

Loudoun County Schools

The schools of Loudoun County are concerned with the education of 4,000 children, of whom about 900 are Negroes.

There are one one-room, two-three-room, six four-room, four larger elementary, one high, and three combined elementary and high schools for white children, a total of 17.

There are seven one-room, one two-room, three five to eight-room elementary and one high school for Negroes, a total of 12.

All of the white schools have central heat and indoor sanitary facilities except the one-room school. All white schools having three or more teachers except three have auditoriums.

The Negro high school and two of the elementary schools for Negroes have central heat, indoor sanitary facilities, and auditoriums.

For the first time the county will have twelve grades in its system in 1949-50.

The salaries of ^{College} ~~county~~ graduates range from \$2040 the first year to \$2616 after twelve years of experience.

The county enjoyed the distinction of having the lowest tax rate among Virginia counties along with Caroline and Prince George in 1948-49 but here no tax was levied upon the capital of merchants and our rate of \$1.25 was, therefore, the lowest net rate in the Virginia.

Consequently, it can not be surprising that our schools lack adequate space for the pupils, that equipment and instructional supplies are not adequate and that teachers' salaries are much lower than those in across-the-river counties in Maryland and in the Metropolitan area of Virginia ~~mountain~~ adjoining Washington, D. C.

Our high schools range in enrollment from 110 to 270. The buildings lack such modern facilities as clinics, teachers' rest rooms,

suitable laboratories and libraries, office space, agriculture and home economics quarters, music rooms, cafeterias, and gymnasiums. The instructional program needs expansion and improvement.

The real deterrent to educational progress in the county hinges upon the question of the number of white high schools to be permanently established and since there are so many varying opinions prevailing, the funds for the improvement of present conditions are not easily forthcoming. The failure of our ^a wealthy, surplus-ridden State of Virginia to appropriate adequate amounts to the State Literary Fund is another block to orderly educational development in the county.