



Seattle Public Schools
Official Building Names

-“no single responsibility...has been more recurring and often more perplexing”

-Superintendent Campbell, 1962

Researched & Written
By
Jason Viers
Construction Records Coordinator
Capital Document Control
With Invaluable Assistance From
Seattle Public Schools Archives & Records Management Dept.
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This report is the result of the initial work taken to establish the Seattle School District's Capital Assets Property Files Collection. As a first step it was determined essential to establish all official building names as based on School Board minutes and Action Reports. All official names have been verified through School Board Minutes citations and reflect the most recent name declared by the School Board (see 'Seattle School Board Official Building Name Citations' and 'Building Naming Notes' in Appendix).

Building names have a legal permanence which lasts the life of the property or until the School Board makes an official name change declaration. Without such a declaration the legal name of a building remains tied to the last official name established by the Board.

There are three major issues surrounding official building names: Buildings which have conflicting names due to unofficially declared name changes, buildings which have names developed through conventional usage as opposed to School Board declarations, and confusion regarding official building names as opposed to current and past school program names.

OFFICIALLY DECLARED BUILDING NAMES

Seventy one (71) buildings currently have names officially established by the Seattle School Board. Typically building names have been declared without specific reference to the type of program the building would house i.e. Daniel Bagley School or Nathan Eckstein School as opposed to Daniel Bagley *Elementary* School or Nathan Eckstein *Middle* School. With these building names there are no conflicts as the type of school program changes over time. Hence as a junior high becomes a middle school the essence of the building name remains static.

In other instances buildings have official names which included their program type as designated upon initial construction. For example James Madison has an officially declared building name of James Madison Intermediate School which dates from 1928. Another example is the official 1959 designation of the Whitman building which is Marcus Whitman Junior High School. Such specific inclusion of program type in the official name lends itself to future naming conflict if the School Board does not officially declare a change of building name to reflect the altered program name.

There are also many instances where conventionally accepted school names, which may be incorrectly thought of as building names, are in conflict with official building names. This problem appears to revolve around program changes such as Junior High programs replacing Intermediate School programs and Middle School programs replacing Junior High programs.

In all cases the school names changed to reflect these programmatic changes but the building names remained static. This is never inherently problematic until that conventionally accepted name begins to take on 'official' status and trends so far from the original name as to create explicit conflict. Examples include Broadview-Thomson, Thornton Creek, Salmon Bay and Wilson-Pacific.

BUILDING NAME CONFLICTS

There are currently five (5) buildings which have naming conflicts.

African American Academy has come to be called 'Van Asselt Elementary' but has never had any Board Action to make it official. Added to that the Van Asselt School building is going to be reopened which will likely create confusion regarding these two buildings.

Broadview-Thomson is also an unofficial building name. While the School Board officially closed Broadview School and moved its students to R.H. Thomson School in 1981 there was never an official declaration which renamed R.H. Thomson to Broadview-Thomson. This new name took hold through conventional usage yet the building technically still retains the official name of R.H. Thomson School.

Stephen Decatur School is now called 'Thornton Creek' but there has been no official Board Action to reflect such a change to the building name.

James Monroe is now known as 'Salmon Bay' but again there has been no official Board Action to warrant a building name change. Added to that the official name of the Monroe building is still determined by the initial 1929 iteration of James Monroe Intermediate School.

Wilson-Pacific is still officially named Woodrow Wilson School even though the name has changed through conventional usage. The name Wilson-Pacific is the result of the Pacific Program being moved from the Washington School to the Woodrow Wilson School. Over time this building became referred to as Wilson (Pacific) and eventually Wilson-Pacific became accepted through conventional use. At no time did the School Board officially rename the Woodrow Wilson building to Wilson-Pacific.

BUILDING NAMES ARRIVED AT THROUGH CONVENTIONAL USAGE

There are eleven (11) buildings whose names were arrived at through conventional usage as opposed to having an official declaration by the School Board. These buildings are typically named for the communities in which they are located and it was only through persistent

reference to those schools by the community name which led to an 'official' building name. Examples include Fairmount Park, Green Lake and Highland Park.

