

School History

Saint Bernadette Soubirous is a school rich in the Dominican tradition. Founded by Rev. George Herbert in 1961, with the support of the Dominican sisters, construction on the school and convent began in 1962. School opened under the supervision of Sr. Mary Antoinette Millet, O.P. . The first years enrollment was 128 students in grades 1 through 3. A grade was added each year up to grade 7, and eight more classes were added in 1966.

As St. Bernadette grew the need arose for the formation of the St. Bernadette School Board, which began meeting in 1968. Soon after enrollment declined and the school needed qualified teachers. The Dominican Sisters recommended closing the school. However, the parents, school board, and Sisters successfully rallied to keep the school open. After this achievement, the curriculum expanded to include a kindergarten class. In 1970 the school received state approval and enrollment soared to 300 students.

The 1978-79 school year brought further growth to St. Bernadette School. The kindergarten expanded to a full day program with two classes of students. On January 19, 1979, work began on the new wing of school which included the library, resource room (the current computer lab), and the band room (currently a kindergarten classroom). Air conditioning of the school was completed in 1980.

The last Dominican principal was St. Joel Gubler, O.P. Mrs. Patricia Domingue became the first lay principal during the 1987-88 school year. Mrs. Domingue served the school for 15 years until her retirement. This time was a time of great development for the school. Additional construction added a new office and several classrooms as well as remodeled the cafeteria. The school built a separate fine arts building housing a music lab. The curriculum expanded to include the Language Arts Assistance Program (LAAP), Spanish, computer classes, and much more.

St. Bernadette Soubirous School continues to build on the foundations laid by the Dominican sisters 50years ago. The Body of Christ is ministered to in the classrooms, on the playground, and in the hearts of all the children and staff who enter the doors of St. Bernadette.