

Information on Kearney West High School

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1. Name of High School - Kearney West High School
2. District Number - Buffalo County (state operated)
3. School Site Location - at Youth Development Center, west of Kearney, NE
4. Year opened - 1880 as the State Reform School
Year high school classes were added; Year closed if no longer open
5. School Colors -
6. School Mascot -
7. School Song (Name and source of melody if known)-
8. Year of first graduating class -
Number and names of persons in first graduating class -
9. Year of most recent (or last) graduating class
Number of persons in most recent graduating class
If school is closed, names of last graduating class members -
10. Notable achievements, both academic and athletic, of your high school -
11. Names of first school board members (if known) - First Superintendent was Dr. G. W. Collins of Falls City, NE.
12. Name of first superintendent (if known) -
13. Names of noted graduates of national or statewide prominence in government, business, politics, science, education, athletic, entertainment, etc. Or names of notable teachers or administrators at the high school.
14. Anything else that might be of interest.

This institution was first called the State Reform School, later called the State Industrial School, and is now the Youth Development Center. The boys who are assigned to this institution attend a Nebraska accredited high school, Kearney West.

In 1897 Kearney was awarded the State Industrial School due to the efforts of Senator John D. Seaman and Rep. James A. Davis. The city of Kearney gave 300 acres of land west of the city to serve as the site. Both boys and girls were admitted to the school until 1890.