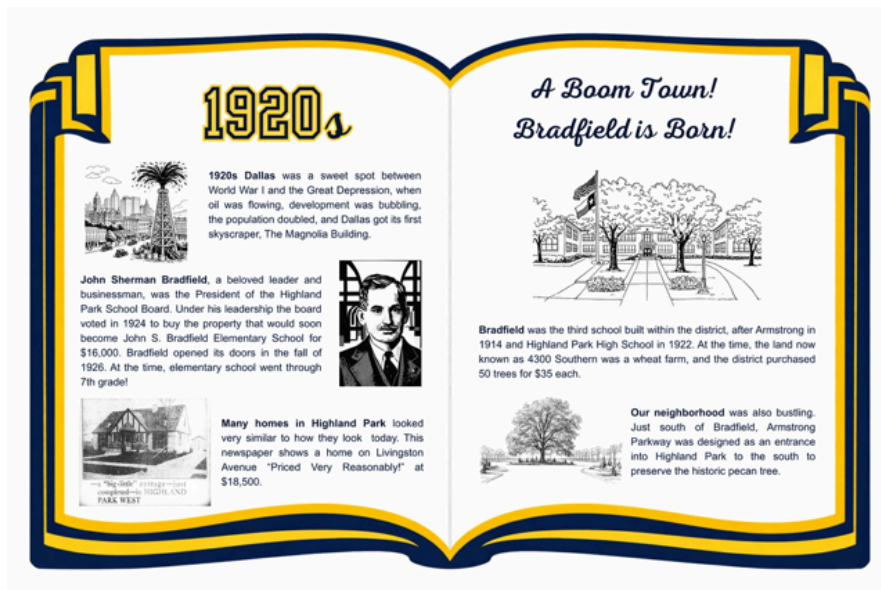




In 1926, Bradfield opened its doors! It was the third school in HPISD to open after Armstrong in 1914 and Highland Park High School in 1922. Armstrong was overcrowded, and there was great need for another elementary school. At the time, elementary school went through 7th grade!



In the 1930's the sweet pea was chosen as Bradfield's official school flower, and purple and gold were chosen as our colors. I'm still researching when these changed to blue and gold! In 1931 a luncheon was held for Bradfield's first graduating class of 7th graders headed to Highland Park High School, 19 boys and girls.

World War II played a big role in the 1940's, and the Bradfield PTA jumped in to help. They appointed a "Defence Chairman," and taught classes in nutrition, first aid and home nursing. Bradfield mothers helped in their own sewing rooms making garments to

send to British soldiers. And Bradfield was crowded, reaching an enrollment of 800! The boys gym was divided into three classrooms, and the auditorium was divided into two. The 1950's brought a revolution to Bradfield when the first female student was elected to serve as the President of the Student Council.

Things cooled off at Bradfield in the 60's with the welcome addition of air-conditioning to the building. Another welcome addition to Bradfield was a new school library! The latter part of the decade brought some drama. In 1967, Bradfield was the site of a small plane crash. Miraculously, students had early dismissal that day, so no students were in the building when it happened! A YMCA football team practicing on the field saw the plane come down over Mockingbird Lane and crash into the North wall of the school. In 1976, as you've all heard, Bradfield turned 50! The students, staff and families celebrated throughout the school year. Many of the celebrations were similar to ours this year like dancing the Charleston, planting a tree, dedicating a new playfield and hosting a family movie night.

Bradfield became the Broncos in the 1980s! In 1988, the Bradfield PTA had the idea of selecting a school mascot. Students submitted ideas, and a contest was held. Bulldogs and broncos got the most votes, and Broncos won! Bradfield became the first of all HP elementary schools to have a mascot. Go Broncos!

One former Bradfield PTA President described the 1990's at Bradfield as "boring." Haha! My response to her was "That's a good thing!" In the 90's Bradfield was nominated for its second National Award with the Freedoms Foundation, following a yearlong, school-wide study on patriotism and citizenship. The Bradfield PTA also hosted its first auction fundraiser. A far cry from ours now, it was held in Bradfield school classrooms!

At the turn of the century, Bradfield turned 75 in 2001! And in 2004 Sam Flores, the namesake of Sam's Corner, retired after serving decades as Bradfield's head custodian and raising his family in a home on the Bradfield campus.

The 2010's brought new beginnings for our school! In 2012, the PTA decided our Bronco needed a name and an outfit, and "Blaze" was chosen! Blaze still wears the same suit today! Following a district-wide bond package, the original Bradfield was torn down in 2018, and by August 2019 construction was completed and classes resumed in our brand new school building.



And here we are in the 2020's, so far, so great! Especially now as we celebrate 100 years of our beloved Bradfield!

