

**BUILDING
THE NEW
RAFT RIVER
ELEMENTARY**

The first school building in the Raft River Valley was erected in 1883. It was built of logs and had a dirt roof. It was located approximately one mile east on the south side of the Sublett road. The people logged the logs out of Heglar for the building and also built the desks and seats. School was held in the spring of 1884 with about 25 children attending. Sarah Condit was the teacher. The children brought their own books. The school was in the middle of sagebrush and at noon the children would grub sagebrush until they had a place to play.

In the intervening years between this little log school house and 1931, school was held in various places, some of which were:

- Howell's dance hall (located on the corner where Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Morris now live.)
- THE Ed Officer building (a hardware store located where the Post Office is today)
- the building that is now the hot lunch room
- a stone building that was on the corner where the present day tennis court is located.

The Malta Elementary was completed in 1931 and classes for all 12 grades were held there until 1954 at which time the Raft River High School was built and the class of 1955 was the first to graduate in this building.

Special Note...in the paper Dec. 13, 1912 it states, "Malta now boasts of three stores, a pool hall, two blacksmith shops, a harness and shoe shop, a U.S. Landoffice, an amusement hall, two hotels, a church and a school building, besides a doctor, two dressmakers, and a barber."

MALTA ELEMENTARY--MAY 1989 (West side)



MALTA ELEMENTARY --MAY 1989 (South-east side)

MALTA ELEMENTARY

Malta, Id. 83342
Principal, Glendon Jones
645-2561

Originally built in 1932, with subsequent additions, Malta is the first school scheduled for replacement with Plant Facilities Levy funds. The building is deteriorating, has small classrooms and no facilities for P.E., music or assemblies. Last year 284 students in grades K-8 attended Malta School.



Oct. 1988.



Layin' it down in Malta

What do you get when 170 junior and senior high school students take the time to unearth the old and the traditional, in favor of establishing a fresh new perspective? You get a lesson in Ecology and grass for a new football field, if the

efforts of Malta junior and senior high school students are considered. They cut, rolled and transported sod from their old football field to a new one 300 yards away yesterday. (SIP Photo).

Malta students help sod new sports field



Jane Hall, Marc Beitia, and crew.

Oct. 1988 Rolling up the turf in front of Ag. Building



Ag. Building, Special Ed. Building, Malta Elementary with white colored addition-kindergarten room-(originally built as a kitchen).



Man, what a day!

MALTA — Tuesday was Ecology Day at Malta and for the 170 students in the junior and senior high school it was a real hands-on experience that will result in a new football field next year.

The students spent the day cutting, rolling and moving sod from the old football field - which will soon become the site of a new elementary school - to a new football field about 300 yards to the west. There, the sod was re-laid on a 14-acre field enclosed by a new 400-meter track.

The sod laying followed about five weeks of work which has involved not only the school staff but the entire community.

When plans were first made to build a new elementary school in Malta, patrons were concerned because the site chosen for the school would mean loss of the existing football field. Some wanted to build a new field, but the \$50,000 pricetag was not included in the construction program nor was it available in the community.

Someone came up with the idea of relocating the existing turf. In checking with a commercial sod mover, the cost was estimated at around \$8,000. School officials decided they could find a cheaper way to do it. So, yesterday, with four hand-operated gas-powered sod cutters, five trucks and trailers, several teachers and volunteers and

the entire student body for grades 7-12, the job was accomplished. The students moved an estimated 14,000 rolls of sod, each measuring 12 inches by seven feet.

School Superintendent Norman Hurst and Raft River High School Principal Tracy Thompson credit head custodian Clair Robinson with being the driving force behind the entire project. Robinson spent many weekends and evenings hustling volunteer help and getting the ground prepared. Roger Neddo of Neddo Contracting donated the services of his company at cost to level the ground, and the Raft River Highway District graded the area. Interstate Feeders supplied 70 truckloads of manure to enrich the soil. The Malta Lions Club hauled the manure and worked it into the soil. Raft River Rural Electric donated labor to move power lines at cost. The school district purchased pipe for a sprinkler system which Robinson installed. RRHS vo-ag students poured forms for curbing for the track which will be bedded with gravel and then filled with a clay material.

The sod will now be rolled and watered. Both track and field are expected to be ready for use in the next school year.

Hauling Manure



working it in the
new football field





Hauling gravel for
bed of new track.
Heath Higley







Duaine Rigby, Johnny Erickson, Clair Robinson, Marc Beitia--
Building new concession stand for new football field.



