

First in a series of seven inserts commemorating 70 years of Reformed education.

In November 1951, eight members of the congregation at New Westminster formed the Canadian Reformed School Association. These "founding fathers" were J. deHaas, A. Huisman, S. Pals, K. Stam, J. Vandeburgt, W. VanDelft, P. VanEgmond, and J. Vanderhorst. Over the next four years, the society worked tirelessly to establish an elementary school. In addition to constructing a building, they had to find teachers from the Netherlands. When the school was finally completed in 1955, they named it William of Orange Christian School, after William III of England.

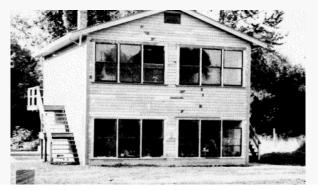


The school board and staff. From left to right: J. Vanderhorst, W. Vanderkamp (principal), W. Vandermolen, J deHaas, S. Vanderploeg (teacher), W. Bredenhof, K. Alssema.









Volunteer builders at work

The finished building



The school opening on September 5, 1955



Bas deHaas raises the flag on the first day of school



The older and younger classes with their teachers. Pictures taken around 1960.



Rev. VanOene drove many of the children to school every day. Did he really fit all of those kids into that van?