

90-Year History Of Warner Avenue School

This information was consolidated from multiple scrapbooks, PTA histories, internet timelines and personal memories. We are so indebted to the parents who came before! Thank you for recording the history of our school.

We apologize for any errors or omissions.

1850

- The state of California joins the Union.
- Los Angeles becomes a municipality.

1853

- The first ordinance establishing public schools in Los Angeles was passed by the Common Council on July 25, 1853. The "Los Angeles City Schools" provide education for K-8. In 1890 there's the formal creation of the "Los Angeles High Schools". They don't merge until 1961, creating the "Los Angeles Unified School District."

1886

- Dr. John S. Pemberton invented "Coca-Cola" in Atlanta, Georgia.

1919

- The Regents of the University of California open a "southern branch" in Los Angeles, offering two-year programs at a site on Vermont Avenue.

1920

- Passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, giving women the right to vote.

1925

- Land developers begin planning to develop Westwood Village and the Holmby Hills.
- The Training School, part of the fledgling UC's Southern Branch, appoints Corinne Seeds as principal. This is an elementary school that not only educates children but serves as a training facility for teachers. Principal Seeds is one of the main followers of John Dewey's philosophy of progressive education, which emphasizes group learning, hands-on experiences and social responsibility.

1927

- Charles Lindbergh flies solo across the Atlantic in the plane *The Spirit of St. Louis*.
- Ford produces its second automobile, the Model A.
- The first feature-length talking picture is released, *The Jazz Singer*.
- The U.C. Regents adopt the name "University of California at Los Angeles" for the L.A. location.
- **Somewhere, lost to history, is the record of the decision between the Regents of the University of California and the Los Angeles City Schools to relocate the**

Training School to a site on Warner Avenue leased from the city. Temporary bungalows are to be built to house the school.

1928

- LA City Hall opens.
- Walt Disney introduces Mickey Mouse in *Steamboat Willie*.
- Women are allowed to compete in track and field events at the Olympic Games for the first time.

1929

- Stock market crash of 1929 sets off the Great Depression.
- Buck Rogers is introduced in newspaper comics, arguably becoming the first superhero.
- UCLA opens its first 4 buildings on the Westwood campus, including Royce Hall.
- The Training School is renamed the University Elementary School or "UES", and moves into bungalows on Warner Ave. The lease costs \$1 per year.

1930

- LAX Airport opens

1932

- Los Angeles hosts the Summer Olympics.

1933

- Nadir of the Great Depression. The U.S. would not see a full recovery until the industrial demands of WWII.
- [Click here to see the June 19, 1933 edition of the UES student newspaper, the "University Elementary Cub."](https://gatheringgardiners.blogspot.com/2013/06/university-elementary-school-newspaper.html)

<https://gatheringgardiners.blogspot.com/2013/06/university-elementary-school-newspaper.html>

1936

- Jesse Owens wins 4 gold medals at Berlin Olympics.

1938

- US federal judge lifts federal ban on birth control.
- DC comics debuts Superman in June 1938.



Naptime at UES on Warner Ave, late 1930s.



A progressive classroom exercise at UES, late 1930s.



Building a harbor at UES on Warner Ave, late 1930s.

1939

- Germany invades Poland Sept 1. World War II begins.
- John Steinbeck publishes *The Grapes of Wrath*.

1940

- The first freeway in the U.S. opens in Los Angeles. The Arroyo Seco Parkway connects downtown Los Angeles with Pasadena.
- The Dean of UCLA's School of Education and the Superintendent of LA City Schools retire. Both had been supporters of progressive education and UES.
- Anti-communist fervor contributes towards increasing suspicion of progressive philosophy. The new Dean wants UES to be less independent. The new Superintendent is under pressure to stop leasing the Warner site to UES and make it a neighborhood school site.

1940 STUDY
OF WESTWARD
MOVEMENT



In 1940, UES students at Warner Ave. reenact pioneers settling the West.



The background appears to be the intersection of Warner and Loring, with a chicken-wire fence.



Note the car in the background and the undeveloped land of what appears to be Warner Ave.

It looks like the yard never did have grass!

1941

- The bombing of Pearl Harbor. The U.S. enters WWII on December 8.



The original caption from the Lab School's website indicates this was the 1941 graduation ceremony for the 6th grade.

1942

- In February, President Roosevelt signed an executive order authorizing the forced internment of Japanese-Americans.
- The first parking meter was introduced in L.A.



Example of UES as a school for teachers, not just students, likely early 1940s. 37 observers and 25 children.

1944

- The U.S. Supreme Court upholds the validity of the internment of Japanese-Americans in the *Korematsu* decision.

1945

- On April 25, the United Nations are formed in San Francisco.
- On May 8, 1945 Germany surrenders to Allied forces.
- In July, the atomic bomb is tested in New Mexico.
- In August, the United States drops atomic bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.
- On September 2, 1945 Japan surrenders. World War II ends.

- Mrs. Walter W. Allen, an LAUSD parent who lives at 726 Thayer Avenue, is elected to the School Board. She casts the deciding vote to terminate the UES lease of the Warner site, which would then become a neighborhood school.

SCHOOL PROGRAM RIFT AIRED BEFORE OFFICIALS

Los Angeles Times (1923-Current File); Jul 11, 1945;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times (1881-1989)

pg. A1

SCHOOL PROGRAM RIFT AIRED BEFORE OFFICIALS

The problem of University Elementary School, which one group of parents defended Monday against charges made last week by another group that its "progressive education program" is unsatisfactory, was threshed out again yesterday at a conference between Los Angeles city school officials and two representatives of the Los Angeles campus of the University of California.

The university has been operating the school in West Los Angeles on land leased from the city school system.

Statement Asked

Dean Edwin A. Lee and Prof. Lloyd N. Morrisette of the university's school of education yesterday were asked to prepare a statement on whether the university will continue to need the City School's Warner Ave. property for University Elementary School, Supt. Vierling Kersey said after the conference.

Kersey, who was accompanied

to the conference by Asst. Supts. Louis B. Travers and Raymond E. Pollich, said he also asked the University educators to outline the character of the educational program to be continued at University Elementary, making clear whether it would be the same in the future as at present.

Study to Be Made

"For our part," Kersey said, "we will make a study of that area's need for an elementary school of the type and program of the schools conducted under the city Board of Education."

No more conferences on the school are contemplated in the near future until the statements and the study are completed, Kersey indicated.

Asked about the conference, Dean Lee said "it was only the kind of conference that any two or more men might have about any subject" and added he had nothing to announce. A committee of four educators is preparing a study on the school to be presented to Dean Lee and Provost Clarence R. Dykstra.

REGENT BOARD WOULD KEEP DISPUTED SCHOOL

Los Angeles Times (1923-Current File): Oct 20, 1945;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times (1881-1989)
pg. A1

REGENT BOARD WOULD KEEP DISPUTED SCHOOL

A new building to house the elementary training school on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California and negotiations with city schools to use their Warner Avenue Elementary school building until that time were recommended by the university Board of Regents yesterday.

Latest step in the long battle over "progressive education" at the university elementary training school, the regents' resolution also urges that the school, now designated as University Elementary, be continued "as a function of the university."

The structure, originally called the Warner Avenue School building, is owned by city schools, which since 1927 have

leased it for \$1 a year for classes which the university conducts.

After two factions of pupils' parents appeared before the Board of Education last July, one supporting "progressive education" at the school and the other opposing it as objectionable, the board voted to operate its own school there in the fall of 1946, and not to renew the university's lease next spring.

Regents' action yesterday authorized Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, provost, to negotiate with the school board to effect "a fair and reasonable solution of the current difficult situation."

It also empowered him to ask that the university's school be allowed to occupy the structure for a "reasonable time" to allow for construction of a permanent building following regents' recommendation that it be included in the State post war building program.

All of which raised two questions: Will the university's school building be erected by the fall of 1946? Will there then be two elementary schools in the area?

1945 LA Times article about the dispute over whether the Warner site would continue to be leased to UES or become a neighborhood school.

1946

- The Cleveland Rams football team moves and becomes the L.A. Rams.
- Miss Amber Wilson becomes the first principal assigned to Warner Avenue School.
- There are 8 teachers in 8 bungalows teaching 94 students. There are no walkways and no lights.
- Hard on the heels of WWII, there is a shortage of funding for everything. Ms. Wilson buys school supplies personally, and when no one can be found for the "clerk" job in the office, convinces her sister to take the position.
- Classes continue to be held in the bungalows built @ 1928.

- School Board member Mrs. Walter Allen visits Warner every week, tells Principal Wilson if the custodian was late to work and has a fence put up to keep balls out of the road.

