



Class Treasure Hunt: Digging Into History!

Research Team Members: _____

Your challenge is to dig into the history of the Jackson Junior High School building to discover its past, explore its present and imagine its future! You will form a research team to investigate the “Jackson Junior High School Memories” website and tour the building with your teacher.

Grab a pencil, clipboard and begin to research your questions:

1. How many decades old is the building? _____
2. Name at least one characteristic of the Art Deco style of architecture which can be found in the photos of the building. _____

3. The copy of the original opening day program, the photographs and newspaper articles are considered to be “primary sources” of information. What is a primary source and why are they valuable to historians? _____

4. List five types of community events that took place at Jackson in the 1920’s through 1950’s.

5. Estimate how many students are in the “Gym Show” photo and explain how you calculated your estimate. _____

6. Who was responsible for serving meals at banquets? _____
7. Describe how boats were moved into the gym? _____

8. There were many big banquets held in the gymnasium, including one for the Ohio Governor with 1,000 guests. There appear to be seven long rows of tables in the photo, with chairs on both sides. How many chairs would be needed on each side of the table so that everyone had a seat? Explain your answer. _____

9. The part of the building where your classrooms are located was originally called the Caswell Building. What kind of business was it? _____

10. When Sandusky City Schools bought the Caswell Building in 1937, how was the building used? _____

11. List at least five different vocational courses that were taught in the Caswell Building.

12. Why did the projection room need a steel door and solid concrete block walls?

13. In the 1920's, how did they check the safety of the pool water each day?

14. Who made the school furniture and what did it cost? _____

Ask your teacher to take you to the gymnasium. Stand in the center of the gym and to answer the following:

15. Describe where the organ is located in relation to the stage.

16. Where is swimming pool located? _____

17. Describe where the swamp cooler was located and its purpose? _____

18. Can you spot the wooden step which was pulled out so that movies could be projected to a screen which hung on the stage? Describe its location. _____

19. Take a look at the stage. Imagine seeing a large Buick station wagon up there! Explain the steps taken to get the car into the building. _____

20. Step just outside of the gym, into the hallway by the main entrance. Take a careful look all around the gym doorway. Look at the brass railing in the middle of the stairway. What do you notice about the construction of the doorway and railing which helped when moving cars and large animals into the gym?