The only exceptions to this are the South Lake high school building and the African American Academy. In both of these cases there was no official name declaration made by the School Board nor was the official Board Naming Policy followed by school staff. Instead the existing program names were applied to the new buildings and through this conventional usage the names became 'official'.

BUILDING NAMES FROM ANNEXATION

Twelve (12) buildings currently owned by Seattle Schools have names which originate from other school districts prior to their annexation.

APPENDIX

SEATTLE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICIAL BUILDING NAME CITATIONS				
Black = Officially Declared Building Names				
Red = Building Name Conflict				
Orange = Not officially named, named through conventional use				
Green = Annexed Schools				
CONVENTIONAL NAME	OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD BUILDING NAME	BOARD MINUTES CITATION	NAME TYPE	SPECIFICALLY NAMED
Adams Elementary	Adams School	April 7, 1909, Vol. I, p. 70	Person?	Yes
Jane Addams K-8 School	Jane Addams Junior High	Named by Shoreline in 1949	Person	Annexed
African American Academy (Van Asselt Element	African American Academy	January 24, 1990, p. 5	Program	Yes and No
Aki Kurose Middle School	Aki Kurose Middle School	October, 20, 1999, pp. 1-2	Person	Yes
Alki Elementary	Alki School	Named by West Seattle S.D., annexed in 1908	Community	Annexed
Arbor Heights Elementary	Arbor Heights School	December 17, 1948, Vol. 45, p. 171	Community	Yes
Daniel Bagley Elementary	Daniel Bagley School	March 26, 1906, Vol. 6, p. 370	Person	Yes
Ballard High School	Ballard High School	Sept. 7, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 158	Community	Annexed
Beacon Hill International School	Beacon Hill International School	School Board Action Report, March 26, 2008	Community	Yes
Catherine Blaine K-8 School	Catherine Blaine School	May 5, 1950, Vol. 46, p. 300	Person	Yes
Boren	Louisa Boren School	November 28, 1962, Vol. 59, p. 134	Person	Yes
Broadview-Thomson K-8 School	R.H. Thomson School	Nov. 11, 1962, Vol. 59, p. 134	Community & Person	Yes & No
Bryant Elementary	William Cullen Bryant School	November 7, 1918, Vol. 15, p. 170	Person	Yes
Cedar Park	Cedar Park School	Feb. 15, 1957, Vol. 53, p. 316	Community	Yes
Chief Sealth International High School	Chief Sealth International High School	School Board Action Report, Aug. 18, 2010	Person	Yes
Cleveland High School	Grover Cleveland School	July 24, 1925, Vol. 22, p. 51	Person	Yes
Frantz Coe Elementary	Frantz H. Coe School	July 30, 1907, Vol. 7, p. 169	Person	Yes
Columbia	Columbia School	Named by Columbia S.D., annexed 1907	Community	Annexed
Concord International School	Concord School	Feb. 24, 1913, Vol. 10, p. 183	Street	Yes
Cooper (Pathfinder K-8 School)	Frank B. Cooper School	September 15, 1939, Vol. 36, pp. 50-51	Person	Yes
B.F. Day Elementary	B.F. Day School	July 18, 1891, p. 257	Person	Yes
Dearborn Park Elementary	Dearborn Park School	April 9, 1969, Vol. 65, p. 232	Community	No
Decatur (Thornton Creek)	Stephen Decatur School	October 5, 1960, Vol. 57, p. 113	Person	Yes
David T. Denny International Middle School	David T. Denny International Middle School	School Board Action Report, Aug. 18, 2010	Person	Yes
Dunlap Elementary	Dunlap School	Named by Columbia S.D. 1904, annexed 1907	Person	Annexed
Eckstein Middle School	Nathan Eckstein School	May 5, 1950, Vol. 46, p. 300	Person	Yes
Emerson Elementary	Emerson School	April 7, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 70	Person	Yes
Fairmount Park	Fairmount Park School	May 27, 1955, Vol. 51, p. 421	Community	No
Franklin High School	Franklin High School	June 16, 1911, Vol. 9, p. 99	Person	Yes
Garfield High School	James A. Garfield High School	Nov. 18, 1921, Vol. 18, p. 187	Person	Yes
Gatewood Elementary	Gatewood School	Oct. 20, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 178	Community	No
Bailey Gatzert Elementary	Bailey Gatzert School	May 6, 1921, Vol. 17, p. 386	Person	Yes
Genesee Hill	Genesee Hill School	Sept. 3, 1948, Vol. 45, p. 74	Community	Yes
Graham Hill Elementary	Graham Hill School	June 1, 1960, Vol. 56, pp. 403-404	Community	Yes
Green Lake Elementary	Green Lake School	July 22, 1891, Vol. 2, p. 262	Community	No

