



# THE WHEELER SCHOOL

August 2019

Dear Hamilton Parents:

Whether you are a returning family or a new family, I am pleased and proud to welcome you to Hamilton this fall. Even as I prepare to begin my twenty-eighth year at Hamilton, it feels new and different and exciting. Hamilton is such a special place. I know that all of you have embarked on a journey to get to this point. Thank you for your trust and support.

Currently, we have 66 Hamilton students enrolled in grades one through eight. We have twelve new students, thirty-six lower school students, and thirty middle school students. All of them smart kids with learning differences, most notably dyslexia, language processing, and/or attention regulation issues. I do not expect to add any new middle schoolers next year, but it is possible that we would add another lower school student. I am pleased to report that all of our full-time Hamilton faculty are returning this year.

In addition to various new Wheeler Initiatives, there are always some Hamilton specific initiatives to mention at the beginning of the school year. This year, I am pleased to announce two specific initiatives. First, Jeanette Epstein has been hired to be the Director of Hamilton's new outreach initiative, The Hamilton Institute. Broadly, the Institute will assist the larger community with issues related to learning differences including teacher training, early screening, and school consultation. We have an exciting conference on 'executive function' planned for Saturday, February 22, 2020. Also, Jeanette will continue to work with me in the admission process for Hamilton. Second, Hamilton will be participating in the new Wheeler Eighth Grade Cityside Program. One day a week, 8th-grade students will leave campus and be based at the WaterFire Arts Center on Valley Street in Providence. Students will be involved in a variety of collaborative community-based projects which will also be integrated into the curriculum back on campus.

Each year we honor an adult with learning differences who has been successful in his or her professional field. Over the years, we have honored some exceptional individuals. Last year, we honored entrepreneur and Speechify Founder Cliff Weitzman. This year we will honor our 26th annual Life Achievement recipient on Friday, March 6, 2020. I hope that all of you can attend the "Mind Your p's and q's" event that evening, as it is a wonderful celebration of learning differences. This year's recipient has not been selected yet, so feel free to contact me if you have suggestions.

On the second page of this letter is the shortlist of Hamilton ONLY events that occur before the start of classes on Wednesday, September 4, 2019. Do not forget to check the comprehensive Wheeler calendar when you login to the parent portal of the school website for all events happening during the course of the year.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of the hot summer of 2019. God willing, I will cycle up Mt. Washington at the 47th annual Mt. Wash bike race on August 17. On Saturday September 7, my son Sam will marry Hamilton & Wheeler alum Sabine Schaefers.

I look forward to another great year! If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at my office, 528-2167 or via e-mail, [jongreen@wheelerschool.org](mailto:jongreen@wheelerschool.org).

Best regards,



Jonathan Green, Hamilton Director

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **Wednesday August 28 (new parents)**

6-7:00 pm New parent orientation in the Hale Assembly Space in the Whitaker Building (Hamilton Lower School) for all parents that are new to Hamilton

### **Tuesday morning, September 3**

11-11:30 Informal orientation for all students new to Hamilton and ALL Hamilton sixth grade students. Lower School students meet in Whitaker Building, ALL Hamilton 6th grade students go to Hope 311.

11:30-1:00 Hamilton cookout for the entire Hamilton Community outside Nulman Lewis Center in the center of campus. This is a great way for returning families to reconnect and for new families to be introduced to our community. As always, this is a casual affair. Please come as you are, and bring your family. There will be tables set up outside next to the Whitaker Building. No R.S.V.P. necessary.

Wednesday, September 4

8:00 am. Classes Begin