1947

- The start of the Cold War, which will continue through 1953.
- Jackie Robinson of the Brooklyn Dodgers becomes the first African-American man to play in baseball's major-league.
- The U.S. Supreme Court holds that women are as qualified as men to serve on juries.
- UES reopens on UCLA's campus. Principal Seeds will not retire until 1957. In 2009, the school will change its name to the UCLA Lab School, Corrine A. Seeds campus. To enjoy a detailed online history of the Lab School, click here:

<https://gatheringgardiners.blogspot.com/2013/05/the-university-elementary-school-at.html>

TIME

Monday, Jul. 14, 1947

Education: The Battle of Westwood Hills

Corinne Seeds looks like a mild-mannered schoolmarm. She is a schoolmarm, and she doesn't believe in flaying naughty children alive; but she is doughty rather than Mexican women in a boxcar; and she has a zealot's faith in the wonders of progressive education. Ever since she began putting her theories into practice in the University Elementary School, a rolling, residential community of Westwood Hills, Los Angeles, Calif, has hardly known a day of peace.

The disputation has gone on for 18 years. But Miss Seeds, no mean disputer herself, also had the powerful backing of the University of California at Los Angeles. Her supporters built model villages, fashioned Chinese pottery, model looms, mastered arithmetic by running a model grocery.

Lost in a Spelling Bee. Not everybody joined in the fun. Among those who didn't were parents who discovered that fourth-graders could not hold their own in a spelling bee. The schoolhouse became more of an embattled blockhouse than an ivory tower. One parent complained that her child could not even read her grandma's handwriting.

Two years ago an irate parent got elected to the Los Angeles school board and soon persuaded the board to oust Miss Seeds from her city-owned buildings. But other parents came to her support. When left-wingers gave Miss Seeds some unsought backing, she found herself before California's Legislative Committee on un-American Activities. Chairmen explain her classroom approach to Russia. Miss Seeds said that her pupils studied Russian costumes, homes and farming. "You mean collective farming?" asked Chairman Seeds: "That's all they have." She was cleared of being "un-American."

No Small Favor. But by now she was without a schoolhouse. Friendly parents let her teach in their homes. "It was no small favor," said Miss Seeds. "You should have seen the support. Supporters went to the State Legislature, got a special grant of \$300,000 for a new school. Two frame buildings were moved from a wartime airbase, tucked safely on the campus, where Miss Seeds owes dominion not to the city but to the University.

Last month, the University Elementary School reopened with 175 pupils. There were still doubts as to whether Miss Seeds's youngsters had learned enough spelling and reading. "doing." The carefully neutral Westwood Hills Press decided to find out. The paper picked 81 graduates of Miss Seeds's school and 81 kids from the regular public schools. They gave them about 13, and with equal I.Q.s (about 112). Then the same tests were given to both groups. Miss Seeds's students did as well as the others, if not better, in almost every category.

content.time.com/time

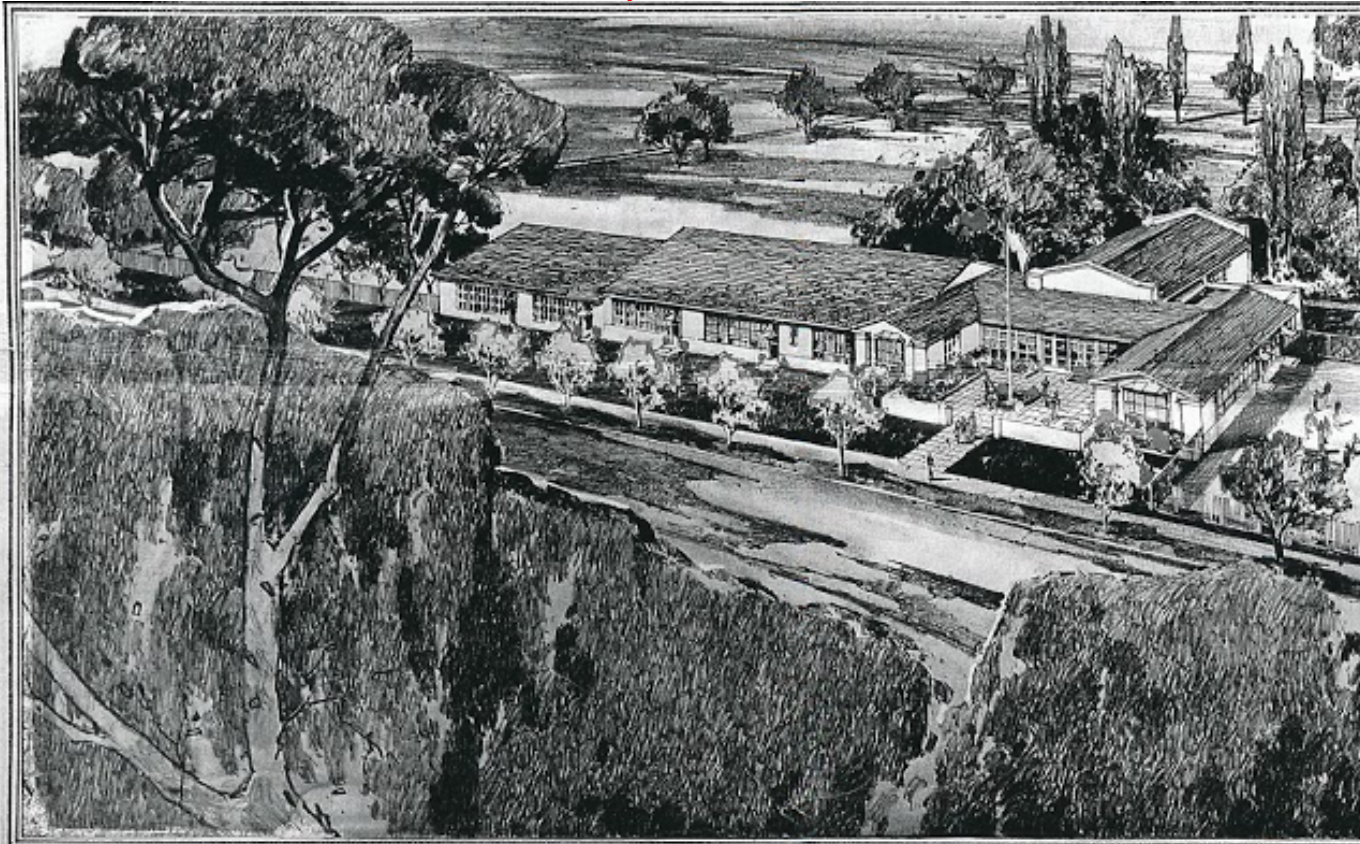
Miss Seeds: "It was a great victory. Besides, our children are world-minded, too."

Time Magazine article from 1947 describing Corinne Seeds' battle to maintain UES and dislocation from Warner Ave site.

1948

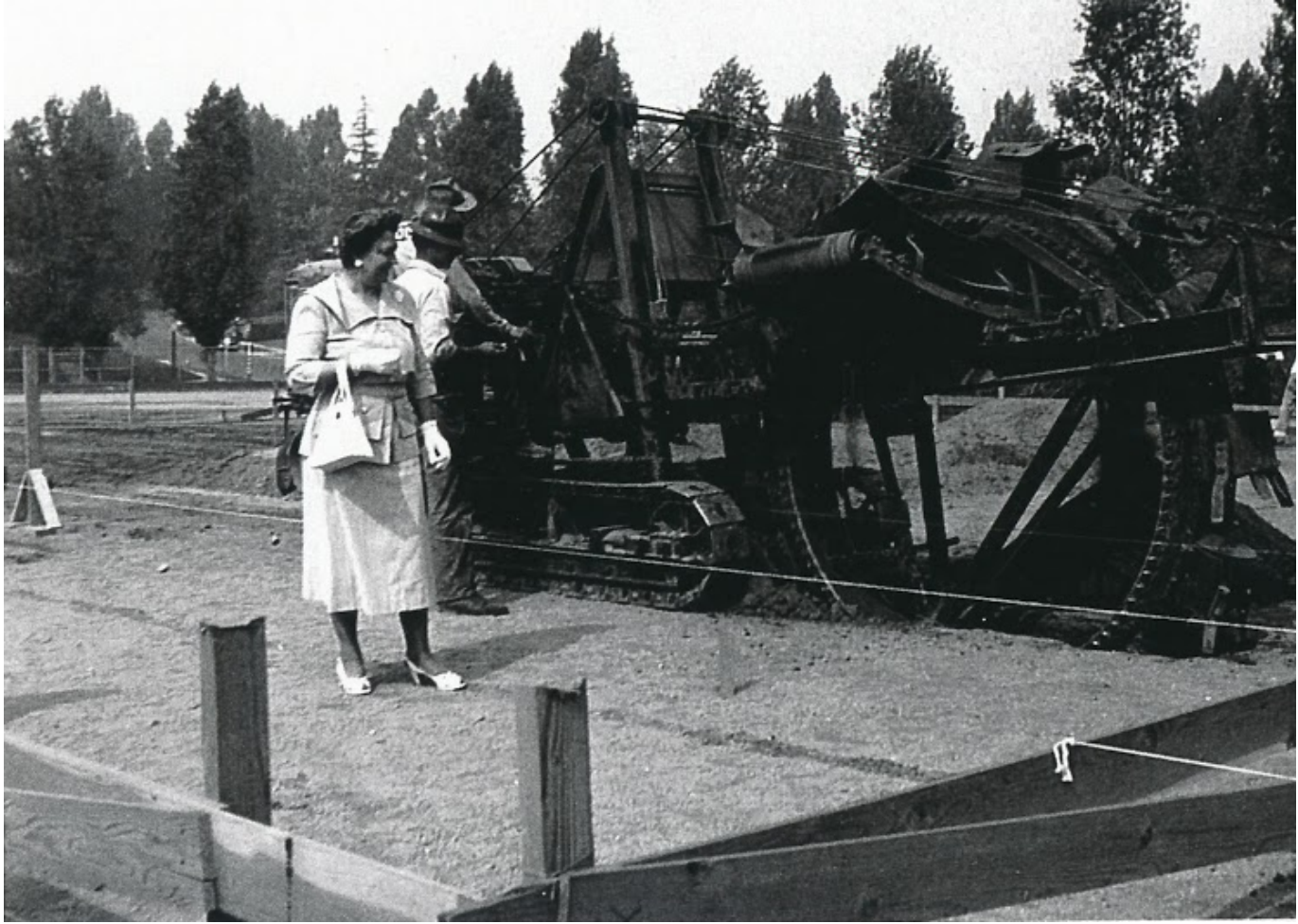
- The McDonald brothers open their first assembly-line hamburger joint under the name "McDonald's." In 1952 they will begin the use of the iconic "golden arches."
- The Snyders found "In-N-Out Burger" in Baldwin Park.

