



Hamilton International Middle School, a rigorous academic and collaborative learning community, educates students to succeed and contribute in a diverse world.

August 2, 2010

Dear Hamilton Hawks,

Welcome to an exciting new year at Hamilton International Middle School (HIMS)! It has been a busy summer. We are currently in the process of preparing our new school building for the opening of school in September. Our new building is beautiful inside and out and will serve as a beacon of pride to the community.

As an international school we will continue to provide outstanding programs for our students. For 2010-2011 we are eager to be embarking on community service experiences for all HIMS students. We will be working with district and city partners to provide rich opportunities for our students to engage with the world around them.

The first day of school is fast approaching. School begins Wednesday, September 8th, and is **ONLY for incoming 6th grade students**. This allows the whole HIMS staff to focus on our new 6th graders as they transition into their new environment. First day of school for incoming 7th and 8th graders will be Thursday, September 9th.

- *Breakfast will be served in the commons beginning at 7:35 AM and sixth graders will be able to pick up their schedules. Beginning at 7:50 they will meet their first period teachers to be escorted to their classrooms at 8:05.*
- *Because we will be in a new building we will follow the same process for seventh and eighth graders on Thursday, the 9th. Seventh graders will meet in the commons and eighth graders will meet in the gym. Sixth graders will go straight to their first period classrooms.*
- *If you want to see your schedule before school starts, schedules will be available on the SOURCE beginning August 31st.*

HIMS is nestled in a residential neighborhood. Pick up and drop off of students can be a challenge. School bus zones are located on the west side (Woodlawn Ave.) and east side (Densmore Ave.) of the HIMS building. We ask parents/guardians driving their student to school to travel west on 41st (south side of HIMS) so students can safely get in/out of the car on the school side of the street.

Other important dates, events, and information:

Traditionally HIMS has hosted a new student orientation. This year's was scheduled for Wednesday, September 1st. Though most of the building will be fully operational by then, some parts will not yet be accessible. Therefore, all of our students will be oriented to HIMS on the first days of school and unfortunately we WILL NOT be having a new student orientation on September 1st as previously planned.

- **Wednesday, September 1st** – New student orientation **CANCELLED**
- **Thursday, September 2nd** – Ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:00 AM (see enclosed invitation)
- **Saturday, October 2nd** – HIMS Community Re-Opening Celebration (10:00 AM-12:00 noon)
- **Thursday, October 7th** – Curriculum Night (6:00 PM)
- **Daily start time** – 8:05 AM. Dismissal is 2:35 PM. Morning breakfast opens at 7:35 AM
- **Bus transportation** – If your child rides a bus, watch for details in the mail from our Transportation Department (206) 252-0900

All of us at HIMS are eager to greet and welcome every student and family member. We look forward to working with you to provide a quality education for all students at Hamilton International Middle School.

Respectfully,

Christopher Carter
Principal

Jo Shapiro
Assistant Principal

Jesely Alvarez
Assistant Principal

Continuous growth – Respect – Diversity – Integrity – Teamwork