

# History of the Basketball Gymnasiums for Vaughnsville High School 1915 - 1962

The first mention of boys' and girls' basketball at Vaughnsville was in 1915 when both teams played Columbus Grove High School, but it is not known where Vaughnsville played its home games until the 1936-1937 school year.

## GYMNASIUM #1 1915 - 1936

During the early 1900's, if a school did not have an "auditorium or gym", games were often played in any large room that was available in the community. Newspaper articles mentioned that Vaughnsville was playing home games in a gym before 1936. The Vidette had an article in 1975 that stated that "Vaughnsville played in a frame building adjacent to the present schoolhouse. It too had the two heating stoves for a trace of warmth. Low hung rafters and incandescent light bulbs gave special obstacles to a shooter trying to look through the glare and push the ball through the rafters to score." I could find no specifics to this gym in regards to court dimensions or seating arrangements.

## GYMNASIUM #2 1937 - 1962

An article in the Putnam County Vidette on November 20, 1936, mentioned that "the new gymnasium at the Vaughnsville school will be officially dedicated Friday evening when the Vaughnsville and Columbus Grove basketball teams meet in the first battle of the season." On November 27, 1936, the Vaughnsville girls, coached by Jean Randall, lost to Columbus Grove 19-13 while the boys, coached by E. C. Shook, defeated Columbus Grove 37-18.

Vaughnsville High School consolidated with Columbus Grove for the 1962-1963 school year. The gym was used as a practice and junior high game gym for many years. It is still in existence and used by the Vaughnsville community for many activities.

This gym was used as the high school gymnasium for 26 years, 1937-1962. The floor dimensions are 41 x 61. It has chair seats on one side and a stage with bleachers on the opposite side. The seating capacity was 500.