

## **History – Broad Street School**

Broad Street School and various items appearing in the 1908 Town Manager's report:

"In 1907/1908" only one hundred years ago, the 'Report of the Acting School Visitor', H. J. Welch tells us that there were 528 children between the ages of 4 and 16, and the number was expected to increase by 20 plus by 1908.

"The facts prove that the question of accommodation is already a serious one, and must be dealt with promptly and intelligently."

How history repeats itself! We are seeing similar events today, though the numbers are different.

The 1908 School Committee met them the same way we do, 100 years later! Build more classrooms.

Net cost of the town schools for the year ending August 1908 was \$7,132.46 or \$14.21 per pupil.

Coal cost \$240.00 and Painting \$317.00

Also in the 1908 Treasurer's report, Fox bounty \$9.20 (you have to think about that for a moment) Highway improvements \$800.00

Assets and Town property in 1908:

Town Building (now Historical center) and furnishings	\$10,000.00
Fire Department	\$900.00
Town Safe	\$100.00
Road Scraper & Tools	\$250.00
Sprinkler Cart	\$340.00
Police Department	\$390.50
Wagon Shed	\$6.85
(I'd love to know where the shed was?)	
Painting the North Washington Street Bridge (old one)	\$41.60
Paint for the same--(16 gallons)	\$19.60

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Hummel  
Town Historian