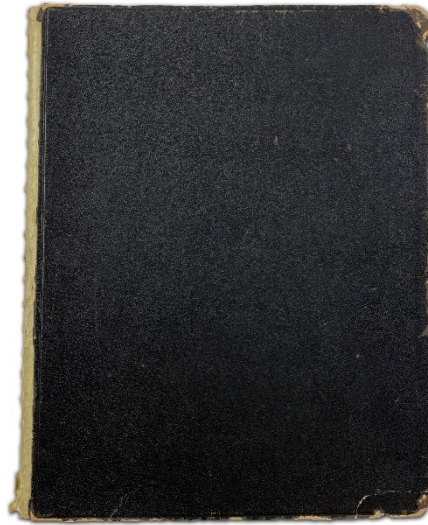


## Falls Church District School Board Minute Book



Transcribed by  
Providence Chapter  
National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution  
Fairfax Station, Virginia

April 2020

### A note on transcriptions:

A line-by-line transcription has been prepared to preserve the integrity and style of the original writing. Modern usage of punctuation and capitalization have been utilized for the sake of readability. Falls Church School Board appears in various forms of capitalization; for consistency this transcription has capitalized all iterations throughout, but maintained abbreviations as they appear in the original text. Names of schools, likewise, were written without any uniformity and appear in this transcription in capitals for full school names (i.e.: No. 1, West End School or West End Schoolhouse), with the spellings of “schoolhouse” being adopted throughout and not broken into two words. Shorthand versions of “and” in the form of plus signs instead of ampersands have been preserved, and the various notations of money have been unaltered. Many names appear in abbreviated form, as was the fashion at the turn of the century, and have been transcribed as they appear with only the addition of necessary punctuation for consistency; names written in full have been researched for correct spelling and are used in this text to create as accurate an account as possible.

Falls Church Va Sept 25-1897  
 District School Board met at West End  
 School house and signed contracts with  
 the Teachers as follows

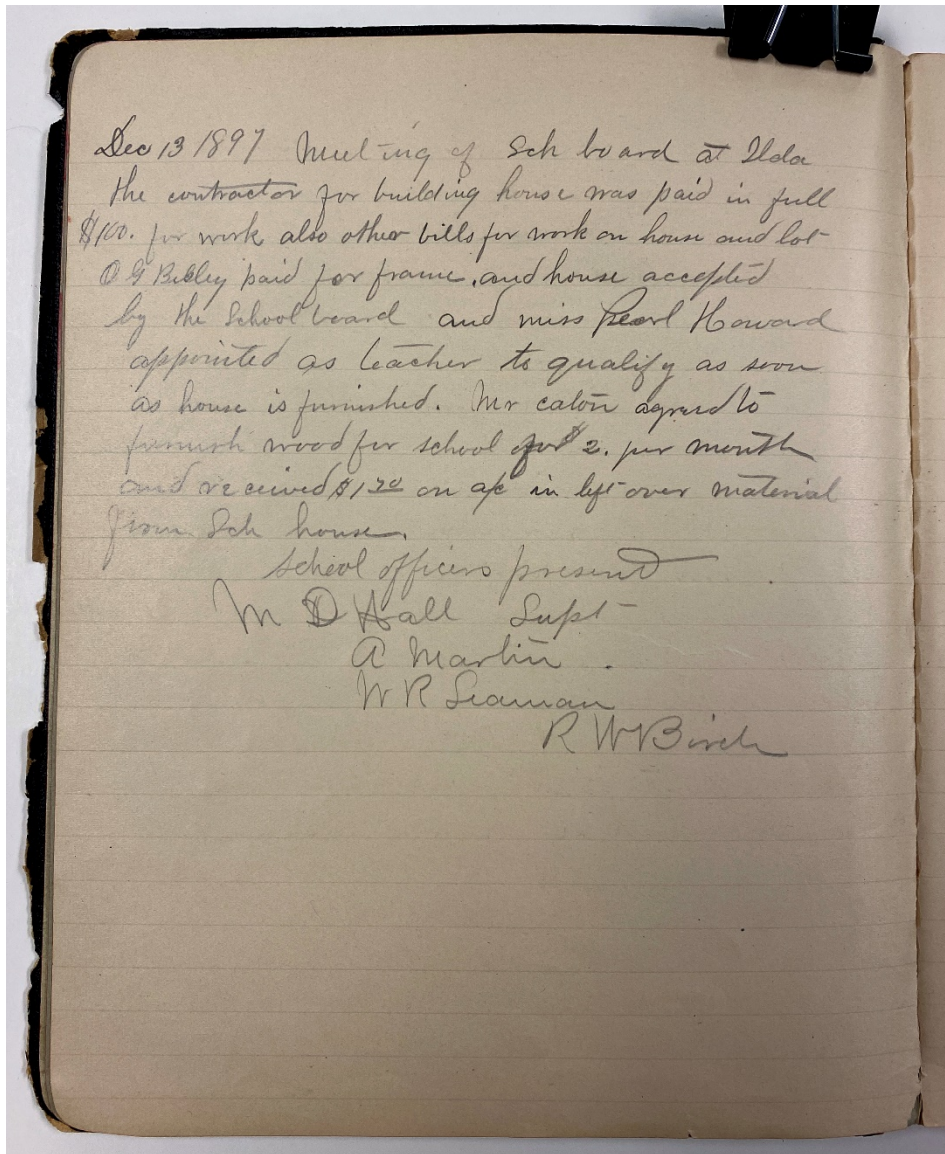
Name	No	Salary	per mos	6 mos
Eva Cowling	1	\$33		
Mary Payne	2	30		
Meta Brooks	3	"		
Liday Hunter	4	"		
F. M. Early	5	28		
Lelia Beattie	6	30		
Lou Ashford	7	30		
M. L. McDonald	A	25		
Jno P Pinkett	B	25		
Lillian Hopkins	C	25		
T. W. Hyson	D	30		
Chas Brooks	E	25		

Warrants were drawn in favor of Smoot + Co  
 and Thomas H. Walker to the amt of 355<sup>50</sup>  
 being amt in full for school building at Merrifield  
 also in favor R. W. French for \$7<sup>83</sup> for crayons,  
 erasers and supplies  
 present A. Martin W. R. Seaman + R. W. Birch

Falls Church, Va., Sept. 25, 1897  
 District School Board met at West End  
 Schoolhouse and signed contracts with  
 the teachers as follows:

Name	No.	Salary	per mo.	6 mos.
Eva Cowling	No. 1	\$ 33		
Mary Payne	" 2	30		
Meta Brooks	" 3	"		
Liday Hunter	4	"		
F. M. Early	" 5	28		
Lelia Beattie	6	30		
Lou Ashford	" 7	30		
M. L. McDonald	A	25		
Jno. P. Pinkett	B	25		
Lillian Hopkins	C	25		
T. W. Hyson	D	30		
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 and Thomas H. Walker to the amt. of 355<sup>50</sup>  
 being amt. in full [sic] for school building at Merrifield  
 also in favor R. W. French for \$7<sup>83</sup> for crayons,  
 erasers [sic] and supplies. R. W. Birch, Clk.  
 Present: A. Martin, W. R. Seaman + R. W. Birch



Dec. 13, 1897. Meeting of Sch. Board at Ilda  
The contractor for building house was paid in full  
\$100. for work, also other bills for work on house and lot.  
O. G. Besley paid for frame, and house accepted  
by the School Board, and Miss Pearl Howard  
appointed as teacher to qualify as soon  
as house is furnished. Mr. Caton agreed to  
furnish wood for school for \$2 per month  
and received \$1<sup>70</sup> on a/c in left over material  
from sch. house.

