



Sir James Dunn Academy was created and financed through the vision of Lady Beaverbrook. Although the school opened in September 1966, with the first graduating class in 1967, the corner stone was laid on October 29, 1966 in dedication to Sir James Dunn Academy. Sir James Dunn Academy's crest is in honor of Lady Beaverbrook's first husband Sir James Dunn. It states in latin, Non Palma Sine Labore, which is in English. "No success without work."

Lady Beaverbrook's concept was that both the body and mind should be nurtured. She believed students should put total effort into their studies and extra curricular activities ranging from sports teams to art and cultural programmes. After completion of the school, Lady Beaverbrook totally financed extra curricular activities for several years. Today, the Sir James Dunn Foundation continues to financially support many extra curricular activities.

SJDA was initially a Junior and Senior High School. It included a fully equipped Library, art room, gymnasium and theatre equipment. The materials used to build the school, were by Lady Beaverbrook's instructions, top of the line, and such this school has maintained its structure. The original floor's and tile are still in great condition today. In 1967 Sir James Dunn Academy housed over 240 students and today we house 150 students from grades 7 – 12. The original plan of the school has not changed but as needs have arisen over the years, some classrooms have. We now have a fully equipped culinary classroom, woodworking shop, multi-media room and an up to date computer lab. Sir James Dunn Academy has been recognized as a Demonstration School and students in grades 7-9 are assigned netbook laptops. As part of a Pilot project with the Department of Early Intervention and Education, grades 10 -12 can bring their own technological devices from home. Despite the small population, SJDA students have continued to excel in their academic achievements and sports.