

DR. GERALD J. HALEY, PRINCIPAL

Dr. Gerald J. Haley, the new principal of Taft High School, is a native of Chicago. He received his education in the local elementary and secondary schools, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Loyola University. After additional graduate study, he was awarded a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree in 1947.

Although Dr. Haley has been licensed to practice law in Illinois, his main interest is that of an educator. He has taught ten years in the junior and senior high schools of Chicago in subjects including mechanical drawing, commercial law, mathematics, U.S. History, and civics. For approximately eight years, he was assistant principal of Parker High School. Then, in 1948 Dr. Haley became principal of Medill Elementary School, until March, 1957, when he assumed his duties as principal of Taft High School.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HIGH SCHOOL

GERALD J. HALEY, PRINCIPAL
SCHOOL & TEACHER, MEDILL HIGH SCHOOL

CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION—BENJAMIN D. WELLS, GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
1115 NORTH MATTHEW AVENUE — CHICAGO 14, ILLINOIS

To the Students of Taft High School:

Commencement means a beginning. To you young graduates this means a beginning of a new life — a life in which some of you will go on to higher education and some of you will enter the business world.

It is the hope of the faculty of the Taft High School that we in some small way have prepared you for this life after high school.

We hope that you will become an integral part of your community and remain active in all civic affairs.

Gerald J. Haley
Dr. Gerald J. Haley, Principal
Taft High School

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MR. L. P. TEUSCHER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Being the assistant principal to a large high school like Taft is a difficult job, but Mr. Leonard P. Teuscher does a wonderful job filling this position.

Before coming to Taft, Mr. Teuscher fulfilled such positions as faculty business manager and administrative aid at Foreman, Calumet, and Amundsen. In 1939 when Taft opened its doors for the first time it also welcomed Mr. Teuscher to its faculty, where he has been ever since.

Some of his major duties include organizing school functions, making the school calendar detailing the weekly activities, and directing the programing of students as well as the faculty.

During his vacation, Mr. Teuscher enjoys such activities as athletics and traveling, but spends most of his leisure time camping.



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. Gerold J. Haley, Principal
Mr. Leonard P. Teuscher, Assistant Principal
Miss Maybelle J. Capron, Attendance Counselor
Mrs. Grace M. Favaro, Adjustment Teacher
Miss Helen H. Lawes, Placement Counselor and Senior Counselor
Miss Valentine J. Casey, Freshman Counselor
Miss Margaret T. Newman, Sophomore Counselor
Miss Mary A. DelCampo, Junior Counselor
Mr. Kennard B. Seyfler, Boys' Counselor

SECRETARIES

Mrs. Janet K. Benedeck
Mrs. Bernice P. Kruger
Miss Dorothy L. Littleton
Mrs. Catherine H. Wittmer