School officers present:

M. D. Hall, Supt.

A. Martin

W. R. Seaman

R. W. Birch

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Mr. Oliver G. "O. G." Besley was a sawmill owner who donated the land for Wakefield Chapel in Annandale in 1899.



Sept 5 1898

Next meeting of School board  
at Mr Martin's the following  
teachers were appointed for the ensuing  
term Miss Eva Cowling School No. 1 <sup>Salary</sup> \$33.00  
Miss Mary Payne " 2 30.00  
" Meta Brooks " 3 30.00  
" Jessie Martin " 5 30.00  
" Lelia Beattie " 6 30.00  
" Lou Ashford " 7 30.00  
Mr B Harrison " 8 25.00  
" Jno Pinkett " B 25.00  
Miss L Hopkins " C 25.00  
Mr T W Hyson " D 30.00  
" C Brooks " F 25.00

Board decided to meet teachers  
Oct 1 at West end to sign  
contracts fill vacancies +c  
R W Birch clk  
A Martin Chm

Sept. 5, 1898

~~M~~ Meeting of School Board  
at Mr. Martin's, the following  
teachers were appointed for the ensuing [sic]  
term:

		Salary
Miss Eva Cowling	School No. 1	\$33 <sup>00</sup>
Miss Mary Payne	" 2	30 <sup>00</sup>
" Meta Brooks	" 3	30 <sup>00</sup>
" Jessie Martin	" 5	30 <sup>00</sup>
" Lelia Beattie	" 6	30 <sup>00</sup>
" Lou Ashford	" 7	30 <sup>00</sup>
Mr. B. Harrison	" 8	25 <sup>00</sup>
" Jno. Pinkett	" B	25 <sup>00</sup>
Miss L. Hopkins	" C	25 <sup>00</sup>
Mr. T. W. Hyson	" D	30 <sup>00</sup>
" C. Brooks	" F	25 <sup>00</sup>

Board decided to meet teachers  
Oct. 1 at West End to sign  
contracts, fill vacancies +c.  
R. W. Birch, Clk  
A. Martin, Ch.



School board met teachers  
at West End Oct 1 signed  
contracts and filled vacancies  
by appointing Mr Love at  
Ravensworth<sup>No</sup> 7 Miss Ashford  
resigned and Mrs Yates  
to fill vacancy at Bailey's No 4  
Teachers were instructed to open  
schools Monday Oct 3 or as soon  
thereafter as possible

Supt. Hall met with  
board teachers and  
announced teachers meeting of  
teachers for third Saturday in Oct

R. W. Birch, Clk.

A. Martin

W. R. Seaman

present

Love's Salary 30  
Yates 30

School Board met teachers  
at West End Oct. 1, signed  
contracts and filled vacancies  
by appointing Mr. Love at  
Ravensworth<sup>No</sup>. 7. Miss Ashford  
resigned, and Mrs. Yates  
to fill vacancy at Bailey's No. 4.  
Teachers were instructed to open  
schools Monday, Oct. 3, or as soon  
thereafter as possible.

Supt. Hall met with

Board + teachers and  
announced teachers meeting of  
teachers for third Saturday in Oct.

R. W. Birch, Clk.

A. Martin

W. R. Seaman

present

Love's Salary 30

Yates 30

<sup>28</sup>  
Aug 1900

District School board met at  
Court house and organized by electing  
Wm J Malone as Chairman and R W Birch  
as Clerk after statement of Birch as  
to condition of schools + houses it was  
decided to build house for colored school at  
Mt Pleasant and clerk ordered to prepare  
specifications and advertise for bids.  
a partial list of teachers was elected for  
the ensuing term and clerk directed  
to notify them to meet board at West  
End Sept 29. to sign contracts +c.  
R W B. clk

Aug. 28, 1900

District School Board met at  
Courthouse and organized by electing  
Wm. J. Malone as Chairman, and R. W. Birch  
as Clerk. After statement of Birch as  
to condition of schools + houses it was  
decided to build house for colored school at  
Mt. Pleasant, and Clerk ordered to prepare  
specifications and advertise for bids.  
A partial list of teachers was elected for  
the ensuing [sic] term and Clerk directed  
to notify them to meet Board at West  
End, Sep. 29, to sign contracts +c.

R. W. B., Clk.



Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1900

called meeting of sch board  
at W. J. Malone's to complete list  
of teacher. and award contract  
for building new house

Teachers elected as follows

35 No 1	R. S. Shreve	
30 2	Jessie R. Martin	A. O. Whiting 25
30 3		B. Lil Hopkins 25
35 4	Clarra Hickerson	B. T. W. Hyson 30
30 5	Lelia Beattie	J. Bessie Riddick 25
30 6	Golda Farr	E. C. S. Brooks 25
30 7	Elizabeth Grabill	

Mr Cockrell asking permission to fill  
vacancy at No 3 was allowed same  
there being but 1 bid for new house  
and board judging it excessive allowed  
Mr Cleaveland 3 days to put in bid  
Sept 15. R. W. B.

board met at R. W. B. and accepted  
Cleaveland's bid for new house  
at \$495. complete R. W. B.

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 1900

Called meeting of Sch. Board  
at W. J. Malone's to complete list  
of teacher[s] and award contract  
for building new house.

Teachers elected as follows:

35	No. 1	R. S. Shreve	
30	2	Jessie R. Martin	A. O. Whiting 25
30	3		B. Lil Hopkins 25
35	4	Clarra Hickerson	C. T. W. Hyson 30
30	5	Lelia Beattie	D. Bessie Riddick 25
30	6	Golda Farr	E. C. S. Brooks 25
30	7	Elizabeth Grabill	

Mr. Cockrell asking permission to fill  
vacancy at No. 3 was allowed same.  
There being but 1 bid for new house  
and Board judging it excessive allowed  
Mr. Cleaveland 3 days to put in bid  
Sept. 15. R. W. B.

Board met at R. W. B. and accepted  
Cleaveland's bid for new house  
at \$495— complete.

R. W. B.

Bessie L. Riddick was a respected teacher in Fairfax County's African-American community. Several articles in the *Alexandria Gazette* mention her teaching in Alexandria as well as her death notice in 1919 – she was 41 years old.

