

## *Did You Know...*

*... the Gurney school was built 50 years ago (1966)?*



Gurney Elementary school opened in 1966. It was built in response to the growing population in South Russell. When it was completed, children in grades 1-4 that lived in South Russell attended Gurney school while children in grades 1-4 that lived in Chagrin Falls continued to go to Lewis Sands Elementary. The school was named in honor of Theodore (Ted) C. Gurney. Ted Gurney was a teacher, coach of all sports at one time or another, athletic director and high school principal during his 40 years of service to the Chagrin Falls school system (1926-1966).

**DEDICATION  
of  
GURNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Chagrin Falls Exempted Village School District



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1968

3:00 P.M.

**Dedication Program**

Board and Administration that Planned the  
Gurney School

1965

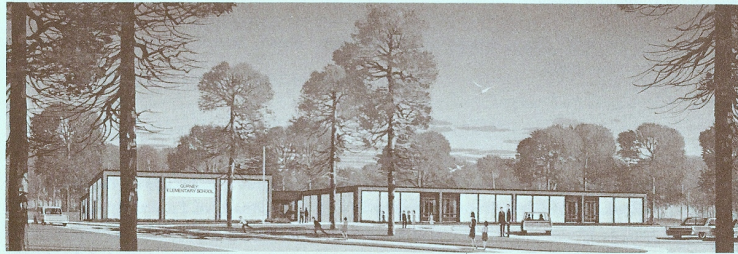
President, Mr. Gordon C. Nichols  
Vice President, Mr. Ernest M. Chatham  
Mr. Leslie E. Brown  
Mr. Ernest C. Martt  
Mr. John R. Lowe, Jr.

1966

President, Mr. Leslie E. Brown  
Vice President, Mr. Ernest C. Martt  
Mr. John R. Lowe, Jr.  
Mrs. Ann K. Malmquist  
Mr. Roger K. Larson

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent, Dr. Warren F. Thomas  
Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Donald M. Knox (until Dec., 1966)  
Principal, Mr. Jess W. Rankin



ARCHITECTS

Dela Motte, Larson, Nassau and Associates

CONTRACTORS

General Contract . . . . .	Aveni Construction Company
Heating and Ventilating . . . . .	Miller Plumbing and Heating Co.
Plumbing Work . . . . .	Planin Plumbing and Heating Co.
Electrical Work . . . . .	Atlas Electric Company
Kitchen Work . . . . .	Bee and Bee Inc.
Site Work . . . . .	Fraser Paving Co.
Carpet Work . . . . .	Haseley-Waller Associates

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## Dedication Program

The first principal was Jess Rankin, who started out in Chagrin Falls as the first male elementary teacher in Chagrin's history. He was principal at Gurney from its beginning until 1983.



# JESS RANKIN DAY

JANUARY 22nd, 1983

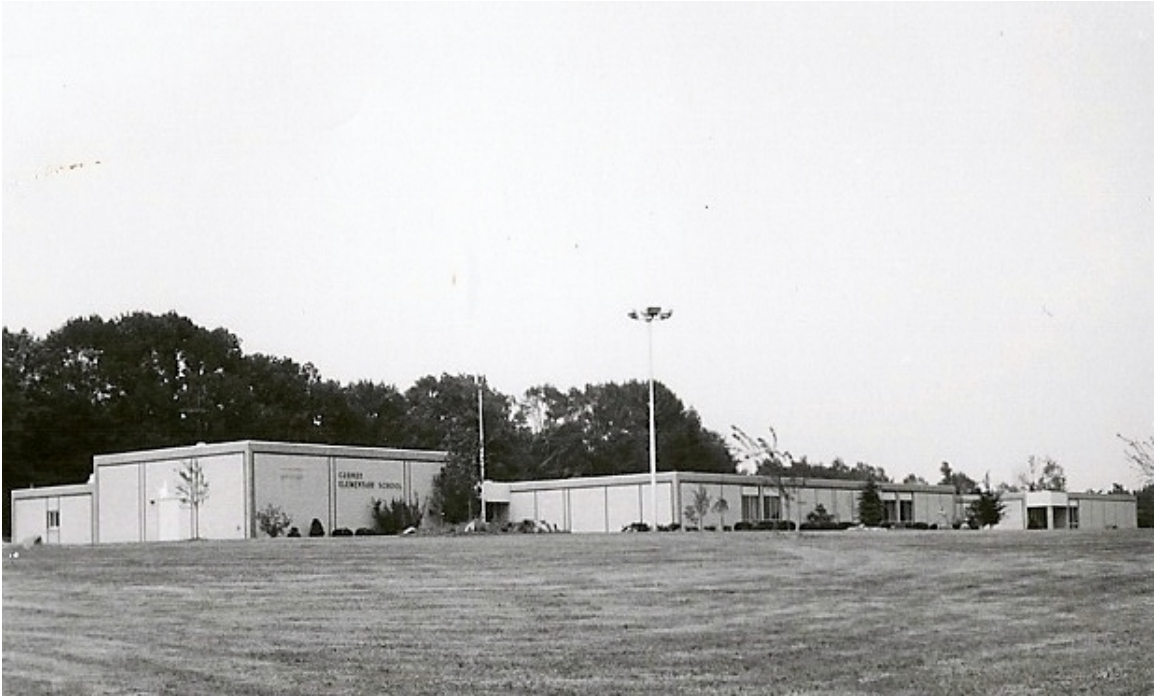
**Program from Jess Rankin Appreciation Day**