Greenwood Elementary	Greenwood Elementary School	Nov. 9, 1908, Vol. 8, p. 1	Community	Yes
Nathan Hale High School	Nathan Hale School	Nov. 28, 1962, Vol. 59, p. 134	Person	Yes
Hamilton International Middle School	Hamilton International Middle School	School Board Action Report, March 26, 2008	Person	Yes
Hawthorne Elementary	Hawthorne School	Feb. 8, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 45	Community	Yes
John Hay Elementary	John Hay School	July 7, 1905, Vol. 6, p. 273	Person	Yes
Highland Park Elementary	Highland Park Elementary School	Sept. 12, 1913, Vol. 10, p. 348	Community	No
Hughes	E.C. Hughes School	July 24, 1925, Vol. 22, p. 51	Person	Yes
Ingraham High School	Edward S. Ingraham School	June 3, 1959, Vol. 55, p. 431	Person	Yes
Stanford Center	John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence	July 10, 2002, p. 10	Person	Yes
Kimball Elementary	Captain George W. Kimball Elementary School	January 15, 1964, Vol. 60, pp. 208-209	Person	Yes
Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School	Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School	School Board Action Report, May 19, 2010	Person	Yes
Lafayette Elementary	Lafayette School	Nov. 7, 1918, Vol. 15, P. 171	Person	Yes
Latona	Latona School	March 6, 1906, Vol. 6, p. 368	Community	Yes
Laurelhurst Elementary	Laurelhurst School	August 6, 1920, Vol. 17, p. 18	Community	No
Lawton Elementary	Lawton School	Jan. 17, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 241	Person	Yes
Leschi Elementary	Leschi School	Nov. 11, 1908, Vol. 8, p.1	Community	Yes
Lincoln	Lincoln High School	March 6, 1906, , Vol. 6, p. 368	Person	Yes
Lowell Elementary	Lowell School	Nov. 11, 1910, Vol. 8, p. 380	Person	Yes
Loyal Heights Elementary	Loyal Heights School	July 17, 1919, Vol. 16, p. 34	Community	No
Madison Middle School	James Madison Intermediate School	February 10, 1928, Vol. 24, p. 259	Person	Yes
Madrona K-8 School	Madrona School	April 4, 1904, Vol. 6, p. 104	Community	Yes
Magnolia	Magnolia School	November 7, 1918, Vol. 15, p. 170	Community	Yes
Mann	Horace Mann School	Nov. 4, 1921, Vol. 18, p. 164	Person	Yes
Maple Elementary	Maple School	Named by Columbia School District in 1900	Community	Annexed
John Marshall	John Marshall School	July 24, 1925, Vol. 22, p. 51	Person	Yes
Thurgood Marshall Elementary School	Thurgood Marshall Elementary School	March 6, 1996, p. 2	Person	Yes
McClure Middle School	Worth McClure School	March 11, 1964, Vol. 60, pp. 254-255	Person	Yes
F.A. McDonald International School	F.A. McDonald International School	School Board Action Report March, 21, 2012	Person	Yes
McGilvra Elementary	John J. McGilvra School	April 29, 1914, Vol. 11, p. 127	Person	Yes
Meany (Nova High School)	Edmond S. Meany School	July 21, 1941, Vol. 38, p. 14	Person	Yes
Memorial Stadium	Memorial Stadium	Feb. 1, 1946, Vol. 42, p. 226	Other	Yes
Mercer Middle School	Asa Mercer School	May 3, 1957, Vol. 53, p. 436	Person	Yes
T.T. Minor	T.T. Minor School	July 21, 1890, Vol. 2, p. 116	Person	Yes
Monroe (Salmon Bay School)	James Monroe Intermediate School	Sept. 6, 1929, Vol. 26, p. 71	Person	Yes
Montlake Elementary	Montlake School	Sept. 21, 1923, Vol. 20, p. 90	Community	Yes
John Muir Elementary	John Muir School	Feb. 4, 1921, Vol. 17, p. 253	Person	Yes
North Beach Elementary	North Beach School	July 30, 1958, Vol. 55, pp. 38-39	Community	Yes
Northgate Elementary	Northgate School	April 9, 1954, Vol. 50, p. 344	Community	Yes
Olympic Hills Elementary	Olympic Hills School	Named by Shoreline, 1954	Community	Annexed
Olympic View Elementary	Olympic View School	Renamed from East Oak Lake School in 1911	Community	Annexed
Pinehurst K-8 School	Pinehurst School	Named by Shoreline S.D., annexed in 1953	Community	Annexed
Queen Anne Elementary School	Queen Anne Elementary School	School Board Action Report, Jan. 20, 2010	Community	Yes
Rainier Beach High School	Rainier Beach School	March 9, 1960, Vol. 56, p. 269	Community	Yes
Rainier View Elementary	Rainier View School	May 21, 1954, Vol. 50, p. 425	Community	Yes

