


1976

## District # 118 - Rock Creek Center

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## DISTRICT #118-ROCK CREEK CENTER

School District #118 was formed April 1, 1905, detaching from Dist. #40. The schoolhouse was built on the Anton Jelinek farm on the SW corner of Section 15, township 13, Range 6 in Rock Creek precinct.

The first school term began November 26, 1906 with 35 pupils ranging in age from 5 - 18 and offering grades 1 - 7. Some pupils attended only 27 days with a high attendance of 112 days. The teacher was Sadie Ethell. The school term ended May 24, 1907. The school board members were G. L. Lambert, Joseph Bouc and J. J. Wondra. The school teacher's salary was \$264.00 and other expenses were \$371.46 for operation. There was an outstanding bond of \$400.00. The value of the school property and contents was \$1800.00.

The school was heated with a coal-cob stove. Water was carried in from a hand pump. On the school grounds were outdoor toilets and a cob-coal shed.

The school bell rang every morning and could be heard for miles. The bell was removed during the mid 1950's due to the unsafe condition of the bell tower.

The record high enrollment of 55 pupils was in the mid-teens.

On June 20, 1960 a special meeting was called and after much discussion Districts #116 and #118 were merged. After considerable discussion an agreement was made to move the District #118 building from its original location to its present location on the SE corner of the Caha brothers' land.

Some families that joined the district at this time were the George Wests, the John Wests, Joe Hakels, Louis Nelsons, Frank Matulka and the William Leslies. There are now 5 descendants of Frank Matulka in the school and 9 great grandchildren of Louis Nelson. J. J. Bouc now has 5 great grandchildren attending District #118.

Allie Farmer, Mabel Carlson, Miss Wood and Rose Walla were teachers in District No. 116.

The 1963-64 school term had only 3 pupils - Randall and Robin Matulka and Daniel Pospisil. Mrs. Julia Hein was the teacher. Mrs. Ann Caha became the teacher in 1967.

In 1969 District #49 north of District #118 merged with the district.

In 1971 a primary teacher, Mrs. Connie Brown was hired as a part-time teacher in grades K-3. This made two teachers in a one-room school

During the summer of 1974 an addition was built to the existing school, making a separate room for K-3 and one full time teacher. Grades 4-8 and one teacher are in the original building.

The present teachers are Cathi Niemeyer and Ann Caha. The school has an enrollment of 33 pupils.

This report was prepared by George Bouc Jr., a grandson of J. J. Bouc, one of the original board and Mr. Peter Matulka Sr.

Section 17, Township 13, Range 8  
Rock Creek Precinct  
1 mile North, 4 miles East of Valparaiso

School Board - Ken Tvrdy  
Lawrence Bouc  
Don Woita

Teachers - Ann Caha  
Catherine Niemeyer

Pupils

Peter Bordousky	David Matulka
Lyle Bouc	Roger Nelson
Mark Bouc	Steven Stanik
Marie Masek	Diane Woita
Annette Sabatka	Jodine Bordousky
Bill Spicka	Brian Bouc
Doug Nelson	David Nelson
Charlie Tvrdy	Donna Nelson
Connie Masek	Barb Tvrdy
Steven Nelson	Mark Nelson
Brian Sabatka	Kathy Bouc
Lenita Tvrdy	Lamont Bordousky
Karen Bouc	Duane Nelson
DeAnn Matulka	Robert Nelson
Diane Nelson	Sandra Nelson
Lori Tvrdy	Denise Woita
Larry Tvrdy	