SCHOOL CLERKS



Mrs. Benedeck



Mrs. Kruger



Miss Littleton



Mrs. Wittmar

ADJUSTMENT AND COUNSELOR TEACHERS



Miss Capron



Miss Casey



Miss Del Campo



Mr. Dunn



Mrs. Favaro



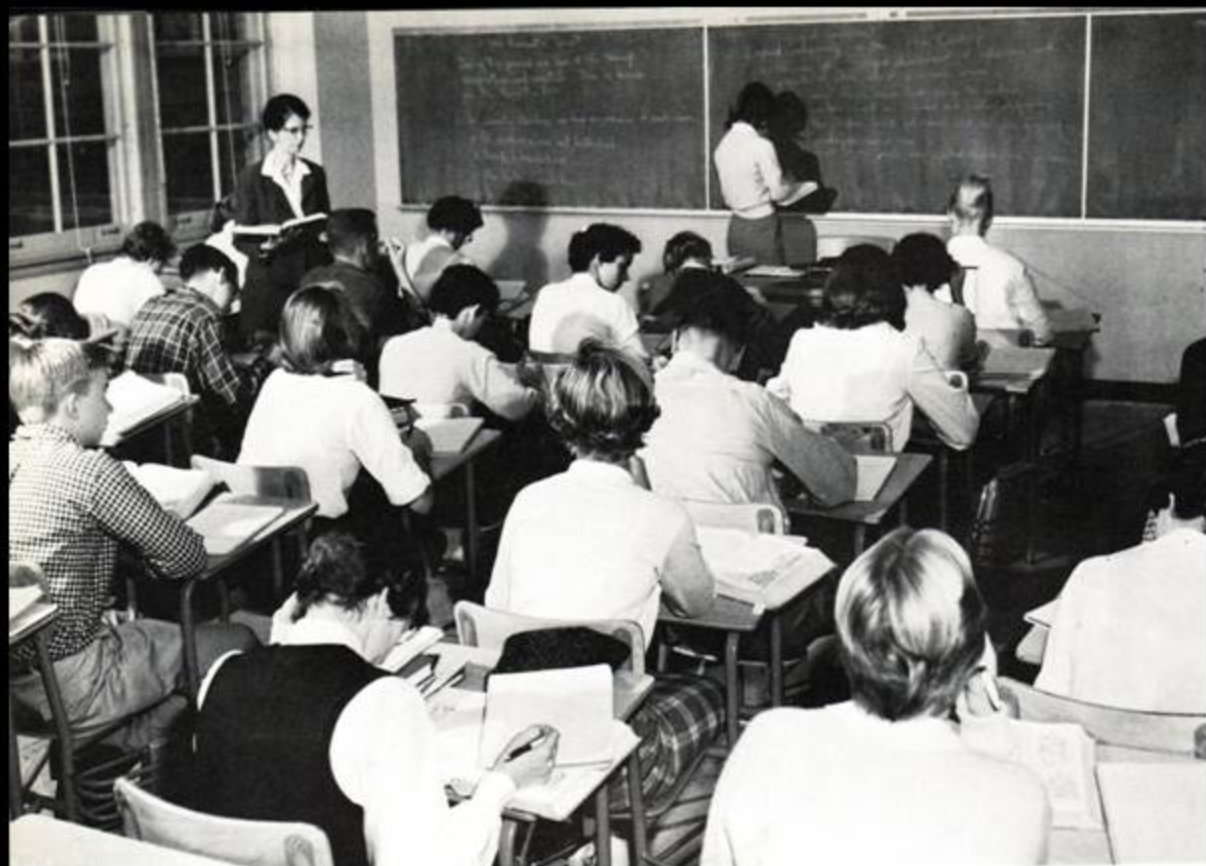
Mr. Hease



Miss Lowes



Miss Newman



ENGLISH

grouping literary movements in English



Miss Allen



Mrs. Anderson



Mr. Dillo



Mr. Dunn



Mrs. Fidler



Mrs. Hansen



Mr. Kilroy



Mr. McGlothlin



Mrs. Perry



Mr. Postol



Mrs. Savin



Mr. Tschili

MATHEMATICS



Mr. Beaver



Mrs. Gray



Mrs. Larkin



Mrs. Larson



Miss Newman



Mrs. Rapp



Mrs. Sobaski



Mr. Ryker



Mr. Culbertson



Miss J. Fox



Mrs. M. Fox



Mr. C. Johnson



Mrs. Kerr

SCIENCE



Mr. Longman



Mr. Phipps



Mr. Robins



Mrs. Gallus



Mr. Avichouser



Mr. Compton



Mr. Freedman



Mr. S. Stamm

GRAPHIS ARTS AND MUSIC



Mr. Cury

Miss Felt

Miss Godenalk

Mrs. Halverson

Mr. Howard

Mr. Kaplan



Mr. McCarthy

Miss Nelson

Mr. Phipps

Mr. Stein

Mr. Peterson

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Understanding Civic responsibilities.





Miss Devenish

Miss Nielsen

Miss Whalen

HOME ECONOMICS AND TECHNICAL



Mr. Colman

Mr. Doering

Mr. Favaro

Mr. Fenn



Experience and knowledge will make
better homemakers.
Photo by Bob Miller

COMMERCIAL



Mrs. Foley



Mrs. Thierick

Mrs. M. Johnson

Mrs. Kelsch

Mrs. Meitz

Mr. Nachway

Mr. Waten

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Mr. Dyanis



Mrs. Healy



Mr. Kupcinet



Mr. Miller



Mrs. Norman



Mr. Rapper



Mr. Smilgoff



R. O. T. C. Instructors



M/Sgt. E. Neese



M/Sgt. Pruessing

Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



EAGLE ATHLETIC BOARD

1955 - 1956

JIM SMILGOFF

Ten years ago Jim Smilgoff came to Taft to coach baseball. In the space of time since that date Taft teams have won 205 games and lost 41.

