We have what you need to teach 1860s style:

- 25 desks
- Recitation benches
- Teacher’s desk
- McGuffey Readers
- Slates with chalk or slate pencils
- 1848 flag
- Dunce stool and hat
- Hickory Stick
- Maps
- Inside and outside toys
- Handicap accessibility
- Indoor privy
- Sample lessons
- School bell
- Small kitchen

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

Phone: 248-656-4663
Fax: 248-608-8198
E-mail: rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org
If these walls could talk......

They would tell the stories of generations of children who lived in the Village of Stoney Creek and learned to read and write and cipher in their one room schoolhouse. They would remember children who lived on local farms and walked or were transported by buggy to school when they were not needed to help on the farm and when their families could afford to send them. The walls would tell about the older students helping the younger students and about the young teachers who boarded with local families and kept the school warm and clean while teaching children ages 6-15 all in one classroom. Stoney Creek School Fractional District #1 was used from 1848-1952. Oh, the stories the walls could tell...

We invite you and your students to create your own stories.

Travel Back in Time...

To the mid-1800s with your class. Students can dress in period clothing, pack authentic old fashioned lunches and spend the day learning the 3Rs—reading, writing and arithmetic by using McGuffey Readers, slates and copybooks. Students can blab, recite and participate in a spelling bee. They can also learn to walk on stilts, use graces and hoops or play with jacks and Jacob’s Ladders during recess.

Our 1950s room is the location of many exhibits about the Village of Stoney Creek and One Room Schoolhouses. Students will “think like historians” when they try to figure out how people used the artifacts in our hands-on daily life exhibit.

Programs and Availability

Teachers are free

Costs are per student and parent

- You are the School Master or Marm: $5
- Hire a School Master or Marm: $10
- 10:00–2:00
- Choose a day: Monday through Friday
- September through February

Optional Programs

- Farmhouse & Dairy Barn Tour: 2 hours—$5

Our History

The School Act of 1829 created the Stoney Creek School District. The original plank schoolhouse, built in 1825, burned and in 1848 was replaced with the current Stoney Creek Schoolhouse. The first teacher was John Chapman, a mathematician, who taught spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, history and physiology from 9:00-4:00. There were two terms—winter and summer. The winter teacher was usually a man and the summer teacher was a woman.

The northern wing was added in 1952 to accommodate an increase in enrollment. However, shortly after its completion, the Stoney Creek District Number 1 opted to join the new Rochester Community School District. The schoolhouse closed in 1952 but was used periodically to accommodate overcrowding in the nearby elementary school. Dr. Max Mallon, local dentist and School Board member, led the restoration of the schoolhouse as part of the 1976 American Bicentennial. The school re-opened in 1982 as a living history classroom for third grade students in Rochester.