

## Kansas City Regional High School Yearbooks Collection (AC72)

### ***Introduction:***

The Kansas City Regional High School Yearbooks Collection contains yearbooks from several high schools in the greater Kansas City area.

### ***Descriptive Summary:***

Creator: Kansas City regional high schools

Title: Kansas City Regional High School Yearbooks

Date Range: 1932- 1992

Size: 1.251 linear feet (3 boxes)

Collection Number: AC72

### ***Donor Information:***

Found in Collection; Michael V. Wells, 2015.

### ***Citation Note:***

Kansas City Regional High School Yearbooks Collection (AC72), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

### ***Related Collections:***

AC07 Sumner High School Collection

AC09 Lincoln High School Collection

AC71 Central High School Yearbook Collection

AC73 Jackson County Genealogy Collection

### ***Administrative Information:***

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted.

Access Restrictions: Unrestricted.

***Historical Sketch:*****Argentine High School:**

Argentine High School, founded in 1884, in the Argentine, formerly Silver City, neighborhood of Kansas City, KS, was originally apart of Lowell Grade School. The Argentine High School building was completed in 1904. Today is it Argentine Middle School.

**Bishop Miege High School:**

The Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas established Bishop Miege High School in Kansas City, Kansas in 1958. The school was named for Bishop John Baptist Miege, the first Bishop of Kansas Territory. The school is located directly north of the Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site in Fairway, KS.

**Central High School:**

Central High School dates as far back as 1867, making it the oldest school in KCMO. The school board rented rooms on the bottom floor of its first location, the Stark Building at 11<sup>th</sup> and Locust since the board did not own any school buildings until after the Civil War. The board bought the building outright in 1868. In 1882, the Stark Building was torn down and a new school building was erected on the property. Then, in 1915, the school moved to a new location at Linwood and Indiana. Central's student demographic, originally a White-only school, changed after *Brown v. The Board of Education* in 1955, becoming predominantly Black. In the '90s, the school moved to Indiana and 33<sup>rd</sup> St. The school's name was changed to Central Academy of Excellence in 2012. Ten years later, Central became one of ten schools the Kansas City Public Schools proposed be closed. However, the proposed closure was cancelled in 2023.

**East High School:**

East High School, established in 1924, operated until the late 1990s. After being temporarily closed, the school reopened as an elementary school. In 2008, it changed back to a secondary school. The school opened a STEM lab in December 2023.

**Manual High School:**

Manual training high school opened in the fall of 1897. It was the first school of its kind west of the Mississippi river. Even though any student could study reading, writing, and arithmetic, the school was at least partially segregated by gender, boys were taught drafting, woodwork, lathe, forging, and steam and electricity, while girls were taught sewing, art, and cooking.

**Southwest High School:**

Southwest opened in 1925 and closed in 1995. After closing, Southwest became a charter school, then a “early college campus”, before closing again in 2016 after Kansas City Public School approved changes to a redistricting plan.

**Westport High School:**

Westport High School was built in 1908 by Charles A. Smith, a locally renowned architect. It offered a range of classes from blacksmithing to Greek language, and housed 60 classrooms, an auditorium, gym, housekeeping suite, library laboratories, and study hall. The building burned down in 1907. Students attended classes at Central until Westport was rebuilt. The new building underwent expansion in 1964 and 1992. This school also closed in 2016, at which time KCPS sold the building to Sustainable Development Partners.

***Scope and Content Note:***

This collection contains high school yearbooks from Central; Manual; Argentine High School; East High School; Southwest High School; and Westport High School.

***Collection Inventory***

- f. 1        The Argentinian, 1932
- f. 2        Centralian, 1948
- f. 3        Centralian, 1967
- f. 4        Centralian, 1967
- f. 5        Centralian, 1972
- f. 6        Eastonian, 1964 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)
- f. 7        Eastonian, 1983 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)
- f. 8        Hart, 1982
- f. 9        Hearld, 1976
- f. 10       Herald, 1977
- f. 11       Herald, 1979
- f. 12       The Manualite, 1964
- f. 13       Sachem, 1954 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)

- f. 14 Sachem, 1972 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)
- f. 15 Sachem, 1976 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)
- f. 16 Sachem, 1992 (donated by Michael Wells. Scan of yearbook available on MVSC website)

**Processed by Laura Darnell, Archivist, March 2024. Updated by Laura Darnell, Archivist, April 2024. Updated by Laura Darnell, Archivist, June 2024. Updated by Laura Darnell, Archivist, August 2025.**

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