- Alice Coachman becomes the first black woman to win an Olympic gold medal, in the high jump.
- In August, the Los Angeles City Schools held the groundbreaking ceremony “for the new \$224,036 Warner Ave Elementary School”.



PROPOSED WARNER AVENUE SCHOOL FOR THE LOS ANGELES BOARD
WEST LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The original plan for Warner created spaces we use to this day, including rooms 1-8, 15 & 16, and the auditorium. Note the highly developed neighborhood!



Beginning construction on the new, permanent Warner building. Based on a comparison with the image below, the woman in the foreground is Mrs. Walter Allen, the local School Board member who voted to terminate the UES lease.



Handwritten notes on the back of this photograph list the people in the foreground, left to right as:

- Sydney Shaffer, Supervisor of School Building
- Mrs. Allen, Board Member
- Ms. Virgil Valla, Education Housing Supervisor
- Ms. Amber Wilson, Warner Principal
- Mrs. Ernestine Mannett, West District Superintendent



Another view of the construction.



Framing the building.

1949

- For the '49-'50 school year, Warner enrolls 558 students.
- Despite the new building, Warner's enrollment means at least 6 of the old bungalows are still in use. It also appears that at least for some younger children, the school day is shorter, allowing Warner to serve one group in the morning and a different group in the afternoon.

1950

- Dedication of the new school buildings takes place on May 22, 1950.
- On campus is a branch of the L.A. public library, a "public library station" staffed 2 days per month by a librarian and otherwise run by volunteer parents. It is the first partnership between the city library and a public school. It is open to the neighborhood Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-4 pm.



Warner Avenue School

615 HOLMBY AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Dedication

MAY 22, 1950



The view from Warner Avenue from up on Loring. The building on the far right is either a “bungalow” or the “public library station” building.



A closer view of Warner Avenue side.



The yard, looking from the buildings to Warner Ave. The structure on the right is a sandbox.



The lunch benches - literally. Undated photo in front of bungalows, believed to be 1950s.



Children playing in the sandbox on the yard.



Corner of Woodruff and Holmby. No stop signs. The pine trees we now have on this corner were planted by Tree People in the 1980s.



Corner of Warner and Woodruff, if approached from Wilshire heading towards UCLA. These buildings are either the bungalows or the library station. Today, the teacher's parking lot stretches from this corner along Warner Ave.

Estes
 Ginger Pye
 BAR: 00002013
 ESL No. 130
 Copy 1
 6-95

DATE DUE	NAME	ROOM NUMBER
DEC 28 '78	Leath	5
NOV 20 '78	M. M...	13
NOV 7 '78	David S...	14
NOV 30 '82	Aissa Diaz	11
NOV 18 '82	Alisia Watkins	21
NOV 5 '84	Alina	3

LOS ANGELES CITY
 SCHOOL LIBRARY
 Note DATE DUE.

Estes
 Ginger Pye
 Copy 1
 ESL No. 130

W
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This is a copy of "Ginger Pye," by Eleanor Estes still in circulation at Warner's library today, and likely dating from the time we had a branch of the public library on site. Note this book predates the formal creation of the "LAUSD." (See entry for 1853). "Ginger Pye" was published in 1951 and won the Newberry Award in 1952.



Playing on the yard, 1950s. The sandbox is at the far right of the photo.



Coming in from the yard; exact date in 1950s not clear. Today, our 2-story classrooms stand in the foreground space occupied by children.

1952-53

- In 1952, Elizabeth II ascends the throne of England at the age of 25.
- Warner employs 26 teachers and enrolls 939 students.
- The PTA historian describes the May festival fiesta: "The children dance, the parents admire them, and the teachers and principal go out of their minds with all the noise and confusion. But we do have a wonderful time."



It's Festival Time



Monday
May 14, 5-7:30 P.M.
Warner Schoolgrounds



This appears to be a photo from the May or Spring Festival sometime in the 50s, possibly 1953 or 1956.



More Spring Festival dancing in front of a bungalow classroom.



Note the bungalows or library station building on the right. Those are gone now, but recognize that tree? Compare this image to the ones from 1999-2000.

1953-54

- Warner enrolls 945 children and uses 26 classrooms.
- 3 new double-bungalows are built to relieve overcrowding. The auditorium is taken over for use as a classroom.
- After 2 years of petitioning, the City installs one signal light at Beverly Glen and Comstock, and another at Beverly Glen and Sunset Blvds.
- “Bel Air School Number One / Bellagio Road School” (today, Community Magnet), opens to help serve Warner’s population. 350 Warner students and 9 teachers are transferred there.

W - A - R - N - E - R

W— is for work which we do very well.
A — is for accuracy which we need to spell.
R— is for reading which we do in spare
time.
N— is for neatness which makes papers
look fine.
E — is for effort or doing our best.
R — is for recreation which gives life zest.

Excerpt from the June 1953 WARNERETTE student newspaper.

1954

- The US Supreme Court decides *Brown v Board of Education*, determining that “separate but equal” public schools for black and white children are unconstitutional.

1954-55

- 1955 saw the beginning of the conflict that would be known as the Vietnam War.
- Warner enrolls 670 students.



Undated classroom photo of Warner, from the 1950s. Appears to be a meeting of the school paper?



A younger class at Warner, 1950s.



One of classrooms 1-8, (when those transom windows in the wall used to open).



Another likely 1950s photo. Desks are nailed down in tracks. From the shape of the room and the windows, this doesn't appear to be one of rooms 1-8, or either of the early kinder classrooms (today 15 & 16). Likely a bungalow?



1955-56

- December 1955, Rosa Parks refuses to move to the back of the bus.
- At the age of 26, Martin Luther King Jr. leads the bus boycott movement in Montgomery, Alabama.
- In January 1956, Elvis Presley released "Heartbreak Hotel".
- At Warner, in addition to the PTA, parents start a booster organization called the "Friends of Warner Avenue, Inc" in order to hire playground supervisors, and to open the school grounds as a weekend playground. First predecessor of WAVE!

1956-57

- 1957 sees the introduction of the polio vaccine, ending epidemics that have crippled thousands of children worldwide.
- Wham-O releases the Hula Hoop.

- Friends of Warner hold a kids' halloween party to raise funds. It goes through various iterations and names, eventually settling on "the Halloween Haunt" some time in the 2000's.
- Friends of Warner also send out a fundraising solicitation, asking for a donation of \$15 per family.
- A Warner student, Sheryl Crouch, is killed by a driver at Warner and Loring Aves.

1957-58

- In September, Congress passes the Civil Rights Act of 1957. The first major civil rights legislation in nearly 100 years, it focuses on voting rights.
- In October 1957, the Soviet Union launches Sputnik into orbit.
- 1958, Chuck Berry releases "Johnny B. Goode".
- Amber Wilson steps down, and Mrs. Gertrude Woodmansee becomes principal.
- On November 19, 1957 Warner opens its cafeteria.
- Because the first plan did not have a cafeteria, this is presumably the same time that our current cafeteria building, bathroom and presently-numbered Rooms 17 & 18 were built?

