

Opening Day At East School

BY: COZELL VANCE
PRINCIPAL, EAST SCHOOL

Greetings from East Elementary!
August 12, 1985 was the first day of school for teachers. These days were spent readying the classrooms, putting up bulletin boards, revising and implementing school rules, objectives and consequences, attending workshops on assertive discipline and attending general faculty meetings.

August 20 was the "BIG" day as well as exciting day at East School. 340 smiling, eager-to-learn, boys and girls unloaded buses, got out of cars, rode bicycles and walked to begin the first school day for 1985-86 school year.

The Kindergarten-1st grade teachers waited eagerly in their departments to receive their little angels and greet the parents. All other students reported to the gym. Mrs. Vance, principal, welcomed the students and parents to a new and challenging school year. She also made some brief remarks about assertive discipline, rules and consequences that their child would be bringing home. Each teacher then called their class roll and escorted his/her students to class. Registration for new students took place in the cafeteria. By 8:50 all students were nestled in their proper channels, all settled down for another prosperous and successful year.

School rules, classroom rules, policies and consequences are posted in the hallways and every classroom. Students have been given copies to take home and another copy will be placed in the student handbook which will go out at the end of the 1st nine week period. A school newsletter will also go out to the students and parents at the end of each 9 week grading period.

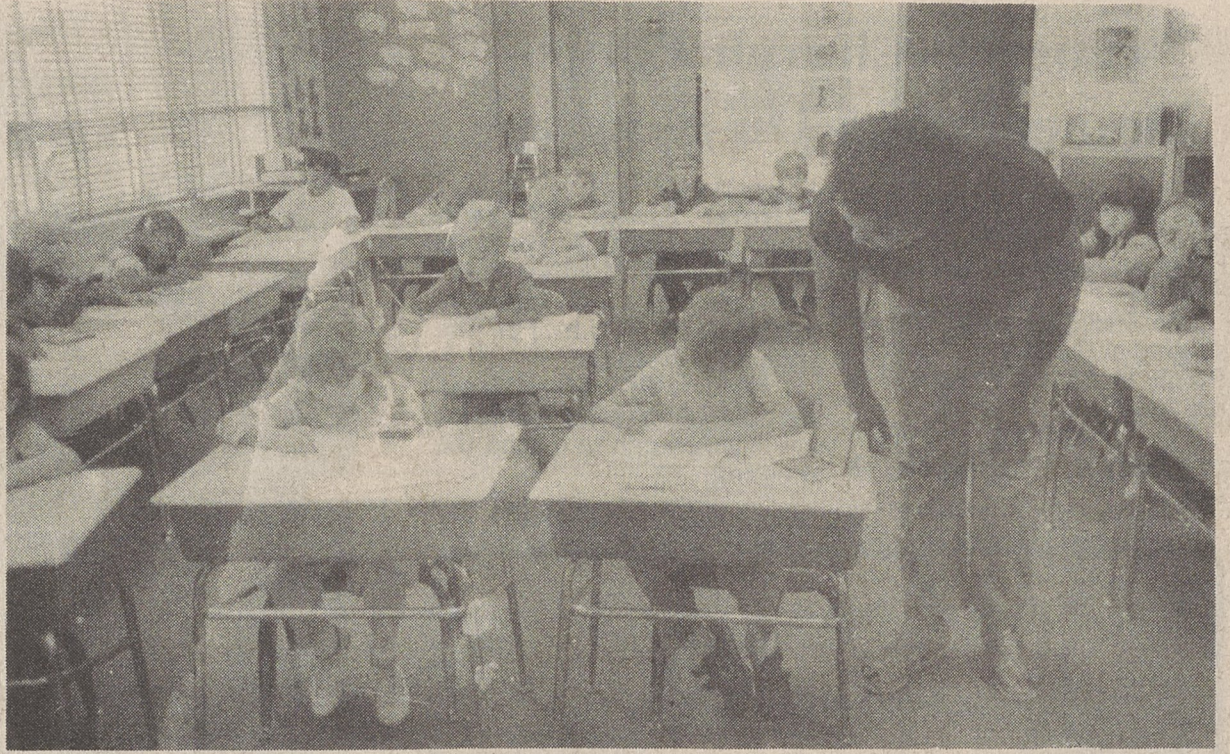
East School PTO has had its first meeting - the participation and parent attendance was excellent which is an indication for another rewarding year.

PTO officers are: Diane Russell, President; Jodi Nolen, Vice President; Dorcas Beasley, Secretary; and Julia Jordan, Treasurer.

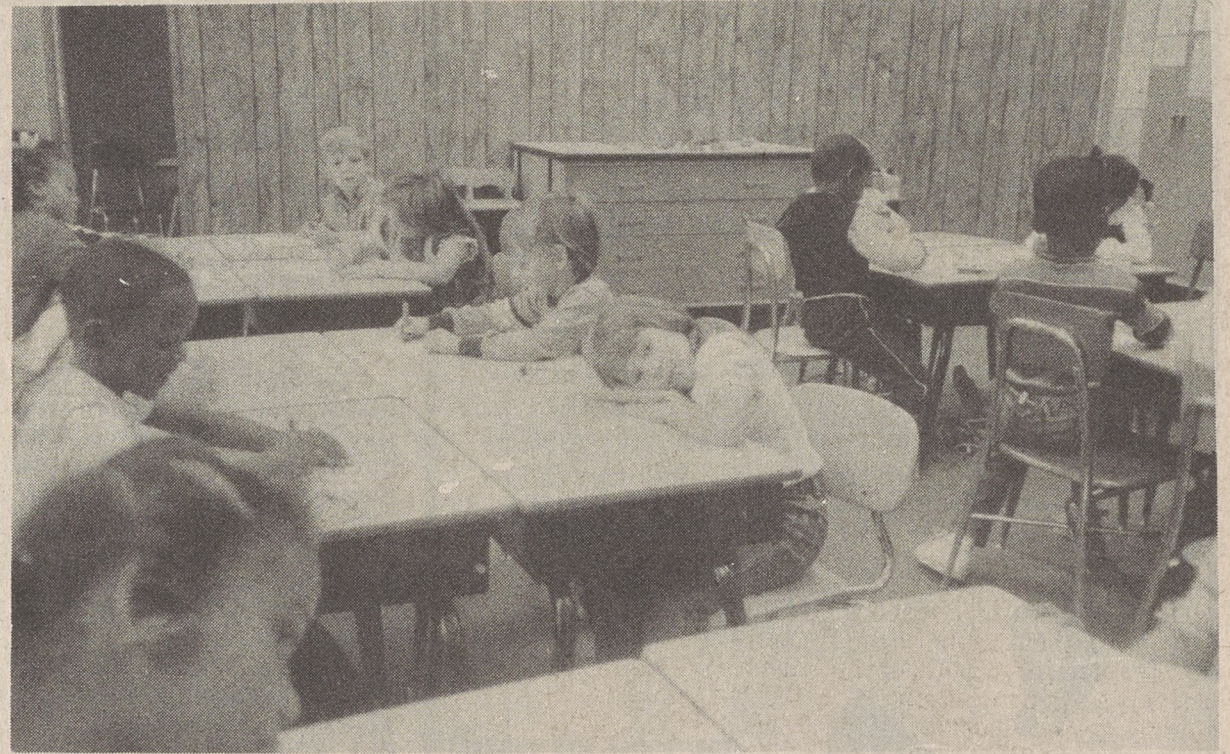
Our first fire drill was super. Students evacuated the buildings in 1 minute 25 seconds. They were elated with the new alarm system, especially the kindergarten students. A few told their parents our school was on fire and they had to run!

Another highlight of excitement was obvious when 1st-5th grade students lined up class by class to get their newly adopted textbooks (science, health, English, and spelling). One student commented, "Oh, these books are so pretty." The principal remarked, "The material found inside the pretty books are pretty, exciting and interesting!"

The decline in enrollment was regretful; however there were some merits. This is the first time in seven years that Mrs. Shirley Austin, music teacher, has a place to call her own on the day she is assigned to East. Mrs. Janet Suber, guidance counselor, doesn't have to be a park wagon on her assigned days at East as she did last year by going to room to room to conduct her classes. Both Mrs. Austin and Mrs. Suber share the room downstairs which was a second grade classroom last year. The K-1 building also has a place to call their own with the vacant area that Mrs. Hilda Leonard occupied last year. This is now a work area.



EAST SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN—Ann Mauney's students in the Kindergarten Class at East School are pictured in classroom setting. The bell has sounded but one little one isn't quite ready for the day to begin.



KINDERGARTEN CLASS—Emma Blalock's Kindergarten Class at North School is ready to begin the day as early as 8:30 a.m. and are busy at work on school assignments.



FINALLY A CLASSROOM—Janet Suber, left, and Shirley Austin, right, have classrooms now for their programs at East School. Mrs. Suber is a guidance counselor and Mrs. Austin is music director.



NEW FACULTY MEMBERS AT EAST—Pictured are Carol Bennett, left, new teacher's aide, and Kim Dixon, right, new PE teacher, chatting with East School Principal Cozell Vance.

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We want Gaston County money to stay here to help local home buyers, realtors and homebuilders... and all the other local businesses that these groups help support.



At Gaston Federal we have always realized that home buying is of major importance both to individuals and to our community.

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