Richard Southern "R. S." Shreve, Jr. taught at the schools for white children in Bailey's Crossroads and Merrifield. His parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Richard Southern Shreve, Sr., were killed by lightning in 1874 in their home while standing near a window conducting a prayer service with their family. No other family members were injured. Probate notices in the newspaper show Richard Jr. was still an infant. He was raised by his grandparents.

1900

Sept 29 School board met at  
West end to contract with teachers  
all being present save Mr Cockrell  
and teacher for No 3.

all teachers contracted with for 6 mos  
but No 3 and Miss Brooke agreed to teach  
for 1 mo which met approval of board

Board directed Clerk to correspond  
for teacher for No 3. to teach bal term

Bd agreed to take coal from Zimmerman <sup>\$400 per ton</sup>  
and Mr Malone to furnish wood  
to most of schools convenient for him  
Birch to furnish F. C. + Bailey

R. S. Shreve instructed to have repairs  
and cleaning done at West End  
Malone to repair at Ravensworth

R. W. Birch

1900

Sept. 29 School Board met at  
West End to contract with teachers,  
all being present, save Mr. Cockrell  
and teacher for No. 3.

All teachers contracted with for 6 mos.,  
but No. 3 and Miss Brooke agreed to teach  
for 1 mo. which met approval of Board.  
Board directed Clerk to correspond  
for teacher for No. 3 to teach bal. term.

\$490 per term

Bd. agreed to take coal from Zimmerman,  
and Mr. Malone to furnish wood  
to most of schools convenient for him.  
Birch to furnish F. C. + Bailey.

R. S. Shreve instructed to have repairs  
and cleaning done at West End.

Malone to repair at Ravensworth.

R. W. Birch



Nov 3 1900

Meeting of Dist Sch Bd  
called by order of chairman  
at Mt Pleasant new house  
on motion <sup>clerk</sup> was ordered  
to draw warrant in favor of  
Arthur Cleveland for \$498<sup>00</sup>  
in payment in full for building  
Mt Pleasant house

board made arrangement with one  
Butler to build closet and  
put down seats in exchange for  
old lumber left over from  
building

RWB clk

Nov. 3, 1900

Meeting of Dist. Sch. Bd.  
called by order of Chairman  
at Mt. Pleasant new house.

On motion <sup>Clerk</sup> # was ordered  
to draw warrants in favor of  
Arthur Cleveland for \$498<sup>00</sup>  
in payment in full for building  
Mt Pleasant house.

Board made arrangement with one  
Butler to build closet [sic] and  
put down seats in exchange for  
old lumber left over from  
building.

R. W. B., Clk.

July 5 1902

Meeting of Sch Bd called at house of clk  
on motion of Mr Cockrell Mr Shreve was  
elected Chairman. and Birch clerk.

Repairs to west end ordered under supervision  
of Mr Cockrell. Painting Bailey and H. C.  
houses under Birch. Agreed to pay same  
salaries as last term and to open schools last  
Monday in September. Clerk ordered to  
fill vacancies of teachers as to his best judg-  
ment assisted by the Supt.

Clerk ordered to contract for coal  
and wood at most convenient time

Present W H Shreve

C B Cockrell

R W Birch

Bills left over for coal and  
supplies ordered paid

R W Birch clk

July 5, 1902

Meeting of Sch. Bd. called at house of Clk.

On motion of Mr. Cockrell, Mr. Shreve was  
elected Chairman and Birch, Clerk.

Repairs to West End ordered made supervision  
of Mr. Cockrell. Painting Bailey and F. C.  
houses under Birch. Agreed to pay same  
salaries as last term and to open schools last  
Monday in September. Clerk ordered to  
fill vacancies of teachers as to his best judg[e-]  
ment assisted by Co. Supt.

Clerk ordered to contract for coal  
and wood at most convenient time.

Present : W. H. Shreve

C. B. Cockrell

R. W. Birch

Bills left over for coal and  
supplies ordered paid.

R. W. Birch, Clk.



July 9 1904

District school board  
met at R W Birch's and organized  
by motion of Mr Cockrell W H Shreve  
was made Chairman and R W Birch  
Clerk bills and a/c of Dist fund  
were ex and discussed after  
which the board reappointed Miss  
Wiley. Miss Hagan Miss Beattie  
white teachers. Miss Holiday.  
Miss Riddick + Mr Hyson col  
petition was presented asking for  
W T Husband as teacher at Linconia  
and after much discussion the board  
adopted Resolutions asking Supt  
to revoke or not issue license  
to said Husband, resenting the  
manner in which he has treated  
trustees & other teachers. board agreed  
to open a school at Howardville  
delayed further business for a  
conference with Supt.  
R W Birch

July 9, 1904

District School Board  
met at R. W. Birch's and organized  
by motion of Mr. Cockrell. W. H. Shreve  
was made Chairman and R. W. Birch,  
Clerk. Bills and a/c of Dist. Fund  
were ex. and discussed after  
which the Board reappointed Miss  
Wiley, Miss Hagan, Miss Beattie,  
white teachers; Miss Holiday,  
Miss Riddick + Mr. Hyson, col.  
Petition was presented asking for  
W. T. Heistand as teacher at Linconia,  
and after much discussion the Board  
adopted resolutions asking Supt.  
to revoke [sic] or not issue license  
to said Heistand, resenting the  
manner in which he has treated  
Trustees + other teachers. Board agreed  
to open a school at Howardville.  
Delayed further business for a  
conference with Supt.

R. W. Birch.

William Thompson "W. T." Heistand was born in Ohio and the family was in the Fairfax area only a short time. It appears he tried his hand at the newspaper business and when he couldn't make a go of it, he resorted to teaching. He taught at Sweetnam (an earlier name for Fairfax Station), and his wife was an organist at Lincolnia Episcopal Chapel. The family moved to Buffalo, NY. Mr. Heistand died in 1921 in NY.

Aug 1904

School board met to complete appointments  
of teachers and appointed Miss Cowling at No. 1

Miss Wiley no 2 Miss Ricketts no 3 Miss Hagan no 4  
Miss Beattie no 5 Miss Wine no 6 Miss Stephenson no 7  
Miss Holliday no 8 T. W. Hyson #C B. L. Riddick #D  
Fannie Brent #E. board being notified of appeal  
of W. T. Heistand was summoned to appear at  
Lincolnia Aug 29.