Robinson, Beitia, and Erickson.



Rigby, Robinson, Beitia, Erickson, and ?



Coach Richins



Richins "Pumping Cement"



Rigby, Robinson, and Erickson



New track

A crew at Raft River High School assists in pouring curbing for the new 400-meter track at the site of the new football field at the school. A new elementary school is soon to be built on the old football field. Members of the

crew include Clair Robinson, custodian; Marc Beitia, ag teacher; Dwight Richins, coach; and some of Beitia's students. Roger Neddo of Neddo Construction has been assisting with ground work for the football field. (SIP Photo)





Betty Higley, dispensing instant energy to crew.





Ag. Department and Mr. Beitia





Raft River Electric
donated move of
score board.





Planting new sod after other sod failed to grow.







GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW MALTA ELEMENTARY

April 1989 (left to right) Jack Hunsaker, School Board Member; Karol Smith, Building Committee Member; Bud Tracy, Mayor; Mitchell James, student; Norman Hurst, Superintendent; Kate Schorzman, PTA President; Tracy Thompson, High School Principal; Glendon Jones, Elementary/Jr. High Principal; Irene Udy, retired teacher; Mr. Christopherson, Architect.



NEW SCHOOL SITE--MAY 1989 (looking north-east)





Neddo Construction (green) looking east toward "R"



NEW SCHOOL SITE--MAY 1989 (looking north)



CLASSROOMS--1989-1990
schoolyear

EIMOINE WIGHT'S 1st grade classroom



Ann Rigby's Kindergarten.



NADYNE SUNDBERG'S 2ND GRADE CLASSROOM

Classrooms--1989-1990
School year



KRIS UDY'S 3rd GRADE CLASSROOM

Finally the big day came--the day we have all been waiting for. The big move started March 23, 1990 at 8:30 am.

Students had already brought boxes and grocery bags of the plastic variety. Each student "bagged" his or her own desk contents. The students started by moving their own chair to the new building and returning for their bag of books. Then the desks were moved with the help of the Jr. High. The children of the lower grades remained in their new rooms or returned to the old school to the 5th grade room to watch movies. Each teacher had 3 or 4 parent helpers to play games, read stories, and likewise entertain the class while the teacher's supplies and remainder of the classroom supplies were being moved.

The weather was it's typical Malta self. We had a few sprinkles of rain and the wind blew. We had a few rays of sun that sneaked through the clouds. But you'd never know the the weather was anything but sunny because everyone's spirits were high and who had time to look up anyway?

The fire alarm system was even tested early the next week. When the doors were open to move some large items in, a gust of dusty wind blew in and tripped the alarm system.



Valerie Strum helping unpack the office.



Principal's office, medical supply cupboard, and stairs to 4th, 5th, 6th grade classrooms.



Marcile Edwards-secretary-looks happy in her new office.



Well, of course!

Look at her old office she left behind!



Marcile,

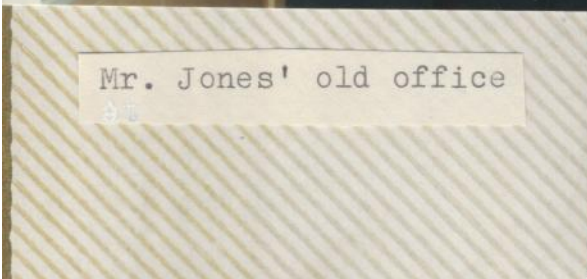
Penny and Larry Thompson.



Last minute touches on the new office.



Outer office



Mr. Jones' old office



At Last!



Marcile and Custodial Crew--Ted Hodges, JoDeen Hutchison, and Penny Thompson--take 5 in the old faculty lounge/office/sickbay.



Contractor, Alan Jensen and Sharon Harrison from Central Office take 5 in the new faculty lounge/faculty work area.

Foundation of Special Ed. Building. Moved to Burley summer of
1989. Construction workers trailer. Picture taken March 1990.





Looking back to old building from front door area.
Tina Loock 1990-91 PTA President and Mr. Jones.



Front-September 1989



Stage and cafeteria area-September 1989





Gymnasium--Mr. Jones Lisa Bankhead, and Tina Loock
Sept. 1989



Classroom--Sept. 1989



East hall---Sept. 1989



Front Door Area--Sept. 1989



Front Door Area--March 23, 1990
The Move is on!



March 1990



East Wing Entrance



East Wing and Gym--March 1990



White van is preparing to unload new couches for Faculty Lounge.
March 1990



March 1990

Loading pianos and
teachers desks.



R.E.A. employees Ken Kni
and Gary Ward fixing a
sewer pipe
that just happened
to be where it wasn'
supposed to be!







HALL-INSIDE FRONT DOOR
MALTA ELEMENTARY--MAY 1989
Door in background was door to
gymnasium.

MALTA ELEMENTARY-- MAY 1989

Paul Ward's 7th grade classroom
converted from original gymnasium to
classroom/library in 19
Doors in background were original girls
and boys locker rooms.



March 1990 Mr. Ward and

helpers cleaning house.



Mr. Ward's new digs!

Ceiling panels gone from water damage and walls that show
roof leakage. ↙



Jane Hall's old 8th grade classroom-Sept. 1989. This is
representative of the deterioration of many of the other
classrooms.



Mrs. Hall's new room. March 1990



Moving



he

library





New library-March 1990





Janitor Closet--originally-girls shower and locker room.



Penny Thompson stocking her shelves in new custodial supply room.



Paper storage in main hall

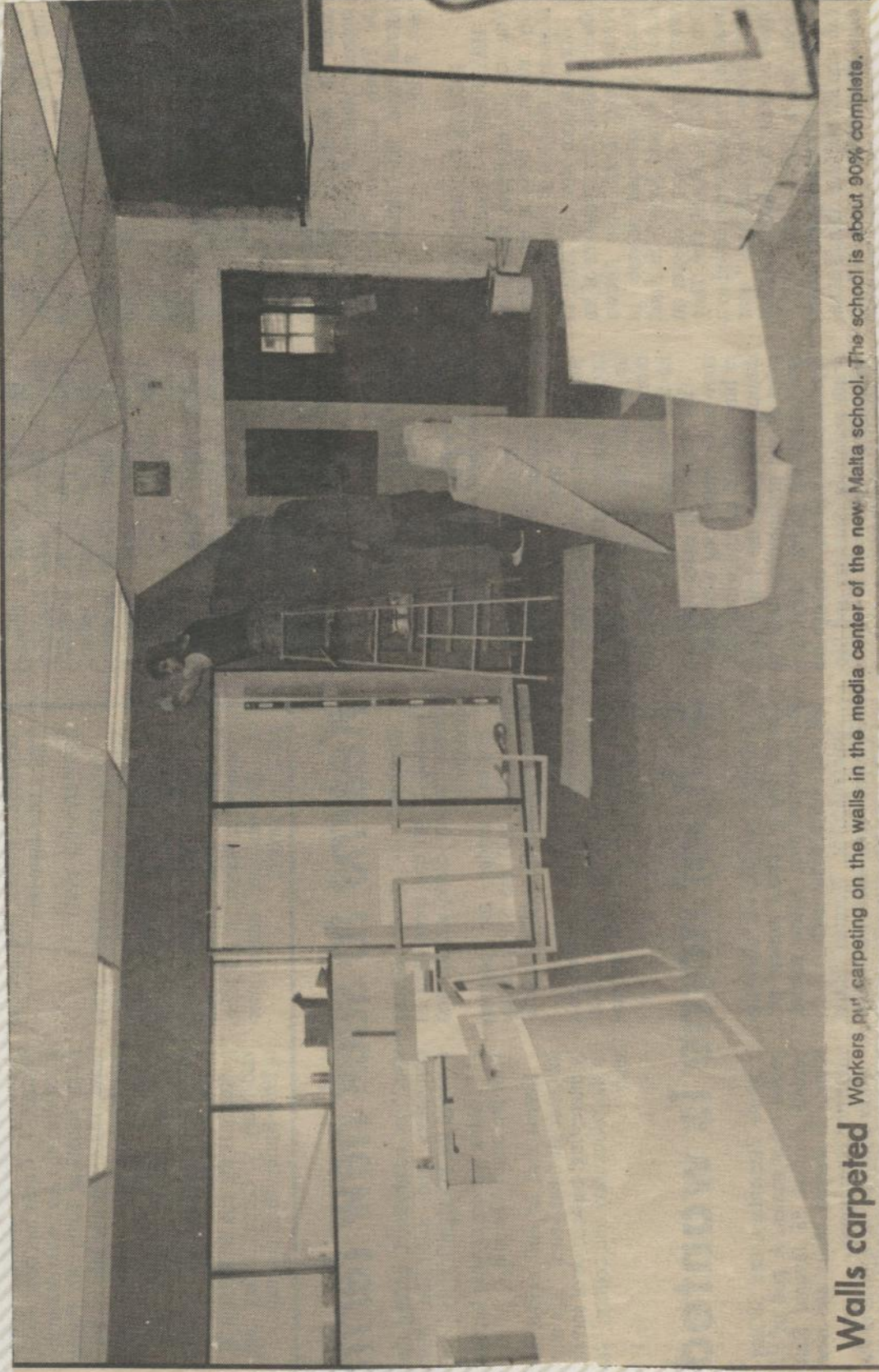
in old school--unpacking

Stocking shelves in one

of the storage rooms

in the new building.





Walls carpeted Workers put carpeting on the walls in the media center of the new Malta school. The school is about 90% complete.

New Malta elementary is 90 percent complete

MALTA — With the new elementary school at Malta about 90 percent complete, bids will be opened this afternoon for demolition of the old school. The Cassia County School board will award the bid during its meeting Monday night.

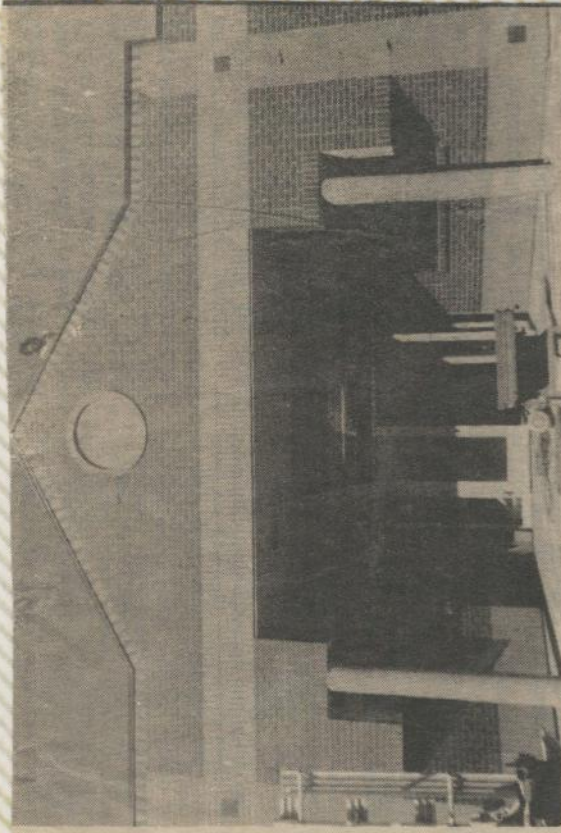
The new school is expected to be ready for occupancy later this month; the old structure will be torn down as soon as students and equipment can be moved. That area will be landscaped for an entry way, a parking area and a kindergarten playground.

The new school has 16 classrooms, including a special education room, computer lab and kindergarten classroom. The attached gymnasium features a full court floor and a stage which will also serve as the eating area for

both elementary and high school students.

The Malta school is the first of three new elementary schools which will be built in the district in this decade. Voters passed a 10-year plant facilities levy two years ago to replace aging elementary schools in Malta, Oakley and Burley, and upgrade some other facilities in the district.

"We are very pleased with the type of building going up in Malta. It is a great credit to the community and something both the community and the district can be proud of," said Superintendent Norman Hurst of the \$1.7 million structure. "It is a very energy efficient and economical building with many desirable features but without the fancy frills that drive the cost up," Hurst said. "A formal



Malta school nears completion

The front of the new Malta school, which will be ready for occupancy before the end of this month.

dedication of the building is planned in early April," announced Hurst.

With phase one nearly complete,

the district has laid the groundwork to start phase two, the new school at Oakley. Property has been purchased.

(See MALTA on page 2)

Malta

(Continued from page 1)

chased north of the high school and action Wednesday night by Oakley City Council cleared one obstacle. The council voted to close the section of Poplar Street which would have divided the high school and proposed new school. Closure of that road will provide safer passage from one school to the other and

will allow enlargement of the track and field area.

Tentative plans are to use a floor plan similar to the Malta school, however a two-day planning session will be scheduled in May to receive input from patrons and staff. Bids for the Oakley project will be let in February or March of 1991, with completion expected in early spring, 1992.

School name is wanted

BURLEY — It's not often the Cassia County school trustees get to discuss naming a new school, but they will Monday night.

Superintendent Norman Hurst will recommend that the board consider a proposal to name Malta's new elementary school the Raft River Elementary School instead of Malta School.

Hurst said the Malta PTA polled students and parents and found about 75 percent favored the name Raft River Elementary. Of the student body, 152 students wanted the name Raft River, 18 voted to keep

it Malta Elementary, and 38 suggested other names. A poll of 92 parents showed 68 favored Raft River, 15 wanted Malta and nine suggested other names.

Other items on the agenda at the board meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. Monday in the central office, will be the home school policy, results of demolition bid opening, a report on Malta construction, student discipline cases, Oakley site preparation, the 1990-91 calendar, student trips, teacher resignations, and principal and directors contracts.

Fate of schools is mullied

By ERIC GOODELL

BURLEY — What should be done with the old school? What should the new school be named?

The Malta elementary schools, both the old and new buildings, dominated discussion last night at the Cassia County School District board meeting.

The old building, doomed for destruction, may be subject to numerous salvagers and souvenir hunters, it was reported.

While the district has already decided to salvage items it deems valuable, several people have asked for items such as bricks or doors that the district would leave behind, said Principal Glendon Jones.

School attorney Douglas Whipple said that there is provision in the district code to open up bids for such items.

"I think if we start giving things away selectively we could be getting ourselves in trouble," commented trustee Kent Fletcher. "I think we should open up items for bid or don't allow salvage."

The school board will likely have many items of potential value removed from the building to sell at a later date, said Superintendent Norman Hurst.

The firm which tears down the structure may have to decide what to do with certain parts of the building.

The new school's name also came under scrutiny as many residents living outside Malta but have students attending the school requested to have the name changed to Raft River Elementary.

"Some people outside of Malta wanted a name that represented the area and not the town itself," Fletcher said.

The trustees unanimously approved the request to name it Raft River Elementary, even though Jones announced he had ordered \$1,000 worth of T-shirts emblazoned with the words "Malta Elementary" that were to be sold when the new school opens.

The new school is scheduled to be occupied later this month.

Destruction of the old school, built in 1910, will take place once asbestos is removed from the building and items are salvaged. Hoffbuhr Excavating, Inc. was awarded the bid to tear down the old structure and lunchroom.

Hoffbuhr requested that it be allowed to destroy the building during the district's spring vacation, April 9-13.

Raft River Elementary students move

MALTA — Two hundred sixty-six students were settling in to new classrooms this morning for the first day of school in the Raft River Elementary School.

Friday was moving day and the students, equipped with plastic grocery sacks, filed class by class from the old building to the new, to move from cramped quarters into spacious, pastel-colored classrooms. Older boys carried desks; maintenance crews moved teachers' desks and other large items.

"The move went very smoothly

Friday, in spite of the rain," said Superintendent Norman Hurst. "The kids worked very well. Going around to the school this morning, it's business as usual."

Hurst said he had visited with all the teachers this morning and all are conducting classes as normal. "The teachers did a really nice job in coming in over the weekend and setting up their rooms and bulletin boards."

Students will still be eating lunch in the old lunchroom facility until all equipment can be moved,

probably by next Monday.

Meanwhile, in the old building which is scheduled to be torn down during spring break, April 9 — 13, maintenance workers were dismantling fire extinguishers, chalkboards, light fixtures and anything else worth salvaging for use in other district facilities.

The move into the new elementary school at Malta marks completion of phase one of a ten-year building program made possible by a Plant Facilities Levy passed two years ago by voters. The \$1.7 mil-

lion Raft River Elementary is the first of three elementary schools which will be funded by the levy. The next will be at Oakley, followed by one in Burley. Completion of the Oakley school will not be until spring of 1992, with the Burley school scheduled for completion two or three years following.

The new Raft River Elementary School features 16 classrooms, including a special education room, computer lab and kindergarten classroom.



Stock shelves

Raft River Elementary School secretary Marcile Edwards stocks shelves in a storage room in the new school. (SIP Photo)



New space

Malta Kindergarteners check out their new spacious classroom during moving day at Raft River Elementary School Friday. (SIP Photo)



Ann Rigby--kindergarten teacher and husband Steve prepare to move out of the old kindergarten room.



Kim Hutchison helps move kindergarten



Julie Darrington and Mrs. Rigby
start to organize the children in their new kindergarten room.



