



LIBRARY'S FUTURE HOME. Library director Pam Williams (above left with microphone) speaks at the dedication ceremony of the future home of the West Linn Public Library in 1988 on Burns Street. Prior to this, the library met at the city hall beginning in 1939 and then in 1979 in the Bolton Fire Hall Annex. Next to Williams, from left to right, are West Linn mayor Larry Lairson, city councilor Sherry Smith, city councilor Jonathan Smith, city councilor Bob Stowell, and city councilor Mike Gates. (Courtesy Alan and Elsie Lewis.)

W LIBRARY FLAG CEREMONY. Alan and Elsie Lewis (far right), a former president of the Library president, have been helping with the raising of the flag at the newly constructed Burns Street West Linn Public Library during the 1989 flag dedication. Oregon City Elks donated the flag, while the West Linn Lions bought the flag pole for the new library. On the far left is late West Linn resident and Oregon City Elks member Ed Lind. (Courtesy Alan and Elsie Lewis.)

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THE THREE R'S HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN WEST LINN

By 1897, one could identify 12 individual school districts that comprised what is now the West Linn-Wilsonville School District, including No. 34, now Robinwood, Marylhurst, Bolton, and Sunset; No. 105, now the Willamette area; No. 41, now Stafford; No. 96, now Pete's the Mountain area, which merged with Stafford; and No. 43, Mountain District, which consolidated with Stafford in 1943.

When it comes to individual schools, West-Oregon City—the current Sunset area—was the first to build its school in 1890. The original Sunset School was torn down in 1916 and, a year later, a new school was constructed, before a 1940 fire burned down the main building. In 1941, the present Sunset Elementary School was built.

Bolton joined the students at West-Oregon City School until 1892, when Bolton-area parents purchased a store from Mr. Cramer to house younger primary students. In 1922, Bolton's first school was built, housing grades one through eight. In 1950, the current Bolton Grade School was built.

In the Stafford area, there was a one-room log-cabin school in 1891 that was used until 1896, when the two-story Stafford School was constructed, complete with bell. In 1930, the present old Stafford School was built, and the main portion of the 1896 school was moved to become the gymnasium. In 1967, the present-day Stafford School was constructed, and the old Stafford School became the district's administration building.

A two-story Willamette Falls School was constructed in 1896, though children in the Willamette area attended school before that in Batdorf's store, beginning in 1894. In 1912, an exact replica of the two-story Willamette School was built and, in 1936, both were torn down to build a new one, which burned down in 1949.

Robinwood area students attended Bolton until the 1958 construction of Cedaroak Park Primary School. Several additions have been made to the school since then.

In 1919, the first temporary high school was constructed where the current Willamette School sits. Five girls received diplomas in 1920. That same year, construction began on a new high school on its present site on A Street, and students began attending the new school the next school year. Another building was completed in 1923. In 2004, the original 1921 and 1923 buildings were torn down to make room for the new West Linn High School, completed in 2006.

West Linn High School has had the following names: Union High School (1919–1931), West Linn Union High School (1932–1933), Oswego-West Linn High School (1934–1937), and West Linn High School (1938–present).