New Cafeteria



To: Parents of Warner Avenue School

From: Gertrude Woodmansee, principal

We are happy to announce that the Warner Avenue School Cafeteria will open for business on Tuesday, November 19th. Children may purchase their lunch on this day for 25¢ without dessert or 30¢ with dessert. We hope that you will be able to send the correct change with your child.

The regular lunch, consisting of an entree, a vegetable or a salad, bread, butter, dessert, plus 1/3 quart of milk is priced at 30¢. The same lunch without dessert is 25¢. Both lunches include the 1/3 quart of milk.



Part of the text above reads:

“Children may purchase their lunch on this day for 25¢ without dessert or 30¢ with dessert. The regular lunch, consisting of an entree, a vegetable or a salad, bread, butter, dessert plus 1/3 quart of milk is priced at 30¢”

1959

- Berry Gordy founded Motown Records.
- Fidel Castro's movement succeeds in ousting the sitting government in the Cuban Revolution.
- The first diet soda comes to market in the U.S.; it's a cola. Coca-Cola produces Tab in 1963; Pepsi releases Diet Pepsi in 1964. Diet Coke is released in 1986.

1960

- Six-year-old Ruby Bridges desegregates the New Orleans schools under the escort of the National Guard in the spring of 1960.
- The first oral contraceptive is approved by the Federal Drug Administration, a change that contributes to major social shifts through the 1960s.
- The Minneapolis Lakers move to L.A., becoming the Los Angeles Lakers.
- The Hollywood Walk of Fame opens.

1961-62

- In 1961, Twentieth Century Fox sells off its back lot to pay for the production of the film *Cleopatra*. The land will be developed to become “Century City.”
- In 1962, the U.S. has a 13% obesity rate, with 45% of the adult population classified as overweight.
- Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962.
- Principal Woodmansee steps down, and Mrs. Marjorie Rohrbough becomes principal.
- Warner enrolls 723 students K-6, and employs 22 teachers. There are “split classes,” or students from two grades in one classroom.

1963

- On April 16, 1963 Martin Luther King Jr. pens his *Letter From A Birmingham Jail*.
- On June 10, Congress passes the Equal Pay Act.
- On June 12, civil rights activist Medgar Evers is assassinated.
- In late June, the California Supreme Court holds that Pasadena violated the state constitution by separating children on the basis of race, even if it relied on neighborhood boundaries and not *de jure* segregation. This decision set off the active debate over how to desegregate California's public schools.
- On August 28, 1963 Martin Luther King delivers his “I Have A Dream” speech.
- On November 22, President John F. Kennedy is assassinated.
- American involvement in the Vietnam War escalates through the 1960s.

1964

- Congress passes the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act passes, and includes a prohibition against employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.
- In L.A. the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion opens.
- So does the Whisky-A-Go-Go on the Sunset Strip.
- In February, the Beatles appear on the Ed Sullivan Show in New York, unofficially kicking off both Beatlemania in the U.S. and the British Invasion of American pop music.
- At Warner, the PTA warns:

“Double parking has reached horrific proportions on Holmby. It is now endangering the lives of walking children as well as those being picked up. On numerous occasions the busses have been unable to traverse Holmby to pick up the 350 children who ride them. It may also be noted that no emergency vehicle could go through either.”

- The note about busses refers to transportation provided by LAUSD to neighborhood children, before budget cuts eliminated that service.

1965

- Malcom X is assassinated Feb 21, 1965
- The March on Selma.
- On March 30, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art or “LACMA” opens.
- In August, the Watts riots break out in Los Angeles, sparked by allegations of police brutality.
- Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta form the United Farm Workers and stage a boycott of poor working conditions on California’s grape farms.
- At Warner, the PTA advocates for parking restrictions in the neighborhood to prevent UCLA students from parking north of Wilshire and east of the University.

1966

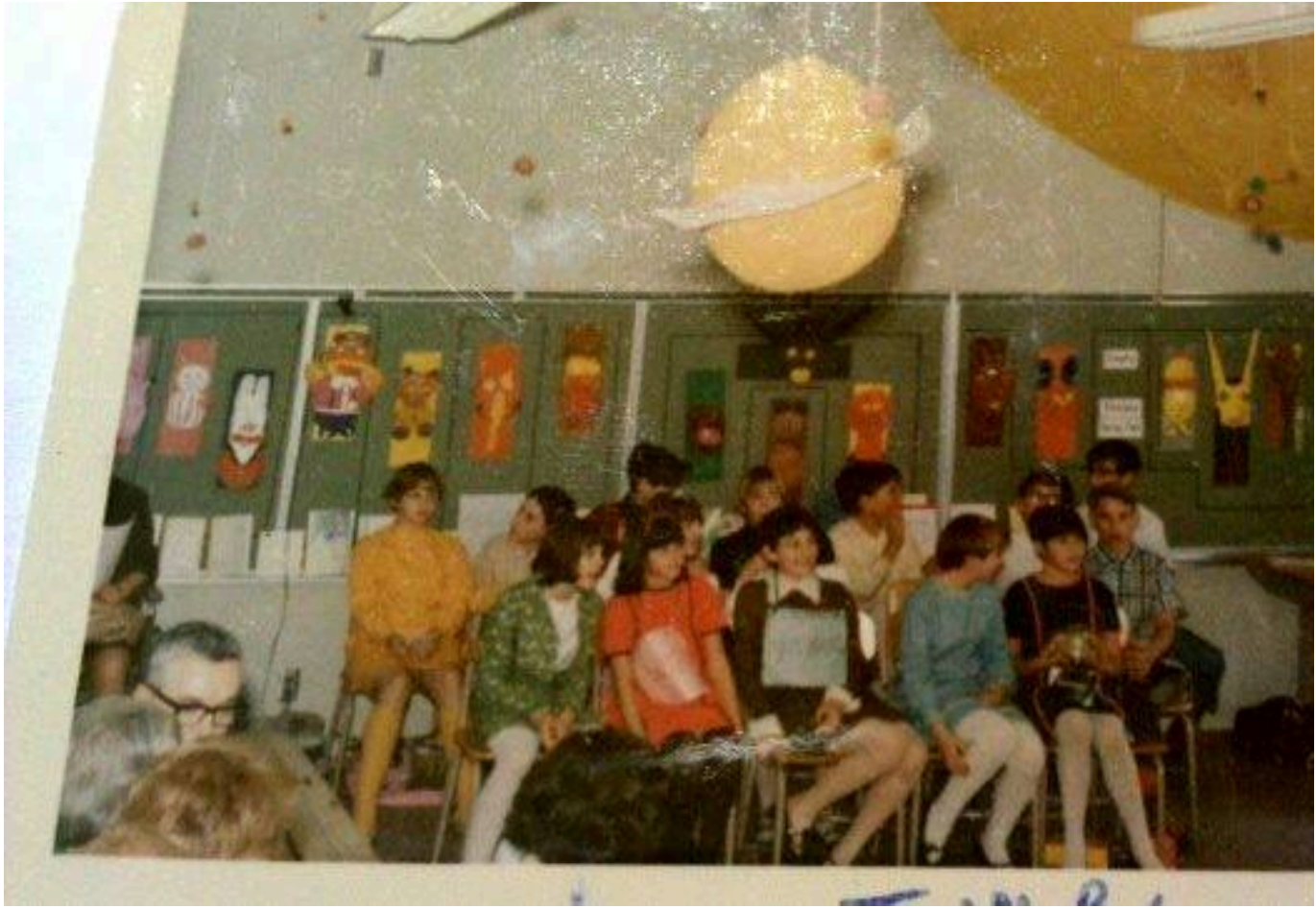
- Warner puts on its first annual winter holiday program, featuring the orchestra and singers from 2 grades.
- Proposed budget cuts would mean Warner families would lose their LAUSD busses, which are used by approximately half the students.

1967

- Thurgood Marshall becomes the first African-American Supreme Court Justice of the United States.



Warner Principal Marjorie Rohrbaugh, 1967.



Class of 6th grade teacher Ed Buttwinick.



1967 Warner graduation party in the cafeteria.



Another shot of the 1967 Warner graduation party.

