

HISTORY OF AUBURN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Auburn Union School District has provided continuous public education to the citizens of the Auburn area since 1852. From the original parsonage on Sacramento Street and the old Methodist church, the district has grown to its present size. In 1868 the trustees began acquisition of school property when they purchased the Lincoln Way site. In 1918 the district unionized with Long Valley District, and over the next 40 years continued to add surrounding districts to the union including Mt. Vernon District, Rock Creek District, Edgewood District, Columbia District, Monte Rio District, Lone Star District and Alta Vista District.

In 1943 the average enrollment reached about 500 students and the Lincoln Way School was expanded to accommodate the growing school population. In 1949 the construction of E.V. Cain School (then called Palm Avenue School) was under way. By 1960 enrollment had increased to 1800 students necessitating the expansion of Alta Vista School and the construction of a new school, Rock Creek.

As enrollment continued to climb over the next few decades, portable classrooms were acquired to house students until Skyridge School was completed in 1994. Construction of Auburn Elementary School began the next year. Over the next ten years ambitious remodeling projects modernized the E.V. Cain, Alta Vista and Rock Creek school campuses.

School enrollment peaked in the 1995-1996 school year at slightly more than 3000 students. Since then the district has experienced a steady decline in enrollment to the present level of about 2100 students. As a result, Alta Vista Elementary School was closed at the end of the 2007-2008 school year. Currently the Alta Vista campus is being used as an education center. It is the site of the Alta Vista Community Charter School, the AUSD preschool programs and the Head Start Infant Program.

In 2010, E.V. Cain Middle School became a STEM charter school focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.