

# Hamilton

Name:	<b>Alexander Hamilton Middle School</b>	Enrollment:	740
Address:	1610 N 41st Street	Nickname:	Hawks
Configuration:	6–8	Colors:	Blue and yellow
Newspaper:	<i>Hamilton News</i>	Yearbook:	<i>Hamilton</i>

The roots of Hamilton can be traced to a resolution presented to the Seattle School Board on July 1, 1919, establishing a department for intermediate education. At the time, both elementary and high schools suffered from overcrowding, and the intermediate school (for grades 7–8) offered a solution. Intermediate-age enrollment in Seattle School District increased by 78.5 percent between 1910 and 1923.

A site for a new intermediate school was purchased in 1920, but funds for construction had to await passage of three bond issues. The location near both Interlake School and Lincoln High School meant that these north end schools could reduce their burgeoning enrollments. A group from the Wallingford neighborhood requested the school be named Wallingford Intermediate School. However, the board chose to name the school for Alexander Hamilton, statesman and first Secretary of the Treasury, in accordance with its policy of commemorating notable Americans.

Hamilton Intermediate School was the first school building in Seattle to be designed specifically for intermediate education. At the center of the structure was a lecture room, a lunchroom/stage, and kitchen. Surrounding the core were three floors of classrooms, corridors, and gymnasiums.

The school was completed on January 28, 1927 and opened three days later. Beginning a new semester in their spacious new accommodations were 725 seventh and eighth graders from Interlake, Day, Latona, Ross, and McDonald. Principal George Austin moved from Interlake to head the new school. The following year the next class of 7th graders arrived and the school housed all three intermediate grades. That year enrollment reached 1,274, which remained the peak until the early 1950s when nearly 1,400 students attended the school.

Hamilton's building was designed for a large capacity and has changed little in its exterior appearance. A 1970 remodeling project added a new learning resource center, updated auditorium, physical education facilities, new lockers, and student services offices.

In 1971, four junior high schools, including Hamilton, were converted to middle schools (grades 6–8) as part of an early desegregation plan. Classes in the middle school followed the “continuous progress” method, that emphasized individualized learning and team teaching.

In 1972–73, Hamilton was paired with Meany-Madrona Middle School for voluntary desegregation. When too few students volunteered, a mandatory program was implemented.

During the 1970s, the school began a tradition of holding an annual multiethnic dinner, where student artwork was displayed. A spring camp enabled two-thirds of the student body to participate in outdoor education.

Today Hamilton focuses on reading, math, and language arts. The 7th graders won the district-wide Math Olympiad in 1993. An appren-

---

Name:	<b>Alexander Hamilton Intermediate School</b>
Location:	1610 N 41st Street
Building:	41-room, 3-story brick
Architect:	Floyd A. Naramore
Site:	1.9 acres

---

1925:	Named on July 24
1927:	Opened on January 31
1929:	Changed to <i>Alexander Hamilton Junior High School</i>
1970:	Remodeled
1971:	Changed to <i>Alexander Hamilton Middle School</i>

---



Hamilton, ca. 1940 SPSA 105-13

ticeship program for 8th graders began that same year. Students spend a class period at a local business to learn how businesses operate and what they look for in employees. Curriculum highlights include aerodynamics and rockets, the workings of the stock market, and U.S. government procedures. Beginning in the fall of 2000, Hamilton will become an international school, offering intensive foreign language instruction and a focus on global studies as a follow-up to the John Stanford International School @ Latona.



Hamilton, 1960 SPSA 105-15