

Hey Hawks

Newsletter of
Hamilton International
Middle School PTSA

April
2007

From the PTSA President

There have been many changes at Hamilton and we can expect to see many more. Assistant Principal Jesely Alvarez has worked incredibly hard this year to get to know the Hamilton community and to understand the programs Hamilton offers in addition to performing her daily administrative duties. I am grateful for Ms. Alvarez' boundless energy and determination to do all she can on behalf of our students.

In the three years I have been a parent at Hamilton I have been encouraged by the ever-increasing level of parent involvement. This effort and commitment makes Hamilton a better place.

The Principal Selection Committee has been meeting and formulating interview questions for the candidates. By the time this newsletter reaches you the committee may have made a hiring recommendation. Mr. Acena and Ms. Alvarez hope the new principal will begin working with staff this spring. Look for an announcement in mid-April.

The building remodel is in the works. Please see an update from project manager, Michael Romero, in this newsletter. Currently, the city planners and Parks Department are taking comments from the community on the impact of the remodel. I know a number of people who have contacted them in support of the project. The PTSA will continue to keep you updated on the plans and schedule for the remodel.

You may be aware that the Seattle School Public Schools are considering adding the Accelerated Progress Program (APP) to Hamilton. This change could take place in the 2008-2009 school year. I think this program will be a wonderful addition to our school. Again, as I learn more I will pass the information along.

During these administrative changes, building move, and addition of new programs, I am confident that the PTSA community will be an important part of the process. We will offer and provide support where it is needed. If you have questions about these changes, please contact any of the PTSA Board members. Happy Spring. —Nancy Clinkenbeard, PTSA President

Dear Hawk Families,

It is hard to believe that we are already wrapping up the 3rd quarter and preparing to enter the final quarter of the 2006-2007 school year.

On March 13th many of you joined us for our Literacy Night. This very well attended event allowed families to listen to students sharing their learning and passion for literacy. We would like to thank all of the students, families, and staff members who worked hard to make this event possible. A special thanks to our Language Arts Department Head, Sharon Greenberg, for leading this event. The evening was filled with inspirational and thoughtful examples of literacy learning in our school.

This coming month will be a busy one. Spring sports are in full swing and you can expect to see a large number of students participating in all of the wonderful sports choices (such as track, volleyball, and boys soccer), as the weather gets warmer and sunnier. Between our WASL window of April 16th through May 4th, students will be taking the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). Please join us in encouraging your student to do his or her best on these important assessments. Make sure he/she eats a nutritious breakfast and gets plenty of sleep. Teachers will continue to prepare students with test taking strategies and sample WASL questions in tested subject areas.

Many thanks to our Principal Selection Committee,

continued on page 2

CALENDAR

4/9-13 Spring Break

4/14 Garden work party at
Hamilton 9:00am-1:00pm

HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL RENOVATION UPDATE

What's Being Planned

Originally constructed in 1926, the Alexander Hamilton School building is a three-story, 99,000 square foot middle school building, and was designated a City of Seattle Landmark in 2006. Seattle Public Schools is planning to preserve the existing historic building and remodel the interior to meet the school's needs. A new gym will be built at the north side of the building, along with hard-surface playcourts built on the roof of a new parking garage. Hamilton is scheduled to relocate to Lincoln for the 2008-2009 school year, and then back to the remodeled Hamilton building for the 2010-2011 school year.

Spring Update

Seattle voters passed the school construction bond on the February 6th special election, and Hamilton will be one of the first schools to be renovated under the new capitol program. The district applied to the City for the Master Use Permit and the signs requesting public comments have been posted at the school. Comments can be addressed to the Seattle Department of Planning and Development (DPD), 700 5th Ave., Ste. 2000, PO Box 34019, Seattle, WA 98124-4019, by phone at 206.684.8467, or by email at PRC@seattle.gov. Be sure to refer to Master Use Project #3006335 when commenting.

Upcoming Meetings

Seattle Public Schools will be holding a public open house for Thursday evening, April 5th, to review and comment on Seattle Schools' proposals for impacts to Wallingford Playfield associated with the Hamilton renovation. Seattle Public Schools is proposing to install a ground-source heat pump system to heat and cool the renovated building without using fossil fuels or adding pollutants to the air – installation of the system would require doing some construction in the open grass field at the west end of Wallingford Playfield. A public workshop on the park and school renovation was held October 14th, and another on November 4th, to review options for the joint use of Wallingford Playfield and facilities at the renovated Hamilton. Based on community participants' requests at these workshops, Seattle Public Schools is following up with detailed proposals for the renovation and the park for public review and comment. The open house will be followed up by a period of internet voting and a summary open house in early May to discuss the findings of the polls.

Questions & Contact Information

If you'd like to be kept updated regarding this project, or if you have any questions, concerns or comments, please contact the Hamilton Project Manager, Michael Romero at (206) 254-7973, or mbromero@heery.com.

Staff & Teacher Wish List

CORKS Ms. Kernell's class needs corks! Lots and lots of corks! Send in your wine bottle corks to Ms. Kernell! She has some art projects going that can't get finished until she gets more corks! Thanks. (kakernell@seattleschools.org)

CAGE Next fall, Ms. Lyle is going to be getting a "furry" friend for her classroom. If anyone has an old large (she's thinking guinea pig) animal cage for a rodent she would like one. Along with anything that goes with it. (bclyle@seattleschools.org)

TISSUES Boxes and boxes of them can be taken to the office!

POST-IT NOTES Teachers are always in need of various sizes of Post-It notes. Next time you are at the office supply store, can you buy a couple and take them to the office? (or have your student take them directly to their teacher)

WASL

WASL Testing takes place between April 16th and May 4th. Sixth grade students are tested in the areas of Reading and Math. Seventh graders get Reading, Math and Science tests and Eighth graders are tested in Reading, Math and Science.

Main Office

Hours: 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(206) 252-5810 • Fax (206) 252-5811

Attendance Office

(206) 252-5814

Call if your child will be late or absent.

Principal

Terry Acena • tacena@seattleschools.org

Hamilton International Middle School PTSA
1610 North 41st Street
Seattle, WA 98103

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 Seattle, WA
 Permit No. 6906

POSTMASTER: TIME SENSITIVE MATERIALS

Hamilton Hawks Athletic Schedules

Girls Volleyball

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>
Saturday, April 21	9:30	TOPS	Blaine	Hamilton
Saturday, April 28	10:30	Eckstein	Hamilton	Summit
Saturday, May 5	12:30	TOPS	Hamilton	Salmon Bay

Boys Soccer

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>
Saturday, April 21	11:00	Ingraham	Hamilton	Blaine
Saturday, April 28	11:00	Ingaham Stadium	Eckstein	Hamilton
Saturday, May 5	11:00	Ingraham Stadium	Whitman	Hamilton

Co-ed Track

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Friday, April 20	2:30	Whitman
Friday, April 27	2:30	Whitman
Friday, May 5	2:30	Whitman
Friday, May 11 (Prelims)	2:30	Whitman