John Rogers Elementary	John Rogers School	June 18, 1954, Vol. 50, p. 465	Person	Yes
Roosevelt High School	Roosevelt High School	Aug. 20, 1920, Vol. 17, p. 40	Person	Yes
Roxhill Elementary	Roxhill School	Feb. 15, 1957, Vol. 53, p. 316	Community	Yes
Sacajawea Elementary	Sacajawea School	May 25, 1956, Vol. 52, p. 469	Person	Yes
Sand Point	Sand Point School	Feb. 15, 1957, Vol. 53, p. 316	Community	Yes
Sanislo Elementary	Captain Stephen E. Sanislo School	Nov. 9, 1966, Vol.63, pp. 158-59	Person	Yes
Schmitz Park Elementary	Schmitz Park School	April 16, 1954, Vol. 50, p. 355	Community	Yes
Seward (TOPS K-8)	Seward School (Denny Fuhrman Building)	September 11, 1905, Vol. 6, p. 297	Person	Yes & No
South Lake High School	South Lake	No official naming declaration	Community	No
South Shore K-8 School	South shore Middle School	Aug. 25, 1971, Vol. 68, p. 63	Community	Yes
Stevens Elementary	Isaac I. Stevens School	March, 12, 1906, Vol. 6, p. 368	Person	Yes
Van Asselt	Van Asselt School	June 16, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 324	Land Tract	No
View Ridge Elementary	View Ridge School	December 1, 1944, Vol. 41, p. 170	Community	No
Viewlands Elementary	Viewlands School	Annexed from Shoreline S.D. in 1954	Community	Annexed
Washington Middle School	Washington School	June 18, 1912, Vol. 9, p. 361	Person	Yes
Wedgwood Elementary	Wedgwood School	April 16, 1954, Vol. 50, p. 355	Community	Yes
West Seattle Elementary School	West Seattle Elementary School	School Board Action Report, Aug. 1, 2007	Community	Yes
West Seattle High School	West Seattle High School	Annexed from West Seattle S.D. in 1908	Community	Annexed
West Woodland Elementary	West Woodland School	January, 10, 1910, Vol. 8, p. 220	Community	Yes
Whitman Middle School	Marcus Whitman Junior High School	May 20, 1959, Vol. 55, p. 408	Person	Yes
Whittier Elementary	Whittier School	March 27, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 264	Person	Yes
Whitworth (Orca K-8 School)	Whitworth School	Jan. 17, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 241	Community	Yes
Wilson-Pacific	Woodrow Wilson School	Named by Shoreline, 1953	Person & Program	Annexed & No
Wing Luke Elementary School	Wing Luke Elementary School	Feb. 26, 1969, Vol. 65, pp. 205-06	Person	Yes

BUILDING NAMING NOTES

RED = BUILDING NAME CONFLICT

African American Academy

April 4, 2001, p. 6

-AAA officials were urged by the Board to establish an official name for their new building based on the School Board naming procedure. Their building “officially, still (has) no name...only the program.” As the school officials did not take any action regarding this Board request the building name became AAA based on conventional use.