Lincolnia School House Electoral Board  
Falls Church Dist Va

Aug 29 1904. Present Messrs Hall & Blake  
of the Electoral board Mr Ford absent  
through indisposition

Messrs Birch Shreve & Cockrell  
Falls Church School board were also present  
along with Mr Heistand and other patrons  
of the school

The meeting was called to order by the Electoral  
board in response to an appeal  
from patrons of the school to endeavor  
to settle a controversy between the  
Falls church School board & Miss Stephenson

Aug. 1904

School Board met to complete appointments  
of teachers and appointed Miss Cowling at No. 1;  
Miss Wiley, No. 2; Miss Ricketts, No. 3; Miss Hagan, No. 4;  
Miss Beattie, No. 5; Miss Wine, No. 6; Miss Stephenson, No. 7;  
Miss Holliday, No. A; T. W. Hyson, #C; B. L. Riddick, #D,  
Fannie Brent, #E. Board being notified of appeal  
of W. T. Heistand, was summoned to appear at  
Lincolnia, Aug. 29.

Lincolnia Schoolhouse. Electoral Board

Falls Church Dist., Va.

Aug. 29, 1904. Present: Messrs. Hall + Blake  
of the Electoral Board, Mr. Ford absent  
through indisposition.

Messrs. Birch, Shreve + Cockrell,  
Falls Church School Board, were also present,  
along with Mr. Heistand and other patrons  
of the school.

The meeting was called to order by the Electoral  
Board in response to an appeal  
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Falls Church School Board + Miss Stephenson



against Mr Heistand relative to a letter written  
by him to Miss Stephenson who with authority  
of her board refused to give the key of school  
to Mr Heistand to hold evening classes  
The school board said the letter was ungentlemanly  
and unkind to teacher and determined in the best interest  
of the school not to give him the school for the  
coming session 1904-1905 for which he applied to  
Mr Cockrell one of the board

Mr Hall called the roll of petitioners and those present  
answered to their names were sworn and examined  
by him annent this controversy for which the meeting  
was called Mr Howdershell wanted Heistand  
for teacher for ensuing year and that he should  
get the school for evening classes for the large  
boys. Mr Lewis said he wished for  
harmony of school would have liked Heistand  
for teacher has six children school age  
But now thought that the divided sentiment  
in the community indicated that it would not be  
wise to appoint him. Mr Hall at this time  
Read the letter under controversy for the informa-  
-tion of those giving testimony

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Mr J. F. Laing said with Mr Howdershell  
he got up the petition for night school  
Mr James signed petition to give  
Mr Heistand school coming session  
has one child  
Mr James cassady signed petition for  
Mr Heistand. he wanted a good arithmetic  
teacher has two children  
Mr W. J. Baliss signed two petitions  
wanted Heistand for teacher but now  
thinks otherwise it would not be  
for harmony  
Mr Redmon has one child signed two petitions  
in favor of Heistand on a/c of his qualifications  
but now thinks he should not get school because  
of divided sentiment  
Mr Heistand called for School Key at home where  
Miss Stephenson lived and was told that it was  
under a brick at School door laught [sic] one  
evening but was afterward refused Key  
by teacher who went to the School Board  
who approved her course he did not know  
whether fuel & oil would be found or school

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evening, but was afterward refused key  
by teacher who went to see School Board  
who approved her course. He did not know  
whether fuel + oil would be found or school



kept clean. Heistand stated that he took his oil from school after this. But though Miss Stephenson to ignore him, he showed all courtesy toward her. Mr. Laing got up petition on my behalf for coming year. I said I would take the school if desired by the patrons. Mr. Heistand defended his letter to Miss Stephenson which was the cause of the controversy.

The School board having been put on oath Mr. Birch, clerk of board, said they had no application from Heistand as a board for the Lincolnia School for the coming year. Mr. Birch handed Mr. Hall a written statement giving reasons why they did not give Heistand the school. This was read to the meeting. Mr. Shreve said he concurred in Mr. Birch's action in the matter. Mr. Cockrell said he got no letter from Heistand applying for the school. It was only verbal. Mr. Manchester, at whose house the teacher lived, did not think it well to give Heistand the school.

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Mrs. Manchester, at whose house the teacher lived, did not think it well to give Heistand the school.

Mrs Manchester said teacher would not give any one responsibility went to Mr Birch about it

Mrs Carter does not think that Heistand is the proper person for the school would not send her child to him

Mr Heistand in rebuttal defended his action in letter to Miss Stephenson also his involvement of school at Ilda.

Mr Heistand ignored School Board when they refused to answer his letter. He failed to return register because he did not receive blank book.

Mr Hall said that publishers at Richmond were at fault.

Heistand said he would send register to Hall when completed.

Mr Shreve said Heistand manifested malice toward board at conclusion.

Mr Hall gave good advice as to the future of school at Lincolnia to visit school use tact & kindness toward teacher. Mr Hall then asked those

Mrs. Manchester said teacher would not give any one responsibility, went to Mr. Birch about it.

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present to retire for a few minutes until  
the secretary decide about the matter  
the meeting being called again the  
secretary stated that they concluded to  
support the action of the School  
board. regretting that one so well  
equipped + fitted to teach as Heistand  
should be lost to the community  
the meeting was then dismissed  
John R. Blake  
Sect. Pro Tem

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The meeting was then dismissed.  
John R. Blake  
Sect. Pro Tem

a called Vauxcluse July 29 1905

at meeting of Dist Sch Bd July 29  
after appointing teachers and other routine  
business Mr Cockrell moved that we  
appropriate \$800, to build school house  
near Seminary that said money be used  
at the discretion of a committee of three  
one being a school trustee Mrs Andrews  
Mr Howard and Birch trustee. That any  
questions arising, that are not satisfactory  
to the full committee is to be submitted to  
School board for their determination

The following teachers were appointed  
No 1 Miss Cowling, No 2 Miss Beattie, No 3 Miss  
Anderson No 4 Miss King, No 5 Miss Lelia Beattie  
No 6 Miss J. H. Winn, No 7 Miss Stephenson  
No A Louise Thornton, B Lil Hopkins No 6  
T. W. Hyson No D Bessie Riddick No E  
to be supplied. There was no change made  
in salaries of last year

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after appointing teachers and other routine  
business, Mr. Cockrell moved that we  
appropriate \$800 to build schoolhouse  
near Seminary, that said money be used  
at the discretion [sic] of a committee of three,  
one being a school trustee: Mrs. Andrews,  
Mr. Howard, and Birch, trustee. That any  
questions arising that are not satisfactory  
to the full committee is to be submitted to  
School Board for their determination.

The following teachers were appointed:

No. 1 Miss Cowling, No. 2 Miss Battie, No. 3 Miss  
Anderson, No. 4 Miss King, No. 5 Miss Lelia Beattie,  
No. 6. Miss J. H. Winn No. 7 Miss Stephenson,  
No. A Louise Thornton, B Lil Hopkins, No. C  
T. W. Hyson, No. D Bessie Riddick, No. E  
to be supplied. There was no change made  
in salaries of last year.

