

Dear Southeast and Southwest Highly Capable Families,

We are excited to share that Seattle Public Schools (SPS) will open two new Highly Capable (HC) elementary sites at Alki Elementary and Rainier View Elementary beginning in the 2026–27 school year.

These new sites are a direct response to what we heard during our community engagement sessions—families and educators asked for HC services closer to home. We appreciate the feedback that shaped this decision.

Educators and leadership teams at both schools are enthusiastic about welcoming HC learners into their communities. Instruction in math and language arts will be aligned with our current HC cohort sites at Thurgood Marshall, Cascadia, and Decatur elementary schools, ensuring a consistent accelerated experience across the district. With more than 700 newly identified HC students this year, we are confident students will learn, thrive, and grow at these new sites.

HC sites are based on a student's home address/elementary school boundary. See below for a list of HC schools and the linked elementary schools:

Rainier View Elementary: Emerson, Rainier View, Dunlap, Wing Luke, MLK, Graham Hill, South Shore, Dearborn Park, Maple, Rising Star

Alki Elementary: Lafayette, Alki, Genesse Hill, Fairmount Park, Gatewood, West Seattle Elementary, Sanislo, Concord, Highland Park, Roxhill, Arbor Heights

Thurgood Marshall Elementary: Hawthorne, Montlake, McGilvra, Stevens, Lowell, Madrona, Leschi, Bailey Gatzert, Beacