



Ealy Elementary School

Our School History



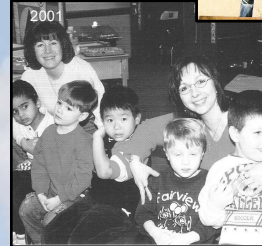
Gertrude Ealy Elementary School opened in September, 1966 as a "walk-in" school, serving kindergarten through sixth grade. The 11-acre property was formerly part of the DeConick family farm. The school was named in honor of Mrs. Gertrude V. Ealy, Director of Elementary Curriculum for the West Bloomfield School District, 1949-1966.

In 1983, when population growth slowed in the area, Ealy was repurposed as the Community Education Center offering preschool, Discovergarten, and after-school child care.



Gertrude V. Ealy

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of its staff, Ealy is named a Michigan Blue Ribbon School, 1991.



Kindergarten was reintroduced to Ealy in the fall of 1986. By 1988, Ealy enrolled students from preprimary through fifth grade. Several building additions over the years expanded the gymnasium, kitchen, and lobby.



Ealy's Young Astronauts Club coordinated a live conversation with the Space Shuttle Endeavor crew as it flew over West Bloomfield, 1994.



Over the years, Ealy served as a home for unique early intervention and special education programs that provided educational opportunities for all learning styles, abilities, and needs.



Ealy Math Pentathlon team earns National Championship, competing against 5,000 students from across the country, 2005



Ealy parents and the Ealy PTO supported their school with volunteerism, fundraising, classroom enrichment, and family-friendly activities. In 1998, the community worked together to complete significant improvements to the Ealy playground.

PRINCIPALS

RAYMOND YOUNG
M. EVELYN HILL
KATHLEEN G. KJOLHEDE
DR. JUDY PENDERGRASS
DR. DAVID DEYOUNG
RODERICK MACNEAL, JR.



Due to sustained declining enrollment and concerns about future capital expenditures needed to properly maintain the building, the West Bloomfield Board of Education voted to permanently close Ealy at the conclusion of the 2012-13 school year.

Ealy friends, families, alumni, and community members gathered for a community celebration to honor the school and its legacy. Eventually, the school was razed and the property sold for future development.



Exhibit funded by the PTOs of West Bloomfield School District (WBSD). Research funded by the Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society (GWBHS). Historical materials, additional research, and design provided by WBSD, GWBHS, and members of the community.

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