GRADE <u>A6</u>		SCHOOL <u>Warner Avenue</u>
SEMESTER ENDING <u>June 23, 1967</u>		PRINCIPAL <u>M. Rohrbough</u>
PROGRESS IN KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS		PROGRESS IN SCHOOL ADJUSTMENT
	Mid-Semester Mark	Mid-Semester Mark
READING	<u>A+</u>	EFFORT <u>A+</u>
ENGLISH	<u>A+</u>	Tries to do his best
SPOKEN LANGUAGE	<u>A+</u>	WORK HABITS <u>A+</u>
WRITTEN LANGUAGE	<u>A+</u>	Listens attentively
HANDWRITING	<u>A+</u>	Follows directions
SPELLING	<u>A+</u>	Works independently
MATHEMATICS	<u>A+</u>	Works cooperatively with other pupils
GEOGRAPHY	<u>A+</u>	Completes assignments promptly and neatly
HISTORY	<u>A+</u>	Makes good use of time
CIVICS	<u>A+</u>	CITIZENSHIP <u>A+</u>
SCIENCE	<u>A+</u>	Accepts responsibility
ART	<u>A+</u>	Respects authority
MUSIC	<u>A+</u>	Respects rights and property of others
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	<u>A+</u>	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE
		NUMBER OF DAYS PRESENT <u>36</u>
		NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT <u>0</u>
		NUMBER OF TIMES TARDY <u>0</u>
		TEACHER'S SIGNATURE <u>Brettwinick</u>
		MID-SEMESTER PERCENTAGE
EXPLANATION OF MARKS		PARENT'S SIGNATURE
A—Outstanding B—Very Good C—Satisfactory		
D—Needs to Improve E—Unsatisfactory		

Sample of a Warner report card from 1967; the actual grades are possibly photoshopped before being posted to Facebook in 2015. (Thank you for letting us borrow it!)

1968

- Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated on April 4.
- The exact date is unclear, but it appears that in the late 60s or early 70s, LAUSD and Warner began using a voluntary transfer program to bus minority students to Warner.

1969-70.

- July 1969: "Millions watch worldwide as the landing module of NASA's Apollo 11 spacecraft touches down on the moon's surface and Neil Armstrong becomes the first human to set foot on the moon."
- Woodstock Music & Art Fair is held in August 1969.
- President Nixon creates the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970.
- Los Angeles holds its first gay pride parade.

- At Warner, a local initiative is defeated that would have provided funds to demolish the old bungalows and build new classrooms.

1970-71

- Beverly Johnson is the first Black model to be featured on the cover of a major fashion magazine.
- President Nixon signs an executive order establishing the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Roberto Clemente is named MVP of Major League Baseball, breaking ground as a national Puerto Rican figure.
- 1971 Sylmar earthquake.
- Dr. Robert Searle becomes principal of Warner Ave.
- Warner enrolls 545 students.
- After the earthquake, a new law declares that school buildings built before 1933 are inherently unsafe, and mandates rehabilitating or replacing them by 1975. Warner is still using 6 “temporary” bungalows built before 1933.
- A ticket to the Halloween carnival costs \$.50.
- The City denies the request to install stop signs at Loring & Warner or at Warner & Woodruff.
- Propositions are crafted to pay for a new permanent 2-story building, with a library, 6 classrooms and a teacher’s workroom at Warner.
- Additional budget cuts spell the end of neighborhood busses, gifted programs and after-school athletics.
- First Spring Sing held.

1972

- Watergate scandal.



SAFETY PATROL—When traffic began to pose a problem at Warner Avenue Elementary School in Westwood, the PTA organized a traffic patrol. Here Mrs. Bruce Osterwell, left, signals children to stay on sidewalk and not dart between cars, while Mrs. Lewis Topkis asks Mrs. I. H. Berkovitz not to double park while picking up her child. The PTA staffs the patrol at 2 and 3 p.m. daily.

Times photo

PTA Organizes to Direct Traffic

WESTWOOD — When traffic began to be a potential hazard in the afternoons when children were dismissed from Warner Avenue Elementary School, PTA leaders took action on their own.

They organized a safety patrol.

Drivers had been seen making sudden stops at the school at 615 Holmby Ave. and double parked to pick up their children. This halted traffic on the narrow street.

Children were darting out into the street between parked cars to meet their parents.

Volunteers Recruited

The PTA recruited volunteers to act as traffic guides at 2 and 3 p.m. on school days and gave them yellow and black badges resembling traffic signs.

"Keep moving," they caution would-be double-parkers.

"Use the crosswalks and don't go out into the street between cars," they remind the children.

Mrs. Lewis S. Topkis, PTA safety chairman, who

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such

Article circa 1970, '71 or '72 about parents' effort to make school drop-off and pick-up safer. The more things change, the more they stay the same...

1973

- The Supreme Court decides *Roe v. Wade*, holding that the Constitution provides a right to privacy that extends to a woman's decision to end a pregnancy.
- The Senate begins formally investigating Watergate with televised hearings.
- Thomas Bradley is elected the first Black mayor of Los Angeles. He will go on to be reelected four times and serve as mayor for 20 years.
- Billie Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs in the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match.
- Warner offers a gifted program without letter grades, enrolling 23 kids aged 6-8. Multi-year math groups formed.
- Warner hosts a pilot early childhood education center.

1973-74

- In 1974, the Getty Museum in Malibu opens.
- Congress moves to impeach Nixon, who later resigns.
- Gerald Ford becomes President. One of his first acts is to pardon Nixon.
- Girls are officially allowed to play Little League Baseball.
- Warner's Halloween carnival brings in \$4,100.
- Parents volunteer as in-class aides, and staff the library 9-4 Mon-Fri.
- The "Science Shack" offers 3 experiments per year.
- Funding to build a 2-story library building at Warner is approved!



GOOD-BYE
OLD BUNGALOWS.....



Board Awards Contract

WESTWOOD—A \$559,600 contract has been awarded by the Los Angeles Board of Education for construction of a two-story classroom-library building at Warner Avenue Elementary School, 615 Holmby Ave.

The contract went to Casner Construction Co., Inc., lowest of six bidders. Benton, Park, Cadreva, Architects & Associates, prepared drawings and specifications.

The facility will have seven classrooms and a general library. It will replace pre-1933 classrooms which do not meet state earthquake safety standards.

Work is expected to take about eight months. Construction will come from the State School Building Fund.

1975

- *Jaws* hits theaters.
- Integration discussed throughout LAUSD in response to a long-running lawsuit filed in 1961.
- LAUSD commits to a \$559,000 contract for the library building. Construction begins in 1975; it is to be complete by the fall of 1977.
- Warner's principal tries again to make parents behave at pickup and drop-off: "If you pick up your child, please start a little early and park legally."
- Warner's cafeteria lunch costs \$.50, and milk or juice costs \$.10.

1976

- Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs found Apple Computer, Inc.
- Warner's total private fundraising budget is @\$5,600.
- Time magazine mentions Warner's prize-winning early childhood education center in the April 12, 1976 issue.
- Thanks to the help of Zev Yaroslavsky, a 4-way stop sign is installed at Warner and Loring.
- As a direct result, Warner loses its crossing guard in February 1976.
- Mary Alice Hawkins becomes principal of Warner Ave.

1977-78

- LAUSD dates its magnet and permits-with-transportation programs to court-ordered integration practices begun in 1977. It appears, however, that Warner's busing program began years earlier.
- Warner enrolls 700 students and employs 22 teachers.
- Classes move into the new 2-story library building late 1977.
- The PTA buys math text books, reading and math kits, enrichment literature, science kits, special film rentals, copy paper, and library books.
- Tree People donates and plants 12 canary pines (visible today on Holmby & Woodruff).
- Parent volunteers begin the program "Making Friends with Great Works of Art."



