

William Penn Elementary

The first William Penn School opened in 1917.

Cost of the Plant was \$24,000.

Cost of the Site was \$6,500.

There were five original rooms with four more classrooms added in 1925.

*Enrollment in 1918-1919 was 116 pupils
serving kindergarten through 4th grade.*

The first principal was Eleanor Pavey.

First teachers were Bessie Bonham, Ruby Weed and Clara Hutchings.

After the earthquake in the summer of 1952 William Penn was condemned. William Penn students and those from McKinley, Lowell and Wayside were re-located at Wayside School. Classes were on double session with approximately 1200 students in each session. While at Wayside Voa Hubbard, William Penn clerk, coined the name of Mclopenside a combination of the names of the four schools.

In January of 1955 students moved in to the current building. The school was rebuilt entirely from district funds. The construction cost was the lowest per square foot of any school building. A former student, architect Whitney Biggar designed the new structure.