No official Board Action for original name of AAA and no Action to rename building Van Asselt

Broadview-Thomson

November 28, 1962, Vol. 59, p. 134

-Named R.H. Thomson School by Seattle School Board

February 4, 1981, Vol. 78, p. 256

-Superintendent recommendation – The ‘Broadview/Thomson Option’ would make Thomson an elementary school.

February 11, 1981, Vol. 78, p. 280

-Adoption of resolution which in part closes Broadview and assigns its students to Thomson

No official name change by School Board (official building name is still R.H. Thomson School)

Concord

Feb. 24, 1913, Vol. 10, p. 183

-named Concord School

2008 ‘International’ School Designation

-as per the school website Concord has been an International School since 2008 yet there is no Board approval of this designation even though the Beacon Hill & Hamilton buildings were both specifically renamed as International Schools around the same time.

No traceable Board Action to rename building Concord International School

Stephen Decatur School

October 5, 1960, Vol. 57, p. 113

-officially named Stephen Decatur School

No official Board Action to change building name to Thornton Creek School

James Monroe Intermediate School

September 6, 1929, Vol. 26, p. 71

-named James Monroe Intermediate School

There has been no official name change since the original naming. There has been no official Board Action to rename the building Salmon Bay.

Seward

Nov. 12, 1894, Vol. 3, p. 130

-1895 Building named Denny-Fuhrman School

Sept. 11, 1905, Vol. 6, p. 297 (citation chosen for official naming)

-1905 Building named Seward School

May 11, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 293

-Denny-Fuhrman building is referred to as 'Seward-Old Building'

Feb. 24, 1915, Vol. 11, p. 398

-reference to need for additional toilets for "Annex of the Seward School" to take place when the new (1917) building is built.

March 8, 1915, Vol. 12, p. 12

-Denny-Fuhrman is now exclusively called "Seward School Annex" (but there is no record of an official name change)

Dec. 4, 1916, Vol. 13, p. 176

-citation for naming 1917 building, a call for plans/specs for a "new unit" at Seward School

Washington

June 18, 1912, Vol. 9, p. 361

-Franklin school building renamed 'Washington School'

September 13, 1946, Vol. 43, p. 69

-first mention of 'George Washington Junior High School'

1978

-No official name change to 'Middle School', this was only a program change

No official name change since 1912 (official name is still Washington School)

Wilson-Pacific

- Woodrow Wilson School opened by Shoreline in 1953
- Feb. 26, 1954, Vol. 50, pp. 262-263
 - call for plans to outfit the school for Junior High status when annexation becomes Complete
- March 12, 1954, Vol. 50, pp. 290-291
 - official ownership, call for plans
- April 12, 1978, Vol. 75 Part I, pp. 486-487
 - Board approval for Wilson renovations to house the Pacific Program (moving from 'Pacific-Washington'). This move was for Washington to resume Middle School service. This indicates that the building name remains Wilson while housing a program named Pacific.
- May 2, 1979, p. 13
 - First reference to "Wilson (Pacific)"

No official name change by School Board (official name is still Woodrow Wilson School)

ORANGE = NOT OFFICIALLY NAMED, NAMED THROUGH CONVENTIONAL USAGE

Dearborn Park

April 9, 1969, Vol. 64, p. 232 (citation chosen for naming)

- 1st mention of this school in the minutes. Preliminary plans approved for 'Dearborn Park School'.