Mr. Smilgoff is a graduate of Lane Tech, where he played baseball under the immortal Percy Moore. He is a former minor league player and former coach at Harrison High.

Since coming here the very able coach has won one city title and four North Section titles. During the ten years of Mr. Smilgoff's mentorship, names such as Chuck Bauer, Jim Hoppe, Tom Plath, George Maier, Larry Lunderholm, and Bruce Benson have graced the diamonds of Taft.



JACK RAPPER

Jack Rapper has been the most successful golf coach in the city of Chicago. His Taft golf teams in the last ten years have won four city titles and have gone to the State finals on six occasions.

This year he led Taft's basketball team to the semi-finals of public league play. He took a team with a lot of spirit and some ability and made it into the North Section champion.



HARRY MILLER

Harry Miller is a versatile man; he is a gym teacher, a science teacher, and an authority on almost all sports.

Mr. Miller has been at Taft for 17 years, and in that space of time has coached swimming, tennis and track on occasion.

Mr. Miller handles the freshman gym classes and assists in coaching the tennis team at the present time.

JOE KUPCINET

In 1939 a young successful football coach at Lane Tech decided to transfer to a new school, called Taft, on the northwest side of the city.

Today, some 17 years later, that same coach, not so young but still successful, is going strong at Taft.

Joe KupcINET is a man builder. Even though he is rough and tough, he is building men that Taft can be proud of in the future.

Mr. KupcINET is a former "semi-pro" football player, and was a high school star. During the summer he runs a camp for boys in Wisconsin.



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

FACULTY

MR. LEE R. ROBINS
General Science



MR. KENNARD SEYLER
Attendance



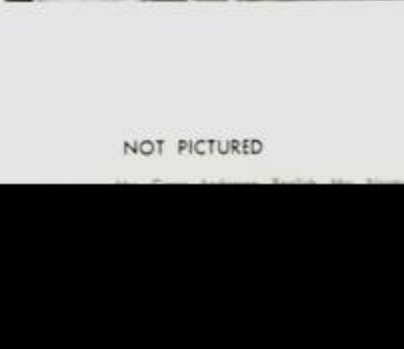
MISS A. EDITH STRANDBERG
English, Public Speaking



MR. VERNON VANDERAH
German



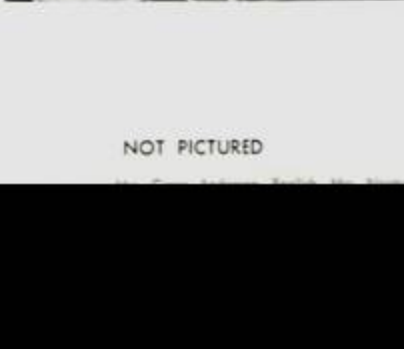
MRS. MARGARET F. WALKER
Physical Education, Health



MISS MARGARET A. WINGER
Library Science



MISS JUDITH ZIDEK
Physical Education, Health



NOT PICTURED

Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

WE WELCOMED IN '56-'57

MRS. RUTH S. ALMLOF
English

MR. DAVID BUCHENGLER
Algebra, Trigonometry

MR. JOSEPH DUNN
English

MISS TERESITA ENCARNACION
Algebra, Mathematics Essentials

MR. JOHN FRITSCHLE
Music

MRS. RITA HANSEN
U. S. History, General History

MRS. PHYLLIS HEALY
Physical Education, Health

MRS. JANE C. KERR
Biology

MISS HELEN J. McMURTRY
Spanish

MISS ALICE J. MITCHELL
College Algebra, Algebra

MR. SANDER POSTOL
English

MR. WALLACE WENDER
English

MISS MARIE VARRAVETO
English



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

FACULTY

MISS MARY A. DELCAMPO
French, Spanish

MRS. ALICE P. ERST
Music

MR. ANTHONY FAVARO
Metal Shop, Drafting

MRS. GRACE M. FAVARO
Guidance Counselor

MISS MARGUERITE V. FELT
U. S. History, Civics

MR. ALBERT E. FENN
Drafting, Design

MISS JEANNETTE FOX
Biology

MR. WALTER J. FREEDMAN
Band, Orchestra

MISS GERTRUDE M. GIBBONS
English

MISS VIRGINIA GODENRATH
U. S. History,
General History, Civics



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

FACULTY

MRS. RUTH C. MITCHELL
Art

MR. ROBERT J. NACHTWEY
Salesmanship, Commercial Law,
Business Organization

MISS MARGARET T. NEWMAN
Sophomore Counselor, Geometry

MISS RUTH NIELSEN
Foods, Home Management
English

MRS. IDA K. PEARCE
Art, Basic Art

MRS. EVELYN PERRY
Public Speaking, Drama

MR. R. CHASE PHIPPS
Commercial Geography,
U. S. History

MR. JOHN A. PIUPPO
Biology

M/Sgt. CHARLES L. PRUSSING
R. O. T. C.