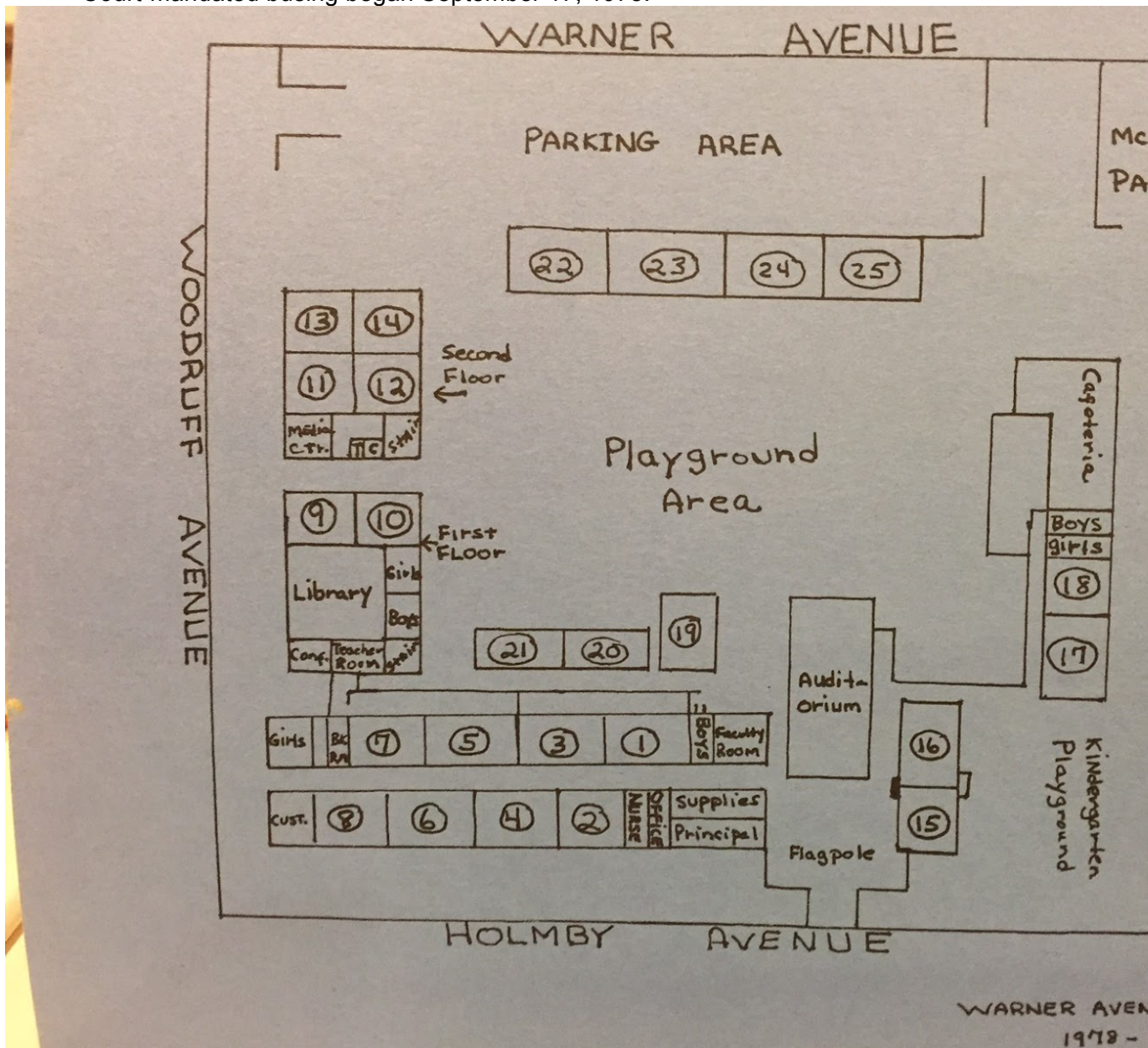
Invitation to the unveiling of the new 2-story library building.



Scrapbook photo of the new library building, viewed from Woodruff Avenue. The garden will not be built for a couple more decades.

1978-79

- Ann Meyers becomes the first woman to try out and sign a contract for an NBA team.
- Court-mandated busing began September 17, 1978.



The PTA booklet from this time features a hand-drawn map of the school on the inside cover. Many features are different from today, notably the bungalows labeled 19-25 are gone, replaced by the 2 story building and computer lab.

McIlvaine Park was a garden area dedicated to teacher Miss Joyce McIlvaine, who taught at Warner through the 1960s and 70s until her death from inoperable cancer. Roses were planted there as late as 1982. Due to diminished yard space after additional building, the space today is used for playing. But take a look ... the wood sign still hangs at Loring and Warner!

Note also that this map does not show the areas today used for the STAR office, the science lab, Room 19 in the kinder area, or the speech therapy room.

1980

- LAUSD introduced forced busing. The plan was to put all the Warner Avenue students on buses and send them to Cienega School. In the words of one former Warner teacher: "Parents were livid. They ended up pulling their kids out of the school and headed to private schools. Warner lost 15 teachers out of a 22 total. It was pure chaos. A lot of tears shed."

1981

- Sandra Day O'Connor is the first female jurist appointed to the US Supreme Court.
- First reports of AIDS.

1981-82

- Official busing ended with the implementation of Prop 1, amending California's state Constitution. Voluntary permits-with-transportation and the magnet school system remain.
- Warner's enrollment fluctuates between 360-450.
- In Warner's cafeteria breakfast cost \$.65, lunch \$.75.
- The school paper the "Newsette" is published in English and Spanish.
- Warner's PTA plans to buy "a computer" for the school.
- Poem by a parent, 1982:
We love our children, choose with care
Their orthodontist, the clothes they wear.
We who'd avert their every trouble,
Endanger them by parking double.

1982

- Michael Jackson's *Thriller* is released.

1982-83.

- Randy Newman releases "I Love L.A.", which becomes the city's unofficial anthem.
- Warner enrolls 500 students.

1984

- LA hosts the Olympics for the 2nd time.
- The San Diego Clippers move to L.A.

1985-86

- The space shuttle Challenger explodes after take-off on January 28, 1986.
- President Ronald Reagan and Congress approve a comprehensive immigration reform act.
- The running of the first L.A. Marathon.
- Nuclear explosion at the Cherynobl plant in Ukraine.
- Click here for a video taken by Richard Ellis of Warner's grounds some time in the late 1980's: <https://vimeo.com/72601137>
- Warner enrolls 608 students.
- The Halloween Carnival nets \$18,000 to complete the computer lab.
- Parent volunteers run the Great Works of Art program.

1987

- Jackie Joyner-Kersey is the first woman athlete on the cover of Sports Illustrated magazine.
- Toni Morrison publishes *Beloved*.
- 18-month-old "Baby Jessica" McClure is rescued from a narrow well shaft in Texas.
- Jeff Felz becomes Principal of Warner in 1987. Before his appointment, Warner went through a period of high turnover in the position, hosting a new principal every year - sometimes two in a year. He will hold the position until the year 2000.



1987 Halloween Carnival. In the background, you can see the library building, with the bungalows to the left.



What happened to the car, 1987 Halloween Carnival.

1988

- Vicki Feldmar grows STAR into a full-fledged after-school program for Warner students.



1989-90

- November 1989: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!". The fall of the Berlin Wall.
- April 1990, the Hubble Telescope launched.
- **Warner enrolls 682 students.**

WARNER'S SUPER GLUE

To make a school like Warner be the best that it can be,
It takes a group of people with a special recipe.
Mix teachers and a principal and staff beyond compare,
And add the finest volunteers, and what you have is rare.

There's quite a lot to thank you for, we'll try to make it rhyme;
But this might take a little while, I hope you have the time.
We thank you for Great Works of Art and Warner Warehouse, too.
The Carnival and Media Room, the many jobs you do.
Earthquake supplies, Computer lab, Room mothers are the best,
Some act as aides and help the kids, their patience it does test.
The field trips that you plan sometimes and drive without a fuss,
Or even have the courage to come and help us on the bus.

The Yearbook and the painting job, the Newsette's really great,
The I-CAPs that you plan for us are really so top-rate.
The TVs and some VCRs and rugs upon the floor,
A P.E. coach, librarian, what staff could ask for more?

You plan our parties, give ice cream, Great Books is really fun,
Your P.R. in the neighborhood tells us we're number one.
Free books and pictures for the kids who have a little less,
You're always there when there's a need, and we are truly blessed.

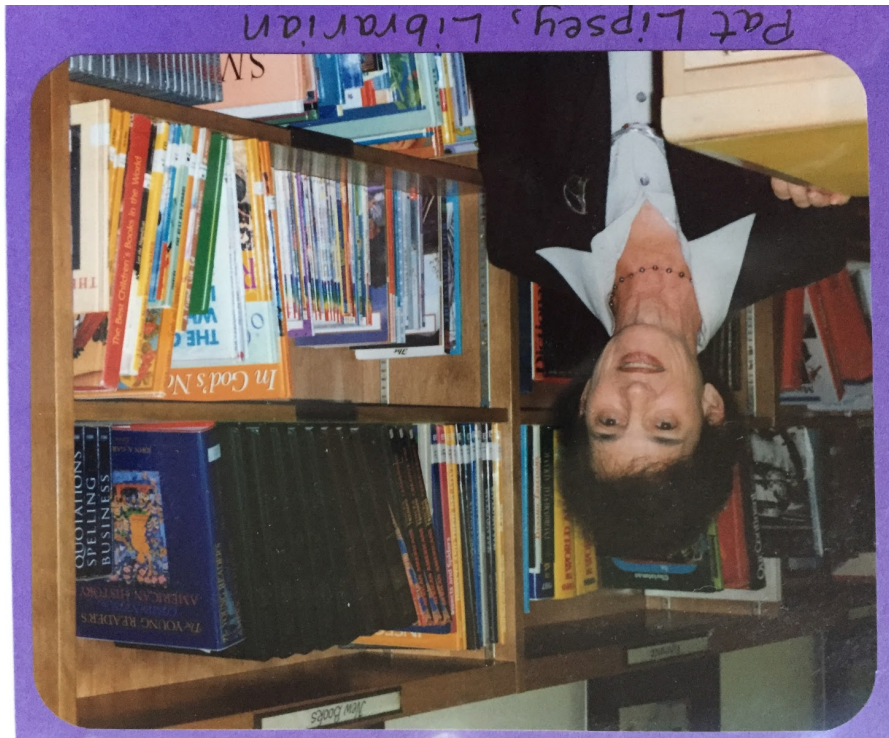
Sometimes we might not voice our thanks, but know it doesn't mean
That we don't know of all you do, you're the "tenth man" on our team.
There's just one problem we can see and this we really hate;
Your children grow and you will go when they all graduate.

