May 10, 1871

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was May 10, 1871, the day the Missouri Legislature established Normal School No. 2 in Warrensburg.

During the mid- to late 1800s, the Missouri General Assembly put into place several teaching colleges, with locations based on geography in Missouri. For the central part of the state, Warrensburg was chosen.

This college would have been started a year earlier, but there was great debate on where it should be located. Once the official announcement would come on April 20, 1871, $173,000 in bonds were approved by local voters.

In later years, Normal School No. 2 would become Warrensburg Teachers College, Central Missouri State Teachers College in 1919, Central Missouri State College in 1945, Central Missouri State University in 1972 and then University of Central Missouri in 2006.

In 1915, most of the original buildings on campus were destroyed by fire. Lawmakers saw to it funding would be in-place to construct new buildings. The Legislature worked with federal lawmakers in 1937 to erect a new library and physical education location.

And, it all started on May 10, 1871 — the date marking legislative establishment of what is now the University of Central Missouri, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: University of Central Missouri history; 1957 edition of the Missouri State Manual)