

Southern Junior High/Middle School “Favorite Memories” Survey Results

Thanks to everyone that shared their “favorites.” Without participation it would merely be MY memories. The participants attended Southern from 1947 thru 2001 with twice as many women responding. It seems many of the favorites did not change during that time.

1st place was “REC” where you could dance to music from a FREE jukebox with top 40 hits after lunch.

2nd place was orchestra! There were many talented musicians and directors that made those memories.

3rd place was a tie between football and cafeteria dances. Football was not just players, but cheerleaders and supporters.

Someone even played on the undefeated 1962 football team!

The dances were comprised of dancers, watchers and those that loved the scenic view of Reading from the 4th floor windows.

Someone even remembered how the boys lined up at the windows and the girls along the lunch line at the dances.

Other memories were hanging out in the esplanade and eating breakfast, shepherd’s pie and pizza in the cafeteria.

Working in the library and office helpers were mentioned. Some volunteered to get out of class....

Many popular teachers were listed for specific reasons or just their attitude and commitment. Mr. Chrisman’s social studies class started interest in government and politics for a student. While Miss Schroeder and her library picnics were influential for others.

Some of the favorite teachers included Mr. Clouser, Mr. Focht, Mr. Browne and Mr. Rambo.

Seems there were a lot of detentions served and for unique reasons like playing ping-pong across the sewing tables in Miss Spayd’s home economics class. No one wanted to hear their name mentioned during Mr. Oberholtzer’s announcements to “see him” in the office. Mr. Davis merely said. “You got time.” Which of course meant, detention. Others had to eat in Siberia for putting pennies in ice cream sandwiches or for just being too loud.

The wonderful weekly assemblies, plays presentations and talent shows were also great memories. I’m sure many of us also enjoyed the gymnastic night performances and singing and playing solos in front of the entire school.

The saddest memory seemed to be the day JFK died. The TVs were rolled into the classrooms so we could watch the news.

Although the school day was fun with the camaraderie of both students and teachers it was still a great feeling to run out of the school when the end of day bell rang!

“Thanks for the memories”