census to prove that Riverside needed its own school, as Old Greenwich School was bursting at the seams. It was 1933 when Riverside School finally opened its doors. Riverside School will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2008.

During World War II, Riverside became home to many evacuated European families, and the school took on an international flair. In 1949, Riverside School housed the student body of Old Greenwich School while it was under reconstruction. The post-World War baby boom brought the school enrollment up to 800 students, a situation that was alleviated when Eastern Junior High School opened in 1975. Eastern took 147 Riverside 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in 1975, and then in 1989, 6<sup>th</sup> graders were also moved to Eastern.

Based on 2006 CMT results, Riverside ranks among the top DRG A schools in Connecticut. In 2004 Riverside was chosen as the national winner of the *At School Impact Award*.

### **Traditions**

Special traditions at Riverside School are the *Parade of Learners*, *Veteran's Day*, *Flag Day*, *Earth Day*, *the Riverside Run* and the *Arts Field Day*. The *ROPES Character Education Program* and the *Riverside Rangers Program* are two programs that make the Riverside community very proud.

### **Changes**

Additions to Riverside School were made in 1949, 1950 and 1996. The school was modernized during the 1949-50 renovation, and four rooms were added in 1996.

### **Anecdotal History**

Riverside School is a school with a strong community feeling, and is currently the largest elementary school in Greenwich. Riverside boasts an extremely active PTA and a very involved parent body.

According to the Greenwich Time, "Riverside is made up of about two square miles and 7,200 people, and is all about the idea of children and families. Riverside has its origin under the name Mianus Neck, and is still a 'borrow a cup of sugar' kind of community."

Organizations and groups that are active in Riverside are the Riverside Garden Club, St. Paul's Episcopal Church (1876) and St. Catherine of Siena Church (1913). The two churches host popular summer fairs.

Riverside is bordered by the Long Island Sound and the Mianus River.