

Alexander Hamilton School

This school site is named for Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States under President George Washington. He was the advocate of strong central government, and is credited with establishing the first political party in the United States called the Federalists. He also started the first banking system of the nation. Hamilton was a very bright individual, who for a time attended Kings College, the forerunner of Columbia University in New York City, was essentially a self-educated man. He came to the attention of Washington as one of Washington's aide-de-camps. Later, via self-education and examinations, he became a lawyer in New York City, eventually reaching a distinguished reputation as a jurist. Hamilton was one of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention. He died in a "duel of honor," a practice somewhat common in those days, with Aaron Burr in July 1804, at the age of 49.

Hamilton School is situated on a large campus at 102 East Clinton Avenue on one of the first sites originally set aside to accommodate students in the junior high grades of 7, 8 and 9. As a functioning school, Hamilton was first housed in one of the buildings of Fresno High School but as a separate entity with a separate administration. It first operated in 1925-26.

From September 1996 to September 1999 the Hamilton site served as an annex to Fresno High School and was referred to as Fresno High North. The site was converted back into a K-8 school in August of 2002. For the 2002/2003 school year it functioned as a K-7 program, and for the following school year will be a return to a K-8 program.