Vauxcluse, also seen as Vaocluse, was a plantation home in Alexandria, first owned by Dr. James Craik, a surgeon in the Virginia Regiment and the Continental Army, and later by Thomas Fairfax, 9<sup>th</sup> Lord Fairfax of Cameron. The home was destroyed during the Civil War. Professor and Mrs. Andrews (a committee member named above) rebuilt Vauxcluse on the original property around 1902; the home was often mentioned as a place of events in the Alexandria and Washington society pages.



Aug 3, 1908 Alex Va

The following arrangement was agreed upon by Charles M. Robinson architect and the Falls Church Dist school board

That Chas M Robinson agrees to prepare the necessary original plans and specifications for a brick and concrete school building in West End Alexandria Fairfax County Va fifty by thirty six feet and to supervise in his own proper person or a competent representative the construction of the same

said supervision to consist of weekly visits to and full inspection of the work as the same progresses

2<sup>nd</sup>) The said Chas M Robinson architect further agrees to make such further drawings and descriptions to the original drawings and specifications as may be necessary to explain the same, and when visiting the work to make such verbal explanations

Aug. 3, 1908, Alex., Va.

The following arrangement was agreed upon by Charles M. Robinson, Architect, and the Falls Church Dist. School Board.

That Chas. M. Robinson agrees to prepare the necessary original plans and specifications for a brick and concrete school building in West End, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Va., fifty by thirty-six feet, and to supervise in his own proper person or a competent representative the construction of the same.

Said supervision to consist of weekly visits to and full inspection of the work as the same progresses.

2<sup>nd</sup>) The said Chas. M. Robinson, Archt., further agrees to make such further drawings and descriptions to the original drawings and specifications as may be necessary to explain the same, and when visiting the work to make such verbal explanations

as the contractor may request.  
3d) This said C. M. Robinson archt., further  
agrees to carefully inspect all  
material to be used in said building  
to see that the same be first class  
in every particular.  
4th) In consideration of the foregoing the  
Falls Church Dist. Sch. Bd. agrees to pay  
the said Chas. M. Robinson for the service  
set out in this agreement in such amts  
and such manner as follows:  
two per centum of the amt of each  
contract when the same has been  
properly executed and awarded  
and three per centum of all  
payments made to any and all contractors  
until the full amt. of five per centum  
on all contract work has been  
fully paid.  
Chas. M. Robinson Architect.  
R. W. Birch Clk. Dist. Bd.

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on all contract work has been  
fully paid.

Chas. M. Robinson, Architect  
R. W. Birch, Clk., Dist. Bd.

---

Charles M. Robinson (1867-1932) designed many public school buildings throughout Virginia. The public schools he designed in Fairfax County included the Bailey's Crossroads School, the Franklin Sherman School, the Forestville School, the first Herndon High School, and the West End School. He may have also designed the Clifton High School, the Floris Vocational High School, and the first Oakton High School.



1910  
July 29 1910 Meeting of school board called  
by Chairman, at residence of clerk, to appoint  
teacher for term of 1910-11 - Division Supt present  
the following teachers appointed  
West End. supervising principle <sup>High Sch. teacher</sup> Miss Julia I. C[---]  
first assistant Miss Lemley, second Miss Hall, primary  
Miss Lewis. Bailey, X Rds. Miss Ewell + Miss McLean  
Annandale Miss Nellie + Miss Willie Payne  
Lincolna Miss Lemley, vacancies Seminary + Ilda  
Colored A Miss Ashford, B. L. H. Jackson  
C. V. A. Givens, D. Miss Duncan  
Merrifield vacant. Board authorized  
clerk to correspond and fill vacancies to best  
of his ability. R. W. Birch clk  
aug 20 1910  
after appointment of J. W. Gaines as trustee at Fairfax  
board convened and reorganized with  
W. H. Shreve Chairman + R. W. Birch clerk  
after some discussion of plans for term  
adjourned  
R. W. Birch

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West End. supervising principle [sic] + High Sch. teacher district Miss Julia I. C[---]  
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Lincolna Miss Lemley. Vacancies Seminary + Ilda  
Colored A Miss Ashford, B. L. H. Jackson,  
C. V. A. Givens, D. Miss Duncan,  
Merrifield vacant. Board authorized  
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of his ability. R. W. Birch, Clk

Aug. 20, 1910

After appointment of J. W. Gaines as Trustee at Fairfax  
Board convened and reorganized with  
W. H. Shreve Chairman + R. W. Birch clerk  
after some discussion of plans for term  
adjourned.

R. W. Birch

Miss Lemley is Ada V. Lemley. The *Fairfax Herald* newspaper lists her as the teacher of the  
Lincolnia School during the 1909-10 and 1910-11 school years.

Miss Hall at West End might be Nannie Hall, daughter of FCPS Superintendent Milton D.  
Hall, who is known to have taught at the school for a brief period.

Office Fax Mutual Ins Co

Dec 3, 1910. board met in alex to discuss action to be taken in west end. Supt reported that the principle found it impossible to conduct school without cooperation of all teachers and that Miss Cowling positively did not cooperate but on the contrary had made a breach of etiquette to the extent of demanding an apology of the principle in the presence of her school under such embarrassing conditions principle had stated that she would not teach longer under such conditions after thorough discussion it was decided to dismiss Miss Cowling for insubordination and employ someone else. bill \$9.<sup>15</sup> paid Brown for repairs effort made to purchase more ground west end so far a failure

Dec 3 later board met at home of Chairman after thorough discussion a letter of dismissal was written & signed by Chairman & clerk to be presented to Miss Cowling it was further agreed to employ Miss Wine to complete the term.

Office Fax Mutual Ins. Co.

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Dec. 3 later board met at home of Chairman after thorough discussion a letter of dismissal was written + signed by Chairman + Clerk to be presented to Miss Cowling it was further agreed to employ Miss Wine to complete the term.



1910 By advice of Supt -

Monday Dec 5<sup>th</sup> It was decided to close school at West End account smallpox until after holidays, Miss Cowling dismissed. R.W.B.

Jan 2, 1911 board signed contract with Miss Winn to complete term, first assistant in West End. R.W.B.

1911  
Jan 27 appeal of Miss Cowling heard before Electoral board. continued to Feb 4. R.W. Birch

1911  
Feb 4 adjourned investigation, <sup>am</sup> met at school house 10 o'clock am. with full board + council on both sides taking testimony for plaintiff continued all day and adjourned to Tuesday Feb 7<sup>th</sup> same place at 10 o'clock a.m. R.W.B.

Monday Feb 6 Mr Ford reported being unable to attend on Tuesday Cowling case continued

1910 By advice of Supt.

Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>: It was decided to close school at West End account smallpox until after holidays [sic]. Miss Cowling dismissed. R. W. B. Jan 2, 1911. Board signed contract with Miss Winn to complete term, first assistant in West End.

R. W. B.

1911

Jan. 27. Appeal of Miss Cowling heard before Electoral Board. Continued to Feb. 4.

R. W. Birch

1911

Feb. 4. Adjourned investigation <sup>over</sup> met [sic] at schoolhouse, 10 o'clock a.m. with full Board + council [sic] on both sides taking testimony for plaintiff [sic] continued all day and adjourned to Tuesday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, same place at 10 o'clock a.m.

R. W. B.

Monday, Feb. 6. Mr. Ford reported being unable to attend on Tuesday. Cowling case continued.

1911

Feb 28 board convened at West End to hear further testimony in appeal of Miss Cowling under management of Electoral Board  
J. R. Blake C. V. Ford M. D. Hall appeal board  
R. W. Birch W. H. Shreve J. W. Gaines sch. bd  
cross examination of Miss Cowling begun by Council for School Board (Mr. Barbins)  
during said examination several people in audience took matters in their hands, and demanded Mr. Hall to vacate his position as member of Appeal board. Mr. Hall thereupon did withdraw from said board, and District School Board declined to have case heard further before said board because of inability of said board to preserve order & decorum and asked for have case sent to state board and Mr. Hall advised to confer with state board as to disposition of case

1911

Feb. 28. Board convened at West End to hear further testimony in appeal of Miss Cowling under management of Electoral Board.  
J. R. Blake, C. V. Ford, M. D. Hall, Appeal Board.  
R. W. Birch, W. H. Shreve, J. W. Gaines, Sch. Bd.  
Cross examination of Miss Cowling begun by council for School Board (Mr. Barbins); during said examination several people in audience took matters in their hands and demanded Mr. Hall to vacate his position as member of Appeal Board. Mr. Hall thereupon did withdraw from said Board, and District School Board declined to have case heard further before said Board because of inability of said Board to preserve order + decorum and asked for have case sent to State Board, and Mr. Hall advised to confer [sic] with State Board as to disposition of case.



April 10, 1911 Meeting of Bd  
at R. W. Birch and appointment  
of Miss Pullen, Miss Gayle +  
Miss Bashford approved at salary  
of \$50 pr mo at West End  
Matter of broken windows discussed  
It being thought best not to  
repair before beginning of next term  
Mr. Gaines was advised to offer reward  
of \$25 for conviction of parties  
who have been doing damage  
to school building

April 10, 1911 Meeting of Bd.  
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Miss Bashford approved at salary  
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Matter of broken windows discussed,  
it being thought best not to  
repair before beginning of next term.  
Mr. Gaines was advised to offer reward  
of \$25 for conviction of parties  
who have been doing damage  
to school building.

Falls Church Va July 22. 1911

Dist School board met at Residence of Clerk by appointment with Superintendent, clerks are compared with Supt. and found correct.

Supt advised board to each install phones at expense of district. amount paid teachers for last term \$4,943.75 amount disbursed district fund \$2,258.50

by amt balance & county & district funds approximately \$1200-

after some discussion it was decided to build an addition to Lincolnia school house and clerk was instructed to advise with Mr O. B. Campbell as to plans & specifications at once and advertise for bids on same clerk was instructed to close deal for contract for teachers as follows Annandale Miss W Payne + Miss Louise Byrne at Baileys with the Miss Rice. at \$80 per mo. for the two rooms and fixed prices at Lincolnia at \$70 per mo for the two teachers and Ilda same price for Seminary white school \$45 and offered to Miss Stephenson. clerk notified board that Miss Pullen, Miss Gayle + Miss Bashford had been chosen for their approval as

Falls Church, Va., July 22, 1911.

Dist School Board met at residence of Clerk by appointment with Superintendent [sic], Clerk's a/c compared with Supt. a/c and found correct.

Supt. advised Board to each install phones at expense of District. Amount paid teachers for last term \$4,943.75, amount disbursed District fund \$2,258.50, by amt. balance + county + district funds approximately \$1200—.

After some discussion it was decided to build a new addition to Lincolnia Schoolhouse and Clerk was instructed to advise with Mr. O. B. Campbell as to plans + specifications at once, and advertize [sic] for bids on same.

Clerk was instructed to close deal for contract for teachers as follows: Annandale, Miss W. Payne, + Miss Louise Byrne at Baileys, with the

40 for each teacher

Misses Rice at \$80 per mo. for the two rooms each and fixed prices at Lincolnia at \$70 per mo. for the two teachers and Ilda same price for Seminary white school \$45 and offered to Miss Stephenson. Clerk notified Board that Miss Pullen, Miss Gayle + Miss Bashford had been chosen for their approval as



assistant teachers at west end (no action taken)  
Clerk also advise of applications of Mr Kemp  
and Mr Phillips as principle at west end  
at salary of 75 per mo.

Clerk advised to have both of the applicants  
meet the board on Monday July 24 at  
Fairfax if possible.

Present at meeting

M. D. Hall, Supt.

W. H. Shreve, Chairman Board

J. W. Gaines

R. W. Birch, Clk.

assistant teachers at West End (no action taken)

Clerk also advise of applications of Mr. Kemp  
and Mr. Phillips as Principle [sic] at West End  
at salary of 75 per mo.

Clerk advised to have both of the applicants  
meet the Board on Monday, July 24, at  
Fairfax if possible.

Present at meeting:

M. D. Hall, Supt.

W. H. Shreve, Chairman Board

J. W. Gaines

R. W. Birch, Clk.

Aug 11, 1911

at meeting of school board called to open bids for addition to Lincolnia school house, at said house. Those present Supt Hall, and school board Messrs Shreve, Gaines, + Birch, and several patrons + contractors. Mr Hall was asked to open open bids with the following result.

W S Kendrick + W. M. Allen.	\$1765—
W M Brown + W Miller	2000—
James Haines	1800.00
W T Daniel Fred Mudd	1335—
W H Rodgers	1937 <sup>28</sup>
W H Dawson	2200—

The board believing W S Kendrick's bid the most satisfactory voted to accept same and arranged to contract the following day Sat. Aug 12, 1911.

board then took up appointment of teachers for said school + selected Miss Mary Presgraves of Linah for principle, + Miss Ruth Mitchell for assistant other appointments left open for further consideration.

Aug 12, 1911 by appointment board met Mr Kendrick at Falls Church signed contract for new work and accepted bond of R. C. L. Moncure for faithful performance by Kendrick of contract to be completed over

Aug. 11, 1911

At meeting of School Board called to open bids for addition to Lincolnia Schoolhouse at said house. Those present: Supt. Hall, and School Board Messrs. Shreve, Gaines + Birch, and several patrons + contractors. Mr. Hall was asked to open open [sic] bids with the following result:

W. S. Kendrick + W. M. Allen	\$1765—
D. M. Brown + W. Miller	2000—
James Haines	1800.50
W. T. Daniel Fred Mudd	1335—
H. H. Rodgers	1937 <sup>28</sup>
W. H. Dawson	2200—

The Board believing W. S. Kendrick's bid the most satisfactory voted to accept same and arranged to contract the following day, Sat., Aug. 12, 1911.

