

School Notes.

Hon. W. L. Stockwell, Superintendent of Public Instruction and State High School Inspector, visited, inspected and classified our public schools and raised our system from a second class school to the first rank. By being raised to the first class, we shall now receive from the State Department about \$800.00 per annum which will amply meet all increased demands made upon our present system.

Perhaps, the greatest benefit derived from our classification, is the supervision exercised by the State High School Board which is composed of practical educators.

The following are the conditions of classification for first class State High Schools:

(a) They shall afford instruction in all subjects of the high school course prescribed by the State High School Board.

(b) The instruction shall be of a high order.

(c) The schools shall have suitable and commodious quarters and shall have well established laboratory courses in Biology, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics.

(d) They shall have an ample working library including a sufficient supply of supplementary reading for each of the twelve grades.

(e) They shall have not less than thirty well prepared students and at least one assistant instructor, two assistants are earnestly recommended.

(f) Beginning with the school year of 1907, music and drawing shall be constants and examinations shall be required in these subjects.

Our present system was organized from an unclassified and ungraded school and our growth has somewhat phenomenal, Our superstructure is of the best quality and material and in fact all departments are in a prosperous condition.

In our plan of extension, careful attention has been given to the preparation of the children in the grades as regards writing, language, reading spelling and number works—the essential fundamentals of all higher education. Three years ago the grades were in a badly congested condition, but fortunately, this evil has been eliminated and the first four grades are now provided with individual teachers which feature gives the children an excellent start for their common school course.

The course of study has been broadened so that we are now able to prepare our students for entrance into the freshman year of our best colleges and universities. A student who graduates from our high school can complete the normal course in one year.

Our library has steadily grown until it contains reference works along the lines of all branches of science, art literature, philosophy, economics and history, which gives the student a broader field for research work in connection with his regular prescribed studies. The conduct of the library is of the University plan, that is, open to the student body at all hours during the day under the direction of the teacher in charge. The public has access to the library only on Friday of each week at 4 o'clock P. M.

Ample apparatus for the departments of Physics, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry and Physiography has been purchased, and all experiments are now illustrated with appropriate apparatus which makes instruction easier and results more satisfactory.

The department of drawing has been strongly reenforced by putting into the hands of the children ample and appropriate material and by placing in charge of the department a teacher eminently qualified for the systematic supervision of the department.

The department of physical culture has, during the past two years, also been under the supervision of specially prepared teachers. The entire corps of teachers have done excellent work in their respective departments, in appreciation of which the Board of Education has tendered each of them their respective positions for the ensuing year.

By order of the Board of Education,
B. T. KRAABEL, Prest.

L. A. JACOBSON, Clerk.