Fairmount Park

- Sept. 24, 1954, Vol. 51, p. 100
 - site purchase authorization
- Nov. 9, 1954, Vol. 51, pp. 170-171
 - purchase approval for chosen site
- April 1, 1955, Vol. 51, pp. 325-326
 - condemnation proceedings on properties; 1 owner agrees to sell
- May 27, 1955, Vol. 51, p. 421 (citation for official naming)***
 - Fairmount Park site to house portable school
- August 22, 1962, Vol. 59, pp. 47-48
 - monies suddenly become available, priority is given to erecting a school building at Fairmount Park site
- March 6, 1963, Vol. 59, pp. 225- 226
 - preliminary plans for "Fairmount Park School" presented

Gatewood

Nov. 9, 1908, Vol. 8, p. 3

-1st mention of Gatewood, portable move to site

Sept. 13, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 162

-Call for building plans/specs

Oct. 20, 1909, Vol. 8, p. 178 (citation chosen for official naming)

-1st mention of 'Gatewood School'

Feb. 25, 1910, Vol. 8, p. 237

-Bids for 'Gatewood School'

Green Lake

-1891: William Wood donates land to SSD for a school at Green Lake

July 1, 1891, Vol. 2, p. 253

-Call for plans/specs for a building at Green Lake

July 22, 1891, Vol. 2, p. 262 (citation chosen for official naming)

-resolution on a contract to build a school at Green Lake. 1st mention of 'Green Lake School'

Highland Park

Sept. 12, 1913, Vol. 10, p. 348

-Portable ordered for 'Highland' site

Jan. 7, 1915, Vol. 11, p. 361

-1st mention of 'Highland School' referenced in regard to sale offer for land for permanent site

June 6, 1915, Vol. 12, p. 80

-offer made to sell the site to the SSD the portable stands on

Feb. 23, 1916, Vol. 12, p. 276

-additional portable ordered for 'Highland School' & consideration for a permanent site

Nov. 1, 1916, Vol. 13, p. 154 (citation chosen for official naming)

-permanent site bought, portable moved, statement regarding a 'future Highland Park School' (first mention of 'Highland Park School')

Laurelhurst

April 18, 1919, Vol. 15, p. 313

-request from neighborhood residents for site purchase & placement of portable

April 25, 1919, Vol. 15, p. 322

-recommendation for site purchase

July 17, 1919, Vol. 16, p. 34

-call for portable to site

Sept. 17, 1919, Vol. 16, p. 118

-site purchase authorized

August 6, 1920, Vol. 17, p. 18 (citation chosen for official naming)

-1st use of 'Laurelhurst School' in regards to site grading

Loyal Heights

June 27, 1919, Vol. 15, p. 409

-site purchase

July 17, 1919, Vol. 16, p. 34 (citation chosen for official naming)

-Approval of building plans for portable design (no further mention of school as of 1921)

South Lake

South Lake was apparently named when the alternative high school program housed in the Sharples building was moved to the South Shore building but this name change was not a Board Action (which is consistent with program name changes). The South Lake Alternative High School had a BEX II building created for it but this portion of the School Board Minutes record has been stolen, lost or destroyed. Based on previous precedent the Board would not have 'officially' declared a building name in this case. Therefore the building name would have been arrived at through conventional usage.

There is no verifiable record of Board Action officially naming this building

Van Asselt

-Maple School a.k.a. Van Asselt: Because Maple was on the Van Asselt tract it was 'a.k.a. Van Asselt' but there was no official name change. As the railroad began negotiations for the purchase of the Maple site the school began to be referred to as 'Van Asselt' in the Board Minutes. When the School District purchased land for the transfer of this school to Beacon Hill it is specifically called 'Van Asselt' (Aug. 24, 1907, Vol. 7, p. 177).

-1st time 'Van Asselt School' is stated is when portables were scheduled to be moved to the new property (**June 16, 1908, Vol. 7, p. 324 citation chosen for official naming**).

View Ridge

August 11, 1944, Vol. 41, p. 59

-Approval of land transfer for site of a new school in View Ridge

December 1, 1944, Vol. 41, p. 170 (citation chosen for official naming)

-“New School Location: View Ridge – site cleared and four classroom portables and toilets erected.”

GREEN = ANNEXED BUILDINGS, NAMES ORIGINATE FROM OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Jane Addams Junior High

Alki School

Columbia School

Dunlap School

Maple School

Olympic Hills School

Olympic View School

Pinehurst School

Viewlands School

West Seattle High School

Woodrow Wilson School