

The Patchogue school district went through a period of rapid expansion and construction of new schools between the years 1871 and 1907, but then the increase in population slowed down. The first new school after this period was the South Ocean Avenue High School in 1924, which replaced the old school on the corner of South Ocean Avenue and Academy Street. The River Avenue School became a total loss due to a fire and was replaced by a new masonry structure in 1926. The next new school was the Medford Avenue Elementary School, which opened in 1931. The Bay Avenue School was replaced with a new school building in 1964. These were the schools in the village limits. All future schools would be build outside the Patchogue Village boundaries. The old Maple Avenue School was closed in the 1930's, became an aviation training school during the war years and was torn down in 1949.

The merger of the Patchogue and Medford School Districts was approved by vote of the taxpayers in July 1951. A rapid increase in population in Brookhaven

Town and in the school district after the end of World War II called for the construction of many new schools in the district. The first of the new schools in the newly formed district was the Tremont Avenue Elementary School, built in 1952. The 2.7 million dollar Saxton Avenue High School, which could accommodate 1,000 students, opened September 4, 1957. There were 4,000 students in the district at this time. The 1,000 student Oregon Avenue School opened its doors October 5, 1963. The number of students in the district in 1963 had risen to 6,000, and by 1970 the figure had risen to 9,500 students. The 1,200 student Eagle Drive Elementary School opened March 1, 1966, followed by the Canaan Elementary School September 4, 1968. The dedication of the 1,600 student Buffalo Avenue High School took place on November 21, 1978, after a delay in the construction of this 7.5 million dollar school building. This ended the new school construction, except for additions to existing school buildings.



The construction of the \$500,000 masonry structure of the South Ocean Avenue High School began in 1923 and dedication of the school took place on October 8, 1924, attended by 1200 people. This new school replaced the old school on the corner of South Ocean Avenue and Academy Street