## **Years of Service**

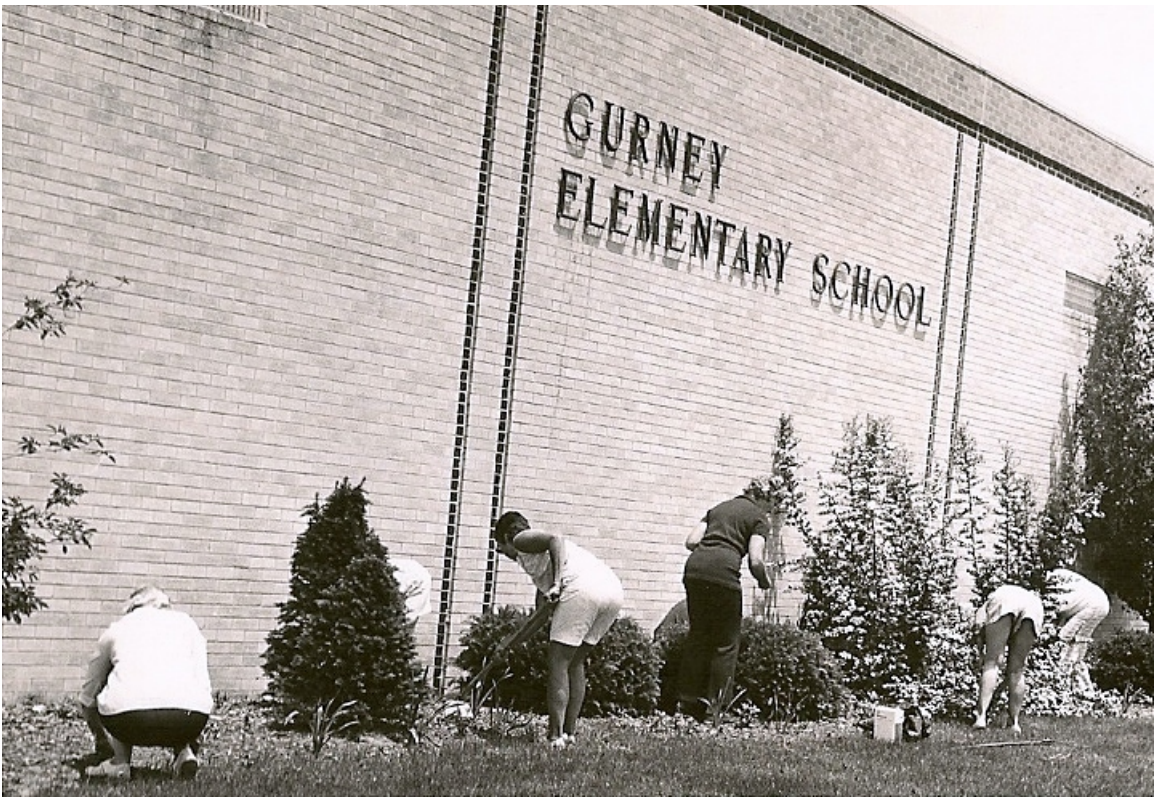
1950-53 Chagrin Falls Elementary  
1953-58 Victory Park South Euclid Lyndhurst  
1958-59 Teacher, Chagrin Falls  
1959-1982 Principal  
Retirement January 1, 1983  
The only principal of Gurney School

**Jess Rankin - Years of Service**





**Gurney School 1976**



**Volunteers Gardening 1972**

Gurney school has had many changes to it during its existence. Additional classrooms were added in 1968. A Bus Garage was constructed in 1971 that housed all busses in the school district. Even more additional classrooms were added in 1972. The school was closed from 1983 until 1988 because of declining enrollment numbers. Major renovations were made to the school before it was re-opened in 1988. A brand new 2 story classroom wing and gymnasium were added in 1998.

Today it is being used for grades Pre-school-4th grade. The fields surrounding the school and the gymnasium are always active with sports and the playgrounds are used very often.