

Parkview marks golden anniversary by visiting the past

By Kevin Kelley

FAIRVIEW PARK

Fashion that hasn't been seen for decades — poe-ple skirts and dungarees with the bottoms rolled up — were seen in the hallways of Parkview Intermediate School May 19.

That's the day when the school celebrated its 50th anniversary, and parents, teachers and even some students marked the occasion by dressing in the fashion of the 1950s.

PTA parents taught students games from the Eisenhower era, such as Red Rover, SPUD and how to spin a hula hoop.

Students gathered in the gymnasium to watch a slideshow of the school's history put together by PTA parent Mary Michem. Old photos of current teachers drew giggles from students as the 1950s Buddy Holly tune "Everyday" played.

Other PTA members used old yearbooks and other files stored in the principal's office to create scrap-books detailing the building's half century, Parkview PTA president Jenny Lyons said.

Each classroom decorated its door for the celebration. "We've had parent bring in cupcakes," Principal Tom Kairis said. "We've been singing 'Happy Birthday.'"

Parkview, which opened to students for the 1955-56 school year as a neighborhood elementary school, has held up well over the years, Kairis said.

"It's a solid building," he said.

"We could use a few updates here and there in terms of windows and doors," he added. "And some of the plumbing needs to be redone."

Renovations were done over a decade ago in which locker rooms were converted into classroom space, said Kairis, who is in his 10th year as principal.

Parkview, which currently is home to 365 students in grades four through six, was made into an intermediate school in 1983.

When the new Gillies-Sweet Elementary School at Alexander and West 220th Street is completed in the fall of 2007, the district students in kindergarten through grade five, and possibly grade six, will attend that building. The first floor of Parkview will be home to the district's preschool program. The district's administrative offices, now located at 20770 Lorain Road, will be located on the second floor.



Cheyenne Janik, 10; Raquelle Rosalez, 11; Dannielle Kay, 11; and Sue Dunn, a PTA parent, mark the 50th anniversary of Parkview Intermediate School May 19 by returning to the 1950s with that era's clothing and games, such as the hula hoop. (Photo by Larry Bennet)