

English-German Schools No. 3 & No. 5 MS26

Finding aid prepared by Kelly Peters

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections

December, 2006

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Summary Information

Repository	Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
Title	English-German Schools No. 3 & No. 5
Date	1876-1897
Extent	1.0 Linear feet 2 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	Due to the large number of families in Baltimore who spoke German, the development of English-German schools met with great success in Baltimore as in Philadelphia. The collection dates from 1876-1897, and includes articles, undated class photographs, and bi-weekly report ledgers that document student fees, student-to-teacher ratios, student rolls and other information.

Biographical/Historical note

English-German schools began in Baltimore in 1873, through a resolution passed by the Joint Committee on Education of the City Council of Baltimore. The goal of these schools was to allow elementary-aged children to receive instruction in both English and German, in order to meet the growing need of Baltimore. In 1873, almost a quarter of the families living in Baltimore spoke German and other cities, like Philadelphia, were already having great success with the development of these schools.

English-German School #3 opened its doors in 1874 and English-German School #5 followed suit in 1876. By this time, the total attendance reached 2,963. School #3 was located on Trinity St. near Exeter and, in 1875, had 13 teachers to its 615 pupils. School #5 was located on Fremont St. near Lombard. School #3 would later move to Baltimore St. near Aisquith and School #5 would get a new building in 1900 at Lexington St. near Fremont.

In 1879, the English-German schools were renamed “Public Schools,” to meet opposition to the general idea of teaching any language but English in the public schools at the taxpayer’s expense. The schools were renamed “English-German” schools in 1887. By 1889, conditions were crowded and insufficient when enrollment rose to just over 5,000. By 1899, towards the end of the existence of English-German schools, enrollment was just below 7,000.

Lizette Woodworth Reese, a well-known local poet and writer, taught at School #3 during the 1890s and is listed in the Public Schools Directories. The total number of English-German schools in Baltimore City grew to seven, before they were completely disbanded by 1917, due to World War I.

Scope and Contents note

The collection’s bulk dates cover 1876-1897, with actual report books outlining student fees, student-to-teacher ratios and student rolls for the following school year. The collection also includes several undated photographs of students and instructors of English-German School. #3 and #5. There are 4 ledger books that have been wrapped in acid-free folders because of their condition. The pages are not brittle and the writing is still legible.

Arrangement note

Since the collection is so small, the contents can be summarized as follows:

The collection is small and lacks diversity in content. It basically includes;

Bi-Weekly Report Ledger books

Photographs show students from various classes at the schools and also include a view of the administration at the time.

More information on the teachers, administration and curriculum of School #5 and English-German schools in general can be found in the collection's file in the Special Collections department. The information contains photocopies from the "Directory of the Public Schools of Baltimore, Maryland" from 1893, 1894 and 1897.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections December, 2006

Revision Description

Entered into Archivist's Toolkit by Joan M. Wolk September, 2015

Conditions Governing Access

Unrestricted, open by appointment.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Unknown.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- English-German Schools.

- Maryland--Baltimore--English-German Schools.
- Public Schools--Maryland--Baltimore.
- Public Schools--Maryland--Directories.

Genre(s)

- photographs

Personal Name(s)

- Reese, Lizette Woodworth, 1856-1935

Subject(s)

- Report cards

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
“Sunshine: A Choice Selection of Songs...,” 5th edition, Sept. 13, 1899, from Male Grammar School No. 11.	1	1
“School Music of To-Day: Its Aims and Values,” by Miss Place, given before the Educational Section of the Arundell Club, Baltimore, Md., Dec. 16, 1901.	1	1
“The Francis Scott Key School, Locust Point, Baltimore, Maryland.” By Charles A. Bennett, Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Education Bulletin, 1920, No. 41.	1	1
“The Coda: Supplementary Music for Public Schools,” 1889.	1	1
74th Annual Meeting of the Maryland State Teachers’ Association, Baltimore, Maryland, Oct. 24-25, 1941.	1	1
Class Picture, 8th grade, male and female	1	2
Class Picture, 6th grade, females	1	3
School Outing with administration, no date	1	4
Class Picture in courtyard, males and females with administration, no date	1	5

Class Picture in courtyard, males and females, no date	1	6
Photo in front of English-German School No. 5 with administration, males and females	1	7
Photo of English-German School No. 5, Lexington St. near Fremont, no date	1	8
Class Picture with administration, males and females, no date	1	9
Photo of 7 schoolboys, no date	1	10
Bi-Weekly Report ledger, English-German School No. 5, Monday, Nov. 13, 1893-Friday, Sept. 18, 1897	1	11
Bi-Weekly Report ledger, English-German School No. 3, Monday, Nov. 13, 1876-Friday, April 19, 1878	2	12
Bi-Weekly Report ledger, English-German School No. 3, Monday, April 5, 1880-Friday, July 1, 1881	2	13
Public School Register, English-German School No. 5, from Jan. 1, 1891	2	14