

## McClure

Name: Worth McClure Middle School	Enrollment: 484
Address: 1915 1st Avenue W	Nickname: Mavericks
Configuration: 6-8	Colors: Black and gold



McClure, 1964 SPSA 118-3

In the early 1960s, a new junior high school was needed to reduce overcrowding at Queen Anne High School, which also housed junior high school students. The planned school was named Elisha P. Ferry Junior High School after Washington's first governor. Two years later, in 1964, the school opened, and it was renamed to honor Worth McClure, who served as Seattle's Superintendent of Schools for 14 years (1930-1944). Most of the initial teaching staff came from Queen Anne Junior High School.

The school featured 30 teaching stations and was designed for 850 students, making it one of the district's smallest intermediate schools. When it opened, its enrollment was slightly over capacity. A trimester system was employed rather than the traditional semester system.

Several significant changes took place at McClure during the 1981-82 school year. First, it changed configuration from grades 7-9 to 6-8. It also added students from Magnolia following the closing of Blaine. Lastly, with the closing of Queen Anne High School, McClure became a feeder school for Franklin.

McClure's small size was not a negative factor because of its location adjacent to a six-acre Seattle Park Department facility that contained the Queen Anne Recreation Center, pool, and playfield, which offered a wide range of after-school activities.

## Details:

Name: **Worth McClure Junior High School**

Location: 1915 1st Avenue W

Building: Brick

Architect: Edward Mahlum

Site: 2.3 acres

1962: Named Elisha P. Ferry Junior High School on November 28

1964: Named Worth McClure Junior High School on March 11; opened in September

1981: Renamed Worth McClure Middle School

1990: Classroom remodel

2010: Updated science rooms

2020: Seismic updates, science labs

In 1987, the Multi-International Color Society was formed. Annual activities included charity efforts, outreach programs, and a spring ethnic week celebration.

In the 1990s, McClure committed to improving its science instruction by implementing a full-year science program for all grades. In November 1999, the school installed a weather station on the school roof. With this technology, and aided by partners at the University of Washington, students were able to monitor local climatic changes and compare them with data from the Pathfinder Mars mission. All 7th grade students participated in an activity called Project Reach, a self-directed cultural exploration culminating in a schoolwide fair and regional exhibition.

In 2009 and 2010, the district used funds from the BTA II and BEX III capital levies to improve the science rooms. Additional funds from a voter-approved levy in 2013 funded additional science lab improvements at McClure, which were completed in 2020.

In 2012 McClure was among the 24 middle schools in Washington (out of about 450) to receive the School of Distinction Award from The Center for Educational Effectiveness.

In the spring of 2019, the 7th grade class researched, designed, and planted the district's first ethnobotanical garden. McClure staff, students, PTSA and community partners worked together to bring this legacy project to fruition, and the garden was incorporated into the 7th grade curriculum. At McClure, exploratory classes provide opportunities for students to explore a type of learning or skill-building that they may not have chosen or experienced in the past. Exploratories range from finance to technology, and they are not chosen but randomly assigned. McClure also offers a leadership elective called Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) Leadership, which provides students with the opportunity to develop leadership skills through assignments, community service, special projects, and service to the school.



McClure, 1965 SPSA 118-1