MR. JACK J. RAPPER
Physical Education, Health



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

FACULTY

MISS MARGARET G. GRANT
Algebra, Geometry, Solid
Geometry, Math Essentials

MISS IRMA M. GROSSER
Biology

MRS. EDITH M. HALVERSON
Economics, U. S. History, Civics

MR. VICTOR B. HOWARD
General History,
U. S. History, Civics

MR. CLARENCE E. JOHNSON
General Science, Chemistry

MISS MARGARET M. JOHNSON
Typing, Stenography,
Transcription

MRS. DOROTHY F. JORDAN
Art

MISS FRANCES C. JORDAN
Physical Education, Health

MRS. HELEN A. KELEHER
Stenography, Transcription,
Typing

MRS. RUTH KNICKERBOCKER
Physical Education, Health



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



MR. JOSEPH KUPCINEK
Physical Education, Health



MISS CLARA O. LARSON
Algebra, College Algebra,
Trigonometry, Geometry



MR. EDWARD LEACH
Elementary Business Training,
Business Organization, Careers



MR. JAMES A. LONGMAN
Physics



MISS HELEN H. LOWES
Placement Counselor, Senior Counselor



MR. JOHN K. McCALMONT
Chemistry



MISS INA McCURDY
Bookkeeping, Mathematics Essentials



MR. DON C. MCGLOTHLIN
English, Journalism



MRS. BELLE MEITES
Typing, Stenography, Transcription



MR. HARRY S. MILLER
Physical Education, Health

Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

MISS IRMA M. GROSSER
Biology, General Science

MISS EDITH M. HALVERSON
Economics, U. S. History, Civics



MR. VICTOR HOWARD
General History, U. S. History, Civics

MR. CLARENCE E. JOHNSON
General Science, Chemistry



MISS MARGARET M. JOHNSON
Typing, Stenography, Transcription

MRS. DOROTHY JORDAN
Art



MISS FRANCES JORDAN
Physical Education, Health

MR. JASON KAPLAN
English, General History, U. S. History, Civics



MRS. HELEN A. KELEHER
Typing, Transcription, Stenography

MRS. RUTH KNICKERBOCKER
Physical Education, Health



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

MISS DOROTHY L. ALLEN
English, Registrar

MR. JESSE F. BEAVER
Algebra, Advanced Algebra, College
Algebra, Geometry

MR. PAUL W. BIGLER
Physics, Algebra

MR. JOHN A. BLACHARSKI
English, Latin

M. SGT. JOEL A. BOUDREAUX
R. O. T. C.

MISS MAYBELLE I. CAPRON
Attendance Counselor

MISS VALENTINE J. CASEY
Freshman Counselor, Algebra,
Geometry, College Algebra

MR. EDWARD R. COLTMAN
Woodshop, Drafting

MR. GERALD T. CUNY
U. S. History, General History, Civics

MISS MARY DEL CAMPO
French, Spanish



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



MISS FLORENCE DEVENISH
Food



MR. ANTHONY FAVARO
Metal Shop, Drafting



MRS. GRACE M. FAVARO
Guidance Counselor, Adjustment
Counselor



MISS MARGUERITE FELT
U. S. History, Civics



MR. ALBERT E. FENN
Drafting, Design



MRS. JUNE FOLEY
Shorthand, Typing, Elementary
Business Training



MISS JEANNETTE FOX
Biology



MR. WALTER J. FREEDMAN
Band, Orchestra



MISS GERTRUDE M. GIBBONS
English



MISS VIRGINIA GODENRATH
U. S. History, General History, Civics

Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



WE MISSED IN '56-'57

MR. HUBERT H. ANDERSON Study Leave
General Science, Careers

MRS. ALICE P. ERST Promoted to
District Music Supervisor
Music, Chorus

MRS. STELLA FOLEY Transferred to
Lucy Flowers
Algebra, Mathematics Essentials

MISS MARY A. FREYDER Transferred to
Morgan Park High School
English, Journalism

MISS MARGARET G. GRANT Retired
Algebra, Geometry, Solid Geometry,
Mathematics Essentials

