

ST JOAN OF ARC MEMORIES FROM THE CLASS OF 1989

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Marge Lynch was the principal of the school all of our years. She was convinced all of our heads were made of wood. LOL

Being on student council meant you got called to the office and got to carry a note from Ms Lynch to Vi Piazzzi over at the rectory.

Playing floor hockey "intramurals" in the Spring - watching from the corners of the gym

Jane Hill Dill – we had to run from one end of the gym to the other and hope you didn't get tagged by the people in the middle. And if you did, you had to sit in place and tag people as they ran by.

The Gravy Bowl and being so excited to get chosen to be a player or cheerleader

Track-a-thon and the short-lived Jump Rope-a-thon

Tornado drills with the older kids covering the younger kids

Graduating to lockers in the hallway in 6th grade!

6th grade singing "Shepherd of Love" (I can hear your voice a callin' callin' to me...) and "Good Samaritan" song along with the records. "A man came down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell among robbers who beat him and left him to die, abandoned him and branded him for every passerby...Who is my neighbor? Who claims my word and deed? Anyone in need, anyone in need... and Jesus said go out and do the same."

Wishing that my name would be announced on the PA that my lunch was "on the shelf" waiting for me and that it might, just might, be McDonalds.

Sneaking away from play practice during the school day with the other 8th grade girls to go on "missions" which involved raiding the kitchen off the gym, the kitchen in the cafeteria basement or one time even the teachers' lounge to see if we could find any food or drink to share. One time encountering Pete "the janitor" and kindly pleading with and successfully convincing him to look the other way while we ate the Creamsicles we found in the basement refrigerator.

Starting around January of each year Ms. Lynch would refer to the 8th graders as "the graduates."

8th grade banquet. Singing revised lyrics of "My Girl" to Ms. Lynch, the Notre Dame fight song? "Cheer, Cheer for Old '89!"

At Christmas time each class would go caroling to the other classes. 7th or 8th did "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" or "Jingle Bell Rock" with a few dance moves mixed in and 6th did "Must Be Santa." Every year. Something to look forward to...

Stromer dance classes - not only did we not have class in 8th grade because of the play but we had dance class on Mondays. And whenever I hear Rick Astley I bust out either the pretzel or the box step.

Mr. Campbell had the same routine every day - you hit the incline board to stretch for 20 seconds then run 5 laps forward, 3 backwards, then bear-walk and crab-walk. We always kept our locker room immaculate as we did not want to be asked if our mom lived at school to clean up after our messes.

More gym class memories - Jump the River was with hockey sticks, poly spots and Steal the Bacon. In Miss Majorie's gymnastics class she had us jumping over our friends with dive roll ending. Some of the boys managed to achieve double digit body counts.

Mrs. Balch 6th grade English class - we had to diagram 110 sentences, memorizing the prepositions (about, above, across) and have to stand up in class and say them out loud and got to find out our blood type.

Mrs. Racine put on the best shows. Even when we were in 1st grade we did the Nativity Play. She also directed the Jr High Plays. West of Pecos, our 8th grade performance, was my favorite. Not only because we were out of class almost every afternoon for a month but because the songs were awesome, and I still catch myself humming them. By the way, the costumes from that play can still be spotted in the basement of SJA today.

Mrs. Bertler was a must see every Wednesday. She was basically sitting in a closet selling school supplies and taffy apples.

We used to be able to get into school as early as 7 am in 8th grade. We would rush to school in the morning to use the two computers in our class to play Oregon Trail. If you did not make it in time to get on the computer, we had a boom box that the girls would blast Grease songs on. One day, the boys had enough, and boom box ended up out the window. Punishments followed.

Punishments during our years at SJA, would consist of standing in front of the window outside Marge Lynch's office for hours. Most people could tell you every detail about the houses on Lawndale and tell you how many trees could be seen. Some of the best of us, ha, could even count the blades of grass.

Father John McMahon performed our 1st reconciliation, 1st communion, and confirmation. He was always such an important part of our lives as St Joan.

So many students walked to school so we used to have student crossing guards on Lawndale and Central Park. You had an orange band across your waist and chest so other kids took your duty seriously. I want to say we had hall monitors too.

We really loved Capture the Flag. The Zeras had the best lawn to play that game on.

In 6th grade, we all had to make volcanos that erupted as a project. Torn up newspaper, food coloring, baking soda, vinegar and lots of creativity went into that project. I kept mine 'til at least college.

Many of us remember being home sick the day the Space Shuttle crashed. Only a few of us remember watching it from school.

Memorizing in 4th grade often involved Shel Silverstein poems.

Red Rover proved to be a very dangerous game for 7th and 8th graders. We were banned from the hill outside of the kindergarten room (now preschool room) because so many people got hurt.

St Joan Saints Go Marching In can still be sung by all of us.

Notes being passed back and forth discussing crushes and things that clearly could not wait until the end of class. The smaller you could write the better so when you got caught your teacher could not read it aloud to the class unless she dug through her purse to get her glasses.

One of our teachers used to sneak cigarettes out the window when we were at recess.

After football games, we would all get dropped off at Burger King and walk home afterward.

Deacons, Endlers, and Super Lively were all frequented with allowance money.

We did not have hot lunch at school so Pizza Day & Hot Dog days were the best!

Great fun while learning at SJA!