Board then took up appointment of teachers for said school + selected Miss Mary Presgraves of Linah for Principle [sic] + Miss Ruth Mitchell for assistant. Other appointments left open for further consideration.

Aug. 12, 1911: by appointment Board met Mr. Kendrick at Falls Church, signed contract for new work and accepted bond of R. C. L. Moncure for faithful performance by Kendrick of contract to be completed

over



in forty days to be payed for in four equal  
payments of 44121 each

Board authorized clerk to insure  
said building in Fairfax Mutual against  
loss by fire during construction

present W. H. Shreve  
and R. W. Birch

in forty days to be payed [sic] for in four equal  
payments of 44121 each.

Board authorized Clerk to insure  
said building in Fairfax Mutual against  
loss by fire during construction.

Present: W. H. Shreve  
and R. W. Birch

Sept 25 School board met at Lincolnia  
to accept new buildings present  
W H Shreve and R W Birch  
bill of extra work to amt of 32<sup>19</sup>  
in addition to contract approved  
and Kendrick and Allen receipted for  
full amt due 473<sup>44</sup> bond being held  
until cement platform was rebuilt  
R W Birch  
agreed to pay \$25 for painting old  
brick building to Mr Daniel

Sept. 25, School Board met at Lincolnia  
to accept new building. Present  
W. H. Shreve and R. W. Birch.  
Bill of extra work to amt of 32<sup>19</sup>  
in addition to contract approved  
and Kendrick and Allen receipted for  
full amt. due 473<sup>44</sup> bond being held  
until cement platform was rebuilt.

R. W. Birch

Agreed to pay \$25 for painting old  
brick building to Mr. Daniel.



Oct 10 1911

Meeting of board at W. H. Shreve  
on motion of Chairman board reorganized  
with W. H. Shreve as Chairman & R. W. Birch  
as clerk. ordered that supt. borrow money  
to pay teachers until state fund is available  
supt. advised to settle up with bank  
Mr. Hall brought the matter of appeal in the  
Cowling case before the board and the request of the  
people of west end to make a vacancy in said  
school for Miss Cowling.

~~It~~ in view of the fact that Miss Cowling  
stands now ~~suspended~~ as a teacher in the  
west end school and we do not need her  
service we decline to take any action in  
the matter, and advise the supt. to take  
as speedy action in the the case of Miss  
Cowling, <sup>as possible</sup> through the proper  
channels. that the matter might be  
settled as soon as possible

W. H. Shreve Chairman

R. W. Birch Sect.

Oct 10, 1911

Meeting of Board at W. H. Shreve  
on motion of Chairman, Board reorganized  
with W. H. Shreve as Chairman + R. W. Birch  
as Clerk. Ordered that Supt. borrow money  
to pay teachers until state fund is available.  
Supt. advised to settle a/c with bank.  
Mr. Hall brought the matter of appeal in the  
Cowling case before the Board and the request of the  
people of West End to make a vacancy in said  
school for Miss Cowling.

~~It~~ In view of the fact that Miss Cowling  
stands now ~~suspended~~ expelled as a teacher in the  
West End School and we do not need her  
service, we declined to take any action in  
the matter, and advise the Supt. to take  
as speedy action in the the [sic] case of Miss

against FCSB

Cowling ^ as possible through the proper  
channels [sic] that the matter might be  
settled as soon as possible.

W. H. Shreve, Chairman  
R. W. Birch, Sect.

Feb 12, 1912

Meeting of school board at home of W. H. Shreve <sup>Chairman</sup>  
called to take up matter of controversy between  
Miss Eva Cowling & school board.

Letters from Miss Lukens as to teaching drawing  
and also one from Miss Lumley as to district <sup>teachers</sup> meeting  
read and discussed.

District Supt. Hall submitted to the board  
a letter from Miss Eva Cowling  
in which she proposed to compromise her  
case against this board for the sum of \$267.30  
this being the amount which ~~she~~ <sup>has</sup> been due  
her had she not been dismissed as a teacher  
in the West End school.

The district school board of Falls Church  
District recognizes no monetary obligation to  
Miss Eva Cowling. Yet in view of the fact  
that a reopening of the controversy between  
said Miss Cowling & said board

may injuriously affect the West End school  
By unanimous action, the Falls Church  
District school board leaves the entire matter  
of a compromise to the Division Supt. of Fairfax Co.  
Believing that he will be able to secure

Feb 12, 1912

Chairman

Meeting of School Board at house of W. H. Shreve  
called to take up matter of controversy between  
Miss Eva Cowling + School Board.

Letters from Miss Lukens as to teaching drawing  
and also one from Miss Lumley as to district <sup>teachers</sup> meeting  
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this being the amount which have [sic] been due  
her had she not been dismissed as a teacher  
in the West End school.

The District School Board of Falls Church  
District recognizes no monetary obligation to  
Miss Eva Cowling. Yet in view of the fact  
that a reopening of the controversy between  
said Miss Cowling + said Board  
may injuriously affect the West End school,  
by unanimous action, the Falls Church  
District School Board leaves the entire matter  
of a compromise to the Division Supt. of Fairfax Co.  
Believing that he will be able to secure



such documentary evidence as will  
make it perfectly plain to all parties and  
persons that the school board has not  
receded in any way from the position  
it took with reference to the insubordination  
of Miss Cowling at the time of her  
dismissal.

And that it is moved to take this  
step in behalf of the common  
welfare of the school interest of  
the District in general and the  
west end school in particular

R. W. Birch

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make it perfectly plain to all parties and  
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it took with reference to the insubordination  
of Miss Cowling at the time of her  
dismissal.

And that it is moved to take this  
step in behalf of the common  
welfare of the school interest of  
the District in general and the  
West End school in particular.

R. W. Birch

June 18, 1912

School Board met at residence of R. W. Birch  
present W. H. Shreve, J. W. Gaines & R. W. Birch

Mr. J. W. Kemp, as applicant for West End High School &  
J. D. Harris, representing Va. Schl. Supply Co.

appointment of teachers were as follows:

J. W. Kemp, West End principle; F. B. Gayle, first ass.

Nellie Payne, 2<sup>nd</sup> ass.; Mrs. Gayle, primary;

Howardsville, D. Stephenson;

Baileys, Misses Spelman + Allen;

Lincolnia, Fannie Anderson;

assistant, Mary Anderson;

Annandale, Willie Payne;

assistant, to be supplied;

Ilda, Massalette;

assistant, to be supplied.

Clk. instructed to return Miss Cowling's  
papers advising her that Miss Gayle  
had been appointed to the position for  
which she had applied.

June 18, 1912

School Board met at residence of R. W. Birch

Present: W. H. Shreve, J. W. Gaines + R. W. Birch.

Mr. J. W. Kemp as applicant for West End High School +  
JD Harris representing Va. Schl. Supply Co.