MRS. CHRISSIE E. LASCHER Retired
English

MR. J. RITCHIE LONG Retired
U. S. History, General History

MR. JAMES LUEBKER Transferred to
Steinmetz
Algebra, English

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MISS MAUDE I. NELSON Sabbatical
Leave
U. S. History, Civics

MISS LILLIAN PERRY Retired
Algebra, Geometry, College Algebra,
Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry

MISS VIVIAN SAYLOR Transferred to
Austin High School
Spanish

MRS. RUTH STEVENSON Resigned
English

MISS JUDITH ZIDEK Transferred to
Spaulding School
Physical Education, Health



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

MRS. RUTH C. MITCHELL
Art

MR. ROBERT J. NACHTWEY
Salesmanship, Commercial Law,
Business Organization



MISS MARGARET T. NEWMAN
Advanced Algebra, Algebra, Geometry,
Solid Geometry, Trigonometry

MISS RUTH NIELSEN
Foods, Home Management



MRS. IDA K. PEARCE
Art

MR. R. CHASE PHIPPS
U. S. History, Commercial Geography



MR. JOHN A. PIUPPO
Biology

M. SGT. CHARLES L. PRUESSING
R. O. T. C.



MRS. AGNES D. QUINN
Assistant Librarian

MR. JACK J. RAPPER
Physical Education, Health



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...

FACULTY

MR. JOSEPH KUPCINET
Physical Education, Health



MISS CLARA O. LARSON
Algebra, Advanced Algebra,
College Algebra, Trigonometry,
Geometry



MRS. CHRISSIE E. LASCHER
English



MR. J. RITCHIE LONG
U. S. History, World History,
General History

MR. JAMES A. LONGMAN
Physics, Algebra



MR. JOHN K. MCCALMONT
Chemistry

MISS INA McCURDY
Bookkeeping



MR. DON C. MCGLOTHLIN
English

MRS. BELLE H. L. MEITES
Typing, Stenography,
Transcription



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



MR. LEE R. ROBINS
General Science

MR. KENNARD SEYLLER
Solid Geometry



MR. JAMES SMILGOFF
Physical Education, Health

MR. JAMES STAMM
Music, Chorus



MISS A. EDITH STRANDBERG
English, Public Speaking

MISS HELEN L. UNSETH
Art, Mechanical Drawing



MR. VERNON VANDERAH
German

MRS. MARGARET F. WALKER
Physical Education, Health



MISS MARGARET A. WINGER
Librarian

MR. WALLACE WORTHLEY
Biology, General Science

NOT PICTURED

MRS. GRACE ANDERSON
English

MRS. MARIAN LUKENS
English

MRS. NORMA ANDREWS
Algebra, Spanish, German

MISS HATTIE MARGUARDT
English

MISS ELIZABETH BRUECKMAN
English

MRS. EVELYN PERRY
Drama, Public Speaking

MISS HELEN LEITENSTORFER

MRS. HELEN F. SUTER

MISS RUTH E. WHALEN
Clothing, English



Taft Faculty Doing What They Do Best...



We welcomed in '56

FACULTY

MISS FLORENCE DEVENISH
Foods

MRS. JUNE FOLEY
Shorthand, Typing, Elementary
Business Training

MRS. STELLA FOLEY
Algebra, Math Essentials

MISS MARY A. FREYDER
English, Journalism

MR. JASON KAPLAN
English, General History, Civics

MR. EDWARD LEACH
Elementary Business Training,
Business Organization

MR. JAMES LUEBKE
Algebra, English

MRS. AGNES D. QUINN
Assistant Librarian

MR. JAMES STAMM
Music

MR. WALLACE WORTHLEY
Biology, General Science

MISS RUTH E. WHALEN
Clothing, English

NOT PICTURED

MRS. RUTH STEVENSON
English

The four office clerks are more than "just clerks"; they are the administrative staff's "right arm."

MISS LORRAINE F. DUBACK

MISS GERALDINE W. KOACH

MRS. BERNICE P. KRUGER

MISS DOROTHY L. LITTLETON



The Library staff consists of three hard-working women who are always happy to help you.

MISS MARGARET A. WINGER
Head Librarian

MRS. VERA BURICA
Library Clerk

MRS. AGNES D. QUINN
Assistant Librarian