Helen Lee helps--what a crowd!



Jack Wight helps the 1st grade while Elmoine organizes her new room.





We've moved all our stuff,
now we'll smile for the camera!

Nadyne Sundberg's 2nd
Grade Classroom was
originally the Home Ec.
and Science Room.



Carma Smith is helping
Mrs. Sundberg empty her
shelves.



We're all moved in
and already we have
to start tidying our
desks!
Is that Mrs. Sundberg
behind that Leprechaun?

Cathy Marshall jumps
in to help!



Darlene Henrie's 2nd grade class prepares to leave their old classroom.



Here, let me help you.
Is this Chivalry or
Woman's Lib?

Mrs. Henrie's chair
brigade.





Marie Hitt helping Mrs. Henrie organize her new classroom.





Evelyn Barnes and
Marion Hope's
granddaughter
packing up.

Where will all this
ever fit?



Entertaining Mrs. Barnes class after the move.





Kris Udy looks at ease in her old room.



Kris is now in her new 4th grade and it's only 10:30 am and we will be organizing this stuff and trying to keep the peace in this room untill 3:45 pm--what?



Sherry Lewis with helper Charlotte Tracy prepare to move the 4th grade.



Traffic rules: push through the middle!



Movies in Mr. Carpenter's 5th grade room.

Alvin Carpenter's 5th grade.



All those that can carry your own desks, line up!



With all that adrenalin flowing--no one had any trouble at all!



They endured to the end!



Bonnie Tracy-student teacher-organizing Alvin's cupboards in the new 5th grade class room.



Bill Jones' 6th grade classroom.



Yes, you do, the 5th grade carried their own desks!



Even Gerald Doggett our District Curriculum Director was on hand to help.



These shopping bags will only make so many trips!

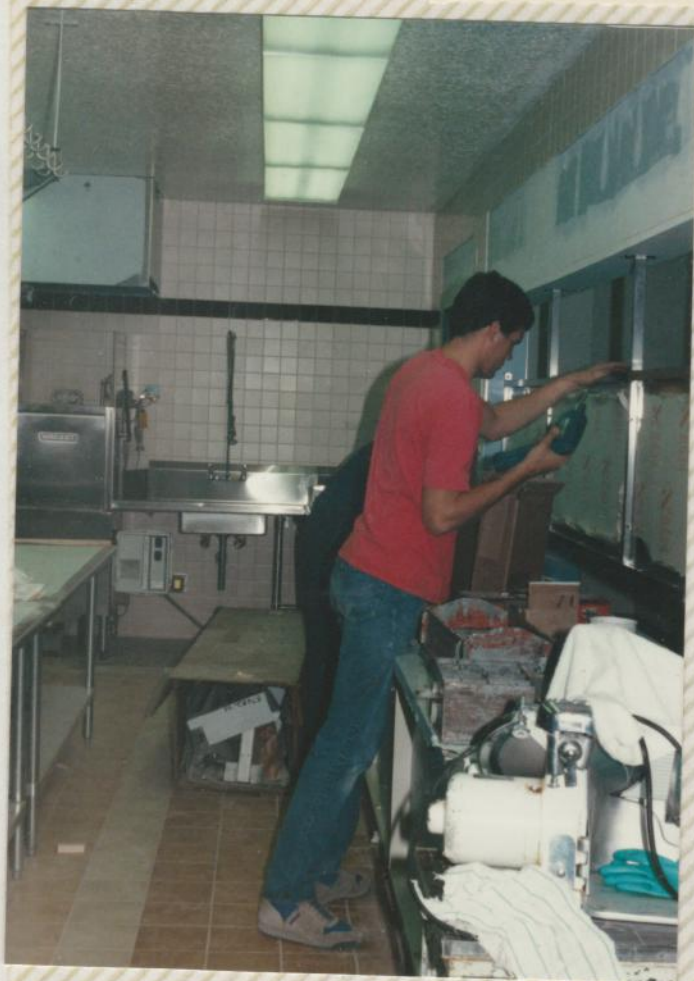


Kay Peterson's Special Ed. room. Chapter II was also held in here with Sylvia Grush as an Aid.





Still working on the new cafeteria.



March 23, 1990



Hall in front of locker rooms-still a ways to go.



Old Attic behind Kris Udy's 4th grade room. Used to be pathway to upstairs balcony over old gym.







The old "lunch room". This building was originally a one room school and was used about 1929. The white wooden portion of the building is an addition that was done in ??





April 2, 1990







Sharon Tracy and helpers Jamie Streeter, Holly Harper, and



Mary Jo Cooper is trying out the new sink.



Barbra Willett and Millie Teeter prepare hash browns, waffles with blueberries, sausages, and orange slices for their April

Fool's dinner.



Coming up the ramp is quite a change for the students.



This is the first day for lunch in the new cafeteria, Monday

April, 2, 1990.

Here we are with 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades! Look how our
new tables are filling up!



The Kindergarten Class comes to get their milk for their snack.



Mr. Jones tries out the new serving line.





The old cedar tree that hundreds of children have climbed

lies on the ground and awaits the dump truck.



Monday, April 2, 1990. The Playground looks pretty sad
after removal to make room for a new driveway that will

go in the area where the old building stands.



Not all of the equipment survived the move.





March 9, 1990 the PTA Sponsored their annual "Just Say No" Balloon Launch.



The entire Student body, the old Malta Elementary, the new Raft River Elementary and Jr. High--all at once in one photogaph! WOW!















RR school dedicated

By the SIP

MALTA — Raft River Elementary, heralded as a very functional and cost-efficient structure, was dedicated Tuesday during an evening ceremony.

A crowd of about 200 attended the event.

The classrooms, the first in the district's plant facility building program, cost about \$40 per square foot, for a total of \$1,750,000. The price is very low when compared to many other buildings which run about \$70-\$90 per square foot to build, said Hurst.

After a welcoming by Principal Glendon Jones, Lyndon Kunde, general contractor, told the audience several figures of the construction, such as how many bricks it took and number of cubic yards of fill were required to raise the level of the building.

He also said no building materials were stolen during the school's construction. "He said that was a first," Hurst commented. Kunde also stated that students stayed out of the way during building and helped keep a safe building environment.

Trustee Ann Wight, present board member of the Malta area, told about the history of the old Malta Elementary. Hurst also spoke during the ceremony, and said he was appreciate if the program, which allowed the structure to be built on a "pay as you go" basis. Hurst thanked all those in the Malta area for helping with the project.

After the talk, Hurst presented the building to the school board.

Board chairman Kent Fletcher, who served on the building advisory committee, thanked school patrons for allowing the project. Fletcher helped promote the building to the Malta community.

Jack Hunsaker, a former trustee of the Malta area, gave the dedicatory address and prayer.

The Raft River Elementary Chorus sang two songs, "And Here We Have Idaho" and "Idaho Centennial Song."

RAFT RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dedicatory Services

7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, September 11, 1990

**Joint School District 151
Cassia, Twin Falls and Oneida Counties**

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Kent Fletcher, Chairman
Neal Jeppesen

Bruce Bowen, Vice Chairman
Karla Robinson

Ann Wight

ADMINISTRATION

Norman Hurst Superintendent
Gerald Doggett Curriculum Director
Sharon Harrison Business Manager
Doug Whipple Attorney

ARCHITECTS

Jay Christopherson Design West, Logan, Utah

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

O. K. Construction Idaho Falls, Idaho

CASSIA SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Bill Mendenhall
Kent Fletcher
Derlin Taylor
Kathy Garrard
Cloyd Searle
Jay Harper
Karol Smith
Trent Anderson
Doug Cranney
Mark Darrington

Special thanks to other board members and administrators who gave so freely of their time and effort in the building program.

Jack Hunsaker
Ann Woodhouse

Kathryn Hall
Mike Judd

Gene Coltrin, Asst. Supt.

PROGRAM

Conducting - - - - - Norman Hurst
Posting of Colors - - - - - Malta Scout Troup
Invocation - - - - - Karol Smith
Welcome - - - - - Glendon Jones, Principal
Song - - - - - "And Here We Have Idaho"
Raft River Elementary Chorus
Talk - - - - - Lyndon Kunde, General Contractor
Talk - - - - - Ann Wight
Presentation of the Building
Superintendent Norman Hurst
Acceptance of Building
Kent Fletcher, School Board Chairman
Song - - - - - "Idaho Centennial Song"
Raft River Elementary Chorus
Dedicatory Address and Prayer - Jack Hunsaker
Retire the Colors - - - - - Malta Scout Troup
Please feel free to tour the building.
Refreshments to be served by the Raft River
Parents and Teachers