

**Southwestern Junior-Senior High School**

**Class of 1968**

**Remembering Our Alma Mater**

**By**

**Ethel Anderson Thomas/Virginia Smith Axon**

When our class came to this new school in 1962, the school's enrollment was from 7th grade - 12th grade. Our new community school served students from Seville, Barberville, DeLeon Springs, Glenwood, Pierson, Lake Helen, Orange City and Osteen. Our school colors were maroon and white. Our school mascot was the "Tiger". Our school "fight" song was:

**Dear Southwestern, we are yearning,**

**We will fight for you**

**While our loyal hearts are burning**

**We'll be ever true,**

**Southwestern, Southwestern, bless her name**

**Maroon and White, we'll proudly wear**

**We will honor and protect her**

**Sons and daughters too!!!!**

Mr. Clarence W. Harris, Principal

Mr. Earl McCrary, Assistant Principal

Mr. George Williams, Guidance Counselor

Miss Edith Shannon, Office Manager

The school's main office then was in Building #1, Room #1. Our Media Center was down stairs at the west end of the building facing the court yard. In addition to our athletic sports, our elective curriculum included:

Agriculture - Mr. Matthew Fair

Home Economics - Mrs Shelly Dix/Thelma Lucas (cooking and sewing)

Chorus - Mr. James Dandridge

Typewriting - Mr. Otis Fagan (we used Underwood Manual blind typewriters)

Band - Mr. Edwin Middleton

Business Shorthand - Mrs. Melba Lee

Art - Mr. Tom Stewart

Our foreign language was French

Our total graduating class was a large number of 62. Our graduation was held in the school auditorium. Our Senior Prom was held in the cafeteria. School lunch cost \$1.75 for the week. We had only one serving line and that was the traditional cafeteria style hot lunch.

Even though the school name has changed over the past 50 years,

**Southwestern Junior-Senior High School**

**Southwestern 7th Grade Center**

**Southwestern Middle School**

It still remains an icon in the community of DeLand. As our original song says, our sons, daughters of second, third and generations to come, will walk these halls hopefully with the same pride as we still have.