

Dedication

To River Forest Youth who have many opportunities for service to their country, their community, their schools, themselves, and especially to their mothers, fathers, guardians, and teachers who have helped provide these opportunities

River Forest Ingot History

HISTORY OF RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

The story of River Forest High School starts early in the year 1956. At the time, Hobart City Schools notified the township trustee that there was no room at Hobart for the freshman class of the coming school year. After investigating all possibilities, it was decided that the only way out was to house incoming Hobart Township freshman in the Henry S. Evans School, and to start a holding company in order to build a proper high school.

In the summer of 1956, a holding company was formed, known as the Hobart Township Building Corporation. An architect and attorney were hired, and plans for the new building were started. On March 1, 1957, it was announced that the State of Indiana would lend the money for building construction.

In June of 1957, the cornerstone was placed, and on August 17, 1958, there were 3,000 township residents looking over the new high school in its open house ceremony. On September 24, 1958, the New River Forest High School was formally dedicated.

At the dedication the school had progressed from a dream into a realization of one of the finest school facilities around. This project was accomplished by a unified effort of all people in Hobart Township: it was the outcome of a community that wanted the best for its youngsters and went out and got it.

The junior high addition was begun in 1958. It was opened for the 1959-60 school year. Further renovations to the junior high-high school complex began in 1986 and continued through 1988. Modernization of the high school gym lobby, restrooms, home economics department, science department, and business department was included, along with the construction of a new gymnasium, locker rooms, and computer lab for the junior high building.

ACCREDITATION

River Forest High School has been a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools since 1962. "The object of the association shall be the development and maintenance of high standards of excellence for universities, colleges, and secondary schools, the continued improvement of cooperating relationships between secondary schools, colleges, and the universities within the territory of the association, and the maintenance of effective working relationships with other educational organizations and accrediting agencies."

In carrying out this objective, the association sets standards which must be maintained. Some of these include the length of the class period, the school year, the size of classes, teacher preparation, etc. It also evaluated instruction through occasional visits by authorized agents. Schools failing to meet the requirements are dropped from membership. That River Forest has never been dropped is a tribute to the high standards maintained at River Forest.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

River Forest High School has been certified by the Indiana State Department of Education as a high school of the first or highest grade.

WHAT IS AN INGOT?

According to Mr. Webster, an **INGOT** is a mass of refined cast (steel) into some convenient shape for transportation. It is quite fitting that this symbol be used to display the philosophy that underlies the educational process at River Forest. An analysis of the meaning might show us why.



The first significant word in the definition is **MASS**. The word means

The next significant word is **REFINED**. To be refined, one must be cultivated in taste, manners, appreciation, and thought. If you can live up to the challenge that being an **INGOT** gives you, you will graduate from your school as a polished individual. You will have reached the stage of perfection that you are a true **INGOT**. You will be **REFINED**.

METAL is also a very significant word in the definition. The very geographically location of River Forest Schools tells you that **INGOT** is one form of steel. There are also gold ingots, silver ingots, and platinum ingots. Steel depicts strength, zeal, and courage. Properly refined or tempered steel, gold, silver, or platinum signify the spirit of **RIVER FOREST**. If you strive to obtain the proper temperament while at River Forest, it will mean that you always put forth your best effort, you will always try to do the very best that you know how to do. A **TRUE INGOT** will have the honor and dignity that comes from the courage and zeal to take on a job, do his or her very best and stick to it until it has been completed.

To **CAST** is to mold, or to form by molding, and is the next important step in the definition. River Forest does not want one mold, and therefore end up with one type of **INGOT**. Your creator made your mold and River Forest is an institution that will try to see that you fill the mold the way that it is intended to be filled by your creator. Your mold is unique. It has potentials or differences that distinguish it from all other molds. **If you are to be a real INGOT, you will fill that mold or cast to the fullest capacity. You will develop your potential to the ultimate.**

The last word in the definition is **TRANSPORTATION**. Even though it is the last word in the definition, it is the beginning for an **INGOT**. IF you find that you can pass the test – the test that you are a **TRUE INGOT** – River Forest will issue a ticket. This ticket will be a diploma that sends you out to the first real station of life. Pick your destination, and at graduation day you shall be handed a ticket that will bring you nearer to your destination. Good Luck to the future **INGOTS of RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL**. May you be proud and uphold the moral standing of your school as those students who have passed before you.

SCHOOL COLORS: GOLD AND CARDINAL

THE LEGEND OF JOE MAGARAC – Some say he was born in the veins of an iron mine; he stepped full grown from a gondola car loaded with iron ore. Anyway, heat never hurt **JOE MAGARAC**, the strong man of **STEEL VALLEY**. Night and day he'd sit in the door of No. 7 furnace on the open hearth, stirring and tasting the melting steel. When it tasted right he'd scoop it out by the handful and spill it into the **INGOT** molds. Then he'd take and squeeze the **INGOTS** until the prettiest rails you ever saw came rolling out between his fingers.