Appointment of teachers were as follows:

J. W. Kemp, West End Principle [sic]; F. B. Gayle, first ass.;

Nellie Payne, 2<sup>nd</sup> ass.; Mrs. Gayle, primary;

Howardsville, D. Stephenson;

Baileys, Misses Spelman + Allen;

Lincolnia, Fannie Anderson;

Assistant, Mary Anderson;

Annandale, Willie Payne;

Assistant, to be supplied;

Ilda, Massalette;

assistant to be supplied.

Clk. instructed to return Miss Cowling's

papers advising her that Miss Gayle

had been appointed to the position for

which she had applied.



April 7. 1913

Meeting of District School Board  
called at Residence of Chairman  
W. H. Shreve 2:30 p.m.

County Supt. reported condition of  
schools as very favorable generally  
also work of Industrial teacher  
had met with much success.

on motion board ordered all white schools  
except Ilda to run 8 months and  
all colored except academic department  
at Falls Church to run 7 months

The vote on colored 7 months term  
was opposed by clk R. W. Birch + he  
so voted being overruled by Shreve  
and Gaines. Board advised that  
pay for all colored teachers be raised  
next term none to be less than \$30  
or more than \$35

R. W. Birch

April 7. 1913

Meeting of District School Board  
called at residence of Chairman  
W. H. Shreve, 2<sup>30</sup> p. m.

County Supt. reported condition of  
schools as very favorable generally  
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On motion Board ordered all white schools  
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and Gaines. Board advised that  
pay for all colored teachers be raised  
next term none to be less than \$30  
or more than \$35

R. W. Birch

July 25. 1913

District School Board met at Residence of

J. W. Gaines. Present W. H. Shreve, J. W. Gaines, R. W. Birch and  
Supt. M. D. Hall. Mr. Hall presented bill for expenses of L. H. Jackson  
colored as delegate to Col'd teachers convention at Norfolk  
and on motion of Mr. Gaines the board declined to pay it.  
Supt. then made Examination of Clerk's a/c and found them  
correct. a petition was then read asking for a change of the  
principle in Annandale school. also letters asking to  
retain said principle. The board were unanimous in the opinion  
to sustain the old teacher and this met with the approval  
of Supt. after some discussion the board appointed teachers  
as follows West end Prof. Chapman. First assistant Miss  
Lincolnia Misses Anderson + Richards; Baileys, Miss Omohundro +  
Williams; Annandale Miss Davis + Cross; Seminary, Miss  
Stephenson;  
Colored A to be supplied B, L. H. Jackson; C, Miss Lucas; D,  
Mr/Ms. Chaney;  
E, Miss Ashford. Board also agreed to pay \$15 as rent to Ilda Church  
for three months use of building after school house burned,  
discussion as to wants of Ilda. neighborhood in regard to new building  
was left open nothing done matter left in the hands of Supt.  
for an opinion later. Clerk was instructed to have repairs done  
where needed on all school buildings

R. W. Birch, Clk.

July 25. 1913

District School Board met at residence of  
J. W. Gaines. Present: W. H. Shreve, J. W. Gaines, R. W. Birch and  
Supt. M. D. Hall. Mr. Hall presented bill for expenses of L. H.  
Jackson  
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Supt. then made examination of Clerk's a/c and found them  
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Principle [sic] in Annandale School, also letters asking to  
retain said Principle. The Board were unanimous in the opinions  
to sustain the old teacher and this met with the approval  
of Supt. After some discussion the Board appointed teachers  
as follows: West End, Prof. Chapman; First Assistant, Miss  
; Second Ass., Miss Gouldman; Primary, Miss Gayle;  
Lincolnia, Misses Anderson + Richards; Baileys, Miss Omohundro +  
Williams; Annandale, Miss Davis + Cross; Seminary, Miss  
Stephenson;  
Colored A, to be supplied; B, L. H. Jackson; C, Miss Lucas; D,  
Mr/Ms. Chaney;  
E, Miss Ashford. Board also agreed to pay \$15 as rent to Ilda Church  
for three months use of building after school house burned,  
discussion as to wants of Ilda. Neighborhood in regard to new  
building  
was left open nothing done matter left in the hands of Supt.  
for an opinion later. Clerk was instructed to have repairs done  
where needed on all school buildings.

R. W. Birch, Clk.



March 24, 1916  
District School Board met  
at Bailey school house and organized  
as follows J. W. Gaines Chairman +  
R. W. Birch clerk M. D. Hall being present  
advised that he would confer with attorney  
Ford and report to board what steps to  
take as to completing new building at once  
board agreed to run colored school 7 mos  
when the patrons paid 1/2 teachers pay for last  
month in other words extended term 1/2  
month at Co. expense also extended term  
of white schools where there was a  
reasonable assurance of legal attendance  
conferred with Nicholas as to further  
work to be done by him a heating +  
plumbing contract board adjourned to  
meet again as soon as hear from  
attorney about further work on  
building R. W. B.

March 24, 1916

District School Board met  
at Bailey Schoolhouse and organized  
as follows: J. W. Gaines, Chairman +  
R. W. Birch, Clerk; M. D. Hall being present  
advised that he would confer with attorney  
Ford and report to Board what steps to  
take as to completing new building at once.  
Board agreed to run colored school 7 mos.  
when the patrons paid 1/2 teachers pay for last  
month in other words extended term 1/2  
month at Co. expense. Also extended term  
of white schools where there was a  
reasonable assurance of legal attendance  
conferred [sic] with Nicholas as to further  
work to be done by him a heating +  
plumbing contract. Board adjourned to  
meet again [sic] as soon as hear from  
attorney about further work on  
building. R. W. B.

Sept 17 1921 Meeting of F. C. School Bd.  
held at office of Ins. Co. Alex.  
The following teachers were contracted with:  
Baileys, Miss Mabel Kiracofe<sup>130.</sup> & Miss Agnes McDaniel<sup>83.</sup>  
other teachers not being present, Chairman Gaines  
was instructed to take blanks and have  
contracts signed as soon as possible  
Annandale Miss E. Fleming<sup>70.</sup> &  
Miss Anderson signed contracts  
There being no one present to take  
the Lincolnia School was deferred  
untill we could get satisfactory applicants  
Woodburn Teacher was also deferred  
Colored Teachers for Falls Church  
Mrs Henderson Salary 60 p mo.  
" Thomas " 45 "  
Other vacancies to be supplied.  
Transportation of pupils from Seminary  
awarded to E. H. Oliver for 3.00 per day  
Mr Gaines was instructed to purchase  
crayon + supplies for schools  
R. W. Birch clk

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awarded to E. H. Oliver for 3.00 per day.

Mr Gaines was instructed to purchase

crayon + supplies [sic] for schools.

R. W. Birch, Clk.

Mabel Kiracofe was principal at Bailey's Crossroads for 8 years and then at several other schools in the Norfolk area.

Eppa Hunton "E. H." Oliver was a farm hand and store keeper from Falls Church.