

# Hey Hawks

May 2010 • vol. 4

issue 8

NEWSLETTER OF HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA

## calendar

MAY 3-7

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

THURSDAY, MAY 6

**International Arts Celebration  
7:00pm, Lincoln Auditorium**

MAY 13-20

**MSP Testing**

TUESDAY, MAY 18

**PTSA Board Meeting  
6:30pm, location TBD**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

**Early Dismissal (12:35pm)**

MONDAY, MAY 31

**Memorial Day – No School**

THURSDAY, MAY 27

**Jazz Spring Concert  
7:00pm, Lincoln Auditorium**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

**Orchestra and Choir  
Spring Concert  
7:00pm, Lincoln Auditorium**

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

**HIMS Science Fair  
5:30pm**

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

**Band Spring Concert  
7:00pm, Lincoln Auditorium**

For current news and calendar updates, go to  
<http://hamiltoninternational.org>

### counseling tip of the month

Ask your student about the S.U.P.E.R. Citizen campaign. (S.U.P.E.R. = Stand Up to Protect Everyone's Rights) More than 800 Hamilton students and staff have signed the pledge and received a wristband. This is an opportunity to have a dialogue with your child about respect, compassion, and supporting others.



### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Hamilton Families,

HIMS has successfully navigated a number of transitions and challenges this year. This would not have been possible without the help of our outstanding students, families, and staff. A big thank-you to all of you for your support. A special shout out needs to be extended to our eighth and seventh graders. The changes these students faced this year were significant, yet they met the challenges and represented Hamilton International Middle School with class. Thank you!

As we near the end of the school year there is a lot to communicate:

#### Registration for 2010-2011

- 8th grade students met with the high school counselors April 26th to register to their neighborhood high school. For those of you awaiting confirmation about a request to another high school, you should be receiving information sometime toward the end of May. [HTTPS://INSIDE.SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG/AREA/PCOMM/042310/8GRADE-REGISTRATION-FALL.PDF](https://inside.seattleschools.org/area/pcomm/042310/8GRADE-REGISTRATION-FALL.PDF)
- 6th and 7th graders, thank you for getting your course selection sheets in.

#### End-of-Year Activities

As the weather warms and the last days of school come into sight the end-of-year activities are typically things students look forward to. Please remind your student to continue to put their best foot forward so they are able to participate. Continuing to get to class on time, following school and classroom rules, and completing class assignments and homework are behaviors we will continue to expect all the way through June 22nd!

#### MSP (Measures of Student Progress)

Hamilton students will be taking the State test, formerly known as WASL, May 13-20. You should have received testing information the first week of May. This same information can be accessed on the school website as well: [WWW.HAMILTONINTERNATIONAL.ORG](http://WWW.HAMILTONINTERNATIONAL.ORG)

#### Teacher Appreciation Week

The week of May 3rd-7th is Teacher Appreciation Week. The number of hours teachers spend planning instruction, teaching, and caring for students is inspiring. If at all possible, please take a moment to say thank you for their hard work!

We entered the fourth and final quarter beginning April 19th and are looking forward to our final two months of school. Again, thank you to students and families for making this year an outstanding year in spite of the challenges and transitions we faced.

Go Hawks!

Principal Carter

HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL – A COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY OF INSPIRED AND ENGAGED LEARNERS!



## PTSA BOARD NEWS

CHRISTIE RODGERS, PTSA PRESIDENT

### HIMS PTSA BOARD 2009-10

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**Hey Hawks** is edited by Steven Sterne. Linda Sewell takes care of layout and design. The newsletter is printed at Minuteman Press.

### Coming next year: Global Community Service projects for all Hamilton Students

On April 21, the Hamilton International Middle School PTSA hosted a meeting with current and future Hamilton families to discuss plans to include community service projects with a global perspective at our school.

Over 40 attendees gathered to learn more about International Education in the Seattle school district, and hear from Hamilton administrators about plans to implement school-wide community service projects with global impact. Plans include a day of service at each grade level, once a semester. Each year, projects focus on a specific global issue, for example: the environment, health care or poverty. At each grade level, the geographic reach of the projects expands: from a local level focus in 6th grade; to a regional/national level in 7th grade; and with global organizations or projects in 8th grade.

Meeting attendees met in small groups to add to the list of service projects generated by staff (some already taking place in certain classrooms) and to generate a list of potential partnership organizations. Finally, we brainstormed ways that the PTSA could further support international education for all Hamilton students: from hosting international events for families to expanding library support for international literature. It was an invigorating evening of exchanging ideas and contributing to the growth of our students' education.

For a complete meeting summary and to add your ideas to the conversation, please visit [WWW.HAMILTONINTERNATIONAL.ORG](http://WWW.HAMILTONINTERNATIONAL.ORG).