Oh, PTA, you're really tops, there is no better one.
And even though our time is short, this song is nearly done.
Please know that we are thankful now for all the things you do:
We are the bits and pieces and you are the "super glue".

Teacher Ms. Sue Cote this song in March 1990; it is sung to the tune of "Supercalifragilisticexpialadocious" from the film "Mary Poppins".

1990-91

- Gulf War.
- The United States soccer team wins the first Women's World Cup.
- Warner enrolls 485 students.
- Warner's longtime librarian Pat Lipsey retired in 1991. "Pat was so popular that we declared an honorary Pat Lipsey Day the week she retired. In the main hallway we covered our classroom doors with a primary book/character depiction in her honor."



1991-92

- December 1991, the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- The police brutality case against officers who arrested Rodney King in 1991 results in acquittal and spawns 3 days of rioting in Los Angeles.
- The "310" area code is introduced in LA.
- At Warner, this year is the first to mention a walk-a-thon, predecessor of today's Warner Walk.

1992-93

- LAUSD undergoes "reconfiguration." Effective the following year, 6th grade is split off from elementary school, "junior high" is eliminated to create "middle school" of 6th-9th grades, and high-school is reorganized to serve 10th-12th grades.
- Warner enrolls between 762-800 students.
- Warner hosts both Winter and Spring Sings.
- The Warner "Wildcats" are introduced.

- Warner also lost a beloved teacher, Arlene Levy. “She was short in stature, huge in love, and had a large presence about her – although all her kids were taller than she. When I picture her, I picture her smiling and laughing. She was not afraid to hug her 6th graders; she said they needed to know they are loved just as much as the little ones.” The Warner library is dedicated to her memory.

1993-94

- In December 1993 Nelson Mandela and South African President F.W. de Klerk share the Nobel Peace Prize for their work dismantling apartheid.
- President Clinton signs 'Don't ask, don't tell' into law, prohibiting openly gay or bisexual people from serving in the military.
- Bosnian civil war.
- The North American Free Trade Agreement or NAFTA is signed.
- January 1994, the Northridge Earthquake.
- Summer 1994, genocide in Rwanda.
- **The Big Help Club, a school based community service organization, is founded.**

1994-95

- Oklahoma City bombing.
- OJ Simpson trial ends in acquittal, prompting nationwide discussions of race and criminal justice.
- Martina Navratilova retires with an all-time male or female record of 1,438 match wins to her credit.
- Jeff Bezos launches Amazon as an online bookstore, having founded it in 1994.
- **Warner enrolls 730 students.**
- **The PTA budget has grown to \$178,600.**
- **First mention in the PTA record of the Fall Barbeque and Open House.**
- **In 1994, Warner distributes the “Warner Avenue Newsette;” in 1995 Warner premieres its newsletter: “What’s Happening At Warner?”**

1996-97

- Supreme Court clarifies that Title IX of the Civil Rights Act requires roughly equal numbers of female and male athletes in college to qualify for federal funding.
- California voters pass Prop 209, banning affirmative action.
- First LA Times Festival of Books.
- The U.S. women gymnasts, the “Magnificent Seven,” take their first Olympic team gold. Kerri Strug sticks the landing on the vault despite an injured ankle.
- **Warner enrolls 659 students.**
- **Warner students tested first in the district in math, reading and language arts.**

1997-98

- In July 1997, Hong Kong ‘handed over’ from British sovereignty to China.
- JPL lands and deploys the first Mars rover, *Sojourner*.
- **First mention of the 4th grade violin program with UCLA.**
- **Warner gets a new fence, and for Beautification Day parents plant trumpet vines along its perimeter.**

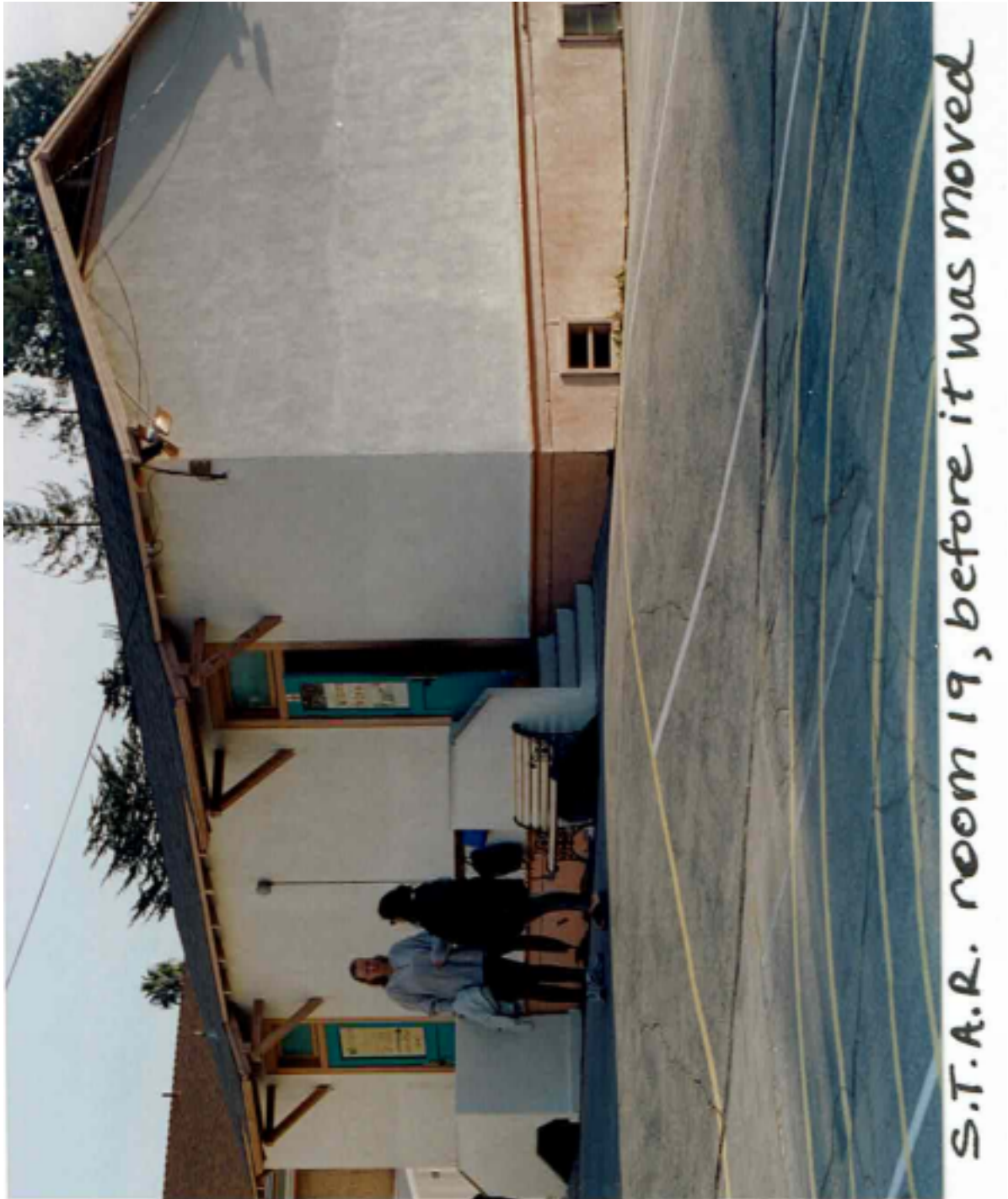
1998-99

- Impeachment of President Clinton.
- Columbine shootings.
- **Warner enrolls 615 students.**

- First mention in PTA records of a Sacramento trip for 4th graders and Astrocamp for 5th graders.
- First mention in PTA records of a Spring Auction held by the booster club.

Views of Warner before construction @ 1999:





Room 19 was located directly behind the main building's teacher breakroom and the boy's bathroom, adjacent to the auditorium.



View of Rm. 21 building

Bungalow 21 in the back left was removed, and today the space in the foreground is occupied by the 2-story building housing all our rooms in the 20s.

1999-2000

- The world braces for Y2K computer bug to render computer systems inoperable.
- First mention in PTA records of Ice Cream Fridays.
- Bungalows that had held Room 19 (STAR's office at the time), are moved to make room for two new 2-story buildings.
- Somewhere, there's a time capsule buried alongside the new construction....



Construction was planned around the Warner tree.



June 2000



Construction - Winter 2000

Showing the foundation of the new buildings. Rooms 1 & 3, with part of Room 5, are in the background.



