

Share your Pictures and Memories of the 1923 High School Campus

By David Truitt, Superintendent

On Tuesday, October 13, 2015, the West Independent School District (ISD) has scheduled a time for the community to come share pictures, yearbooks, memories, or stories from over the many decades of the existence of the 1923 original West High School building located on West Shook Street. This “come and go” event is set from 6:00-7:00 PM at the West ISD Administration Building on 801 North Reagan Street. Drinks and refreshments will be provided. Representatives from Huckabee, the district’s architectural group, will be on hand to meet and hear from the community.

The goal of this event is to ensure Huckabee has a true understanding of the importance of this special building to the West community, and how our community would like to move forward in the design phase of the renovation work on the building in the coming months. As the community is aware, the building has undergone multiple renovations over the years, losing some of its historic elements in the process. West ISD has tasked Huckabee with renovating the building to provide new space for administration offices, technology support, training rooms for district staff, file storage, conference rooms, the district’s boardroom, and safety and security updates. The boardroom space could even be used for community meetings and events. Space could also be dedicated to display memorabilia and pictures of the history of the school district. The Huckabee representatives want to hear any and all suggestions and ideas on how the building could look or be used by both the district and community groups.

West ISD is very aware of the importance the 1923 building has played over the many decades in housing and educating the students of West. This building has a special place in the hearts and minds of several thousand West High School graduates throughout the many years of its use. The district’s main goal of this project is to do our best to return the building to its former glory. Our hope is that the building will once again be a place of great pride for Trojans everywhere. Most notably, West ISD has charged Huckabee with finding ways to restore the historic aesthetics of the building. From the restoration of the original hardwood floors and brickwork to the reuse of the tin ceiling tiles to including period-style lighting fixtures and window panes, the restoration work will center on bringing back the building’s original charm. The district wants to replicate any and all design elements found all the way back to the 1920s that can be used in the project today.

Huckabee and district representatives are ready to meet with any and all community members. Please look through your old pictures and yearbooks and come out to see us next week. West ISD wants this project to be a true community effort. The district believes the finished product will remind former students and teach new students of the school’s long, rich history. This time is for you to come out and share your pictures and memories of the building. See you on Tuesday, October 13, at 6:00 PM at the Administration Building! Go Trojans! Rise up West!