### Hamilton Associated Student Body News

The ASB has been working hard this month to prepare for our upcoming events:

- **2010-2011 ASB elections** will be held in June and applications will be available on Tuesday, May 11th. Complete **applications will be due on Friday, May 21st**, with campaigns beginning on Tuesday, May 25th.
- Our annual **"MSP Celebration"** (formerly the WASL Celebration) will be held on **Friday, May 28th from 12:45-2:35**. In celebration of **Hawk Spirit** and **Positive Test Attitudes**, the ASB will be hosting a celebration for all students. Teachers and staff members will be supervising several activities for students to participate in (basketball, movies, dance, game rooms, sports, etc.)
- During the MSP testing (May 13-20), students can earn **"Positive Hawk Attitude"** tickets to enter in the daily raffle. **ASB is accepting raffle prize donations at this time (\$10 max per prize)**. Please contact Ms. Robin Smith with questions ([RLLAMBERT@SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:RLLAMBERT@SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG))

### Music News for May

BY KATHY TANAKA,  
FOMAHI CO-PRESIDENT

On May 21st, 80 HIMS instrumental music students and 20 chaperones will travel to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho to participate in the Music in the Park Festival. We are pleased to announce that Principal Carter and his family will also join us on the trip!

This trip offers Hamilton's "senior" ensembles – Symphonic Orchestra, Senior Jazz Band and Symphonic Concert Band – a chance to play in a competitive format with schools from around the region. Each group will receive comments from judges, along with a rating of their performance. The students will also compete for the "Esprit de Corps" award, given to the school whose performers demonstrate the most outstanding behavior and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

We want to thank Ms. Mandojana and Mr. Rowe, Hamilton staff, music parents, chaperones and our dedicated trip planner, Nancy Grega for making this trip possible.

We will wrap up the year with a series of evening concerts, featuring each of the Hamilton ensembles. We invite you to join us for food and outstanding music. Please go to [WWW.FOMAHI.ORG](http://WWW.FOMAHI.ORG) for more information.

#### Upcoming Concerts

**Jazz Spring Concert**  
THURS. 5/27, 7 PM, AUDITORIUM

**Orchestra and Choir  
Spring Concert**  
WED. 6/2, 7 PM, AUDITORIUM

**Band Spring Concert**  
TUES. 6/8, 7 PM, AUDITORIUM

### Guatemala Service Learning Project

KENDALL JOHANSEN,  
HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

During the months of November and December, Ms. Nuno's, Ms. Sandler's and Ms. Wittmann-Todd's classes helped out a rural Guatemalan community through Project Quetzal. We held a fundraiser to raise money for a library that will serve several villages. The students brought in change, cash, and checks, and some families donated on line. We collected a total of \$1670. We sent our check to Guatemala with Amy Tower, a Seattle University student who attended Washington and Garfield. She also took along two suitcases full of donated books and letters from Maestra Sandler's 8th graders. We learned about some of the challenges facing the people of Guatemala. Amy returned in February to show us pictures from her trip. The library's foundation had been poured, and they were beginning to build the walls. All the students were happy to help out, and had fun doing it. We hope to have another fundraiser before the end of the year. Thank you to the whole community for your support. If you would like to learn more about Project Quetzal and the library, please visit [WWW.ESCUELAMONTAÑA.ORG](http://WWW.ESCUELAMONTAÑA.ORG).

### Hamilton International Middle School Science Fair, Friday, June 4th

Judging (no public viewing) 3:15-5:15 pm  
Student and Family Viewing 5:30-7:30 pm

The Hamilton International Middle School Science Fair is OPTIONAL. Top 5 winners at each grade level are entered into the Seattle Public Schools Science Fair on June 10th, 2010, at the Museum of Flight. Please contact your science teacher for more information.

Science Fair informational packet can be found at:  
[WWW.SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG/AREA/SCIENCE/SCIENCEFAIRS.HTML](http://WWW.SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG/AREA/SCIENCE/SCIENCEFAIRS.HTML)

### Measurement of Student Progress (MSP)

LOUISE VON WALTER, HEAD COUNSELOR

The new state assessment, MSP, will be administered to all grade levels in May. The tests will be given on May 13, 17, 18, and 20. Make ups will be given the following week. All three grade levels will be assessed in Reading and Math. Seventh grade will also take a two-day Writing test, and eighth grade will take a Science test.

Encourage your child to do their very best on these assessments. Teach them that one's best effort is what matters. Good effort leads to more learning and better performance. Other success strategies include getting good nutrition and plenty of rest. Encourage your child to stay calm and relaxed, yet at the same time they need to be focused and alert. Let your student know that every year is another opportunity to put forth the energy and effort needed to make gains on the state assessments and in the classroom.

