

## History of Cullman High School

In 1908, one hundred years ago, Henry Ford introduced the Model T Ford, which he sold for \$850.50. At this time the average house cost \$4500 and a postage stamp sold for two cents. Petroleum production began in the Middle East when oil was struck in Iran. This year the Republican William Howard Taft defeated the Democrat William Jennings Bryan for President, and star number 46 for the state of Oklahoma was added to the flag.

On October 8 of that year, a small group of students gathered on the second floor of the Imbusch Building, above the W.O. Kelley Store, for the first day of classes of Cullman County's first high school. The building on Third Avenue and Third Street still stands and now houses Warren's Wholesale Furniture Store. A total of 45 pupils were enrolled that first year, and four years later six members were in the first graduating class.

The next year, 1909, George H. Parker and C.H. Stiefelmeyer each donated five acres of land on which to build a new school. Local businessmen raised \$10,000 and the school was built where the present middle school is now located.

In 1920, with an enrollment of 249 students, there was a need for additional space. The building, which became known as Old Main, was built with additional classrooms and a small auditorium.

The school continued to grow, but problems arose in 193\_. The principal told the students that the school would have to close because of lack of funds and they would not be able to graduate. Again the businessmen of the city came to the rescue and raised enough money to keep the school open.

The City of Cullman took over the schools in 1949 and the school was no longer called Cullman County High School. An addition was built to house the high school while the older building became the middle school.

A new high school was built on our present campus in 1960.

From a beginning of 45 students in a room over a general store, we have grown to our present campus with 877 students and 65 faculty members.

Today we proudly celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of Cullman High School.