The view of construction from the library building, with your back to Woodruff looking towards Loring. Relocated bungalows on the left.

2000-2001

- Passage of education reform bill dubbed “No Child Left Behind.”
- In June 2000, six-year-old Elian Gonzalez is forcibly removed from his mother’s relatives in the US to return to his father in Cuba.
- Michelle Brenner becomes principal of Warner Ave.
- Parents help move into 10 classrooms and computer room in the new 2 story building.
- Renovation of the playground is planned.
- The PTA asks police to monitor pick up and drop off for drivers that ignore stop signs, crosswalks and double-park.
- The school’s perimeter gates are now locked after a student is “accosted by ‘homeless man’”.
- Warner ranks top 10% in SAT-9 test scores.



The two new buildings and our tree.



STAR paints the Wildcat mural in the summer of 2001.

2001-02

- 9/11/2001. 19 terrorists hijack four planes and crash them into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
- The Bush administration creates the Department of Homeland Security.

- Congress pass the Patriot Act.
- In 2002, the obesity rate in the U.S. hits 33%.
- Warner's booster club dedicates \$150,000 to post-construction playground renovation.
- Tuesdays end at 1:40 to allow for teacher workshops.
- LAUSD cut Warner's funds, so the Booster Club picks up paying for aides, using the funds that had been set aside for the playground.
- So, the PTA and booster club contemplate a separate fundraiser for the playground.
- Warner is again ranked top 10% of California schools.
- "Drop-off and pick-up traffic safety is still problematic at Warner."
- Debra Waldner takes over teaching "Great Works of Art."
- Upon learning that LAUSD was considering using Bellagio Road School as a middle school, Warner's PTA organized a signature drive in support of that option. It doesn't work.

2003

- The Walt Disney Concert Hall opens.
- The United States and allies invade Iraq.

2004

- Facebook launches.
- Jeff Kauffman becomes principal of Warner Ave starting in the 2003-04 year.

2005

- Antonio Villaragosa becomes LA's first mayor of Hispanic descent since 1872.
- Hurricane Katrina devastates the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama coastlines.
- The Elaine Sachs Courtyard is dedicated in memory of Elaine, an active Warner parent who passed away in 2003. (see photo below)
- PTA discontinued at Warner in preference for one parent-teacher organization, WAVE. With it goes the loss of a PTA school historian.



Aerial shot of Warner from 2005. Note the bungalow in the McIlvaine Park area, lack of today's Room 19 in the K yard, and other changes in the teacher parking lot and play yard.



Aerial shot looking South. Also 2005?



The Elaine Sachs memorial garden.

2006

- Twitter launches in July.
- Around this time, the Big Help Club is re-branded as Kids Who Care.

2007

- Apple introduces the highly anticipated iPhone.
- Nancy Pelosi becomes the first female Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

2008

- Carol Corwen becomes principal of Warner Ave.

2009

- Barack Obama becomes the first African American president of the United States.



Kinder mural on Room 19 painted in 2009.

2010

- Devastating earthquake in Haiti.
- Apple introduces the iPad.
- The Deepwater Horizon oil spill is the worst in American History.
- By 2010, the Kids Who Care program which includes a Thanksgiving food drive, holiday toy and book drive for Toys for Tots, Operation Gratitude, Bread and Jam Slam benefitting PATH, and grade-level projects throughout the year.

2011

- In March, a tsunami strikes Japan. Among the disastrous effects, the Fukushima nuclear plant is damaged.
- President Obama repeals “don’t ask, don’t tell.”
- Because of a block donation from the Lange family, the bungalow closest to the library building becomes a dedicated science lab for all grades.



The view from the yard looking toward the Woodruff gate, before the tree died from insect infestation and had to be removed.

2012

- JPL lands and deploys the rover Curiosity on Mars as part of the Mars Science Laboratory.
- After being transported by jet and trucked through city streets, the Space Shuttle Endeavor goes on display at the California Science Center.
- Sandy Hook school shooting.

2015-16

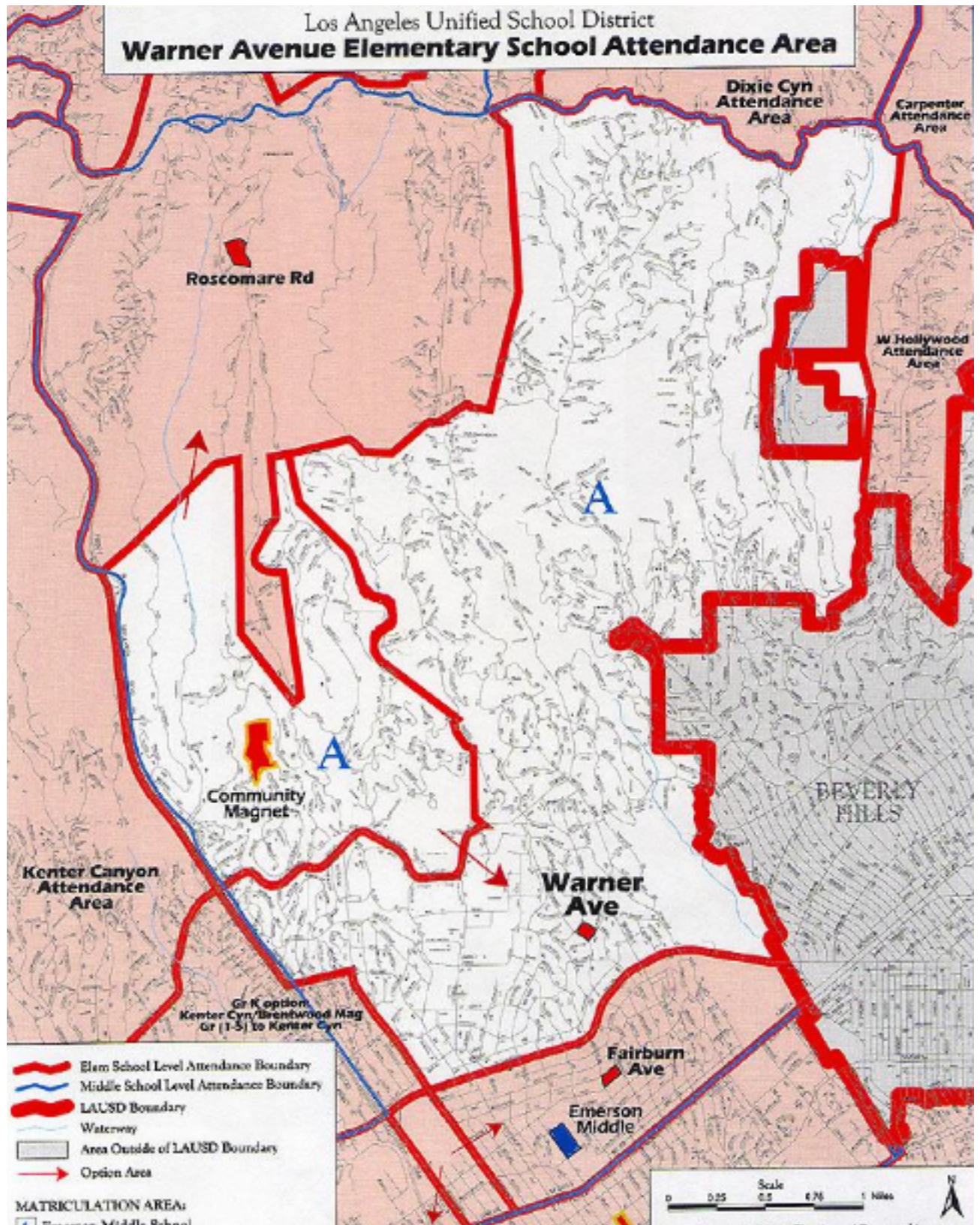
- Same-sex marriage is legalized in all 50 US states.
- Misty Copeland becomes the first black female principal ballet dancer.
- Agnes Kamau becomes principal of Warner Avenue School.
- Warner parent paints our first new mural in years.
- Working with LAUSD, Warner begins construction of a more secure gate, lighting and security camera system, as well as improved access for students with limited mobility.
- Warner students raise roughly \$30,000 in one week for the American Heart Association.

Tree mural near computer lab and Room 24, painted by Warner parent Nikoo Parker.

2016-2017

- Donald J. Trump and Hillary Clinton run ground-breaking campaigns for U.S. President, sparking national and international debates on a range of controversies.
- Children's Music Workshop brings an after-school orchestra program to Warner.
- Warner launches its first competitive robotics team with STAR.
- In addition to all their other supports, parents rally to buy enough Chromebooks for a grade-level to have 1:1 devices. These are shared among 3rd, 4th and 5th grades.

2017



With sincere thanks to everyone lucky enough to attend Warner Ave as their neighborhood school.

Cheers to the next 90 years of kids and
community!