### 8th grade promotion for 2010

BY JESELY ALVAREZ, HIMS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

On Monday, June 21 we will celebrate 8th grade promotion at Hamilton. During the school day, students and staff will celebrate their years together with an all-school assembly. We are looking forward to holding our 8th grade promotion during the school day so that, for the first time, 8th graders can have their 6th and 7th grade peers in attendance. 8th grade students will be collaborating with staff to develop this program. This assembly will be for staff and students only.

Also on June 21, from 2:45 to 4 pm, parents, guardians, and other family members of 8th graders are invited to bring balloons, flowers and cameras to Hamilton to enjoy cake and juice and the company of the 8th graders and other families. This event will take place outside on the school grounds, with refreshments provided by the PTSA and will include Hamilton staff and administrators.

On Tuesday, June 22, (the last day of school) 8th grade students will be attending their farewell cruise. We are proud of the hard work and leadership of our 8th grade class and are excited to see how they will contribute to our world.

### Hoedown Round Up

BY ALICE BOYTZ,  
MUSIC PARENT

Hamilton families came together on April 16th for a fabulous evening starting with foot stomping fiddle tunes provided by **Hamilton students from Senior and Junior Orchestras and Beginning Strings**. Food was plentiful and delicious, then it was time for contra and square dances called by **Amy Carroll** and the renowned **Tony Mates** with music provided by one of Seattle's Best old-time dance bands, the **Atlas String Band**. Folks needed a break to get to the desserts and to listen to great bluegrass music provided by **Mary and Greg Maass, Cliff Perry and friends**. After filling up on sweets, it was time for more music and dancing to Atlas.

Hamilton is lucky to have a vibrant music community that includes parents who are active and respected in the international world of folk music (Amy, Mary and Greg above; **David Parker** and event planner **Kelly Morgan**), and who are willing to perform to help raise money for the international language of music that reaches so many kids. Special thanks to them, and to all the parents who made it possible for their kids to get there and have a great time including Kelly Morgan for her vision. There's nothing better than hanging out on a Friday night with great friends, great food and great music.

**Submit to "Hey Hawks!"** The deadline for submissions for the June issue is **Tuesday, May 25 at 6:13 pm**. Please email your contribution to [STERNE@PAIR.COM](mailto:STERNE@PAIR.COM).

Hamilton International Middle School PTSA  
at Lincoln

4400 Interlake Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98103

www.hamiltoninternational.org

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**School Hours**

8:05 am – 2:35 pm

**Principal**

Christopher Carter  
CECARTER@SEATTLESCHOOLS.ORG

POSTMASTER: TIME SENSITIVE MATERIALS



**HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL YMCA COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER NEWS**

MR. ROSSMAN AND MS. LIZ | 206.252.5831

The Spring session of Hamilton Out of School Time (HOST) is off to a great start. Students are skateboarding at Innerspace Skatepark and planning for life after middle school in YMCA Prep Academy. Please log on to [www.hamiltoninternational.org/afterschool](http://www.hamiltoninternational.org/afterschool) for more information. It's not too late to sign up! Just turn in a registration form to the YMCA office (room113) or to the HOST mailbox in the Main Office.

Every spring the YMCA runs a **Youth and Government program** in 8th grade Social Studies classrooms. Students learn about the government and write their own bills.

The program ends with a weeklong trip to Olympia for students that exhibit excellence in the curriculum. Here students will debate their bills along with 450 others from all over the state. This year's trip will take place May 5-8.

**The Seattle YMCA has a large selection of summer programs for students:**

- **YU LEARN** is a free six week program for current 6th and 7th graders held at Seattle University. This program focuses on academics and concludes with a free trip to Camp Orkila.
- **Level 9** is a brand new free summer program for 8th graders going to Franklin,

Chief Sealth, and West Seattle High Schools. This transition program allows students to earn school credit and service learning hours needed to graduate.

- Other YMCA programs include the **BOLD outdoor adventure trips** (for young men), **YMCA Camps Orkila & Colman** and several **Teen Extreme** summer day programs through YMCA branches. These programs all include a fee but scholarships are available.

Please contact the Community Learning Center at 206.252.5831 for more information.

**PTSA Board Opportunities**

GRACE COOLEY, NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Nominating Committee is actively seeking candidates to serve on next year's PTSA Board in a number of capacities, including (but not limited to) **Co-President, Treasurer, Co-VP Programs, Volunteer Coordinator, and Newsletter Editor**. If you are interested in learning more about these jobs, please contact Grace Cooley at [COOLEYGAWA@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:COOLEYGAWA@HOTMAIL.COM). **Our PTSA plays an instrumental role in shaping Hamilton International as it grows, moves and changes – and you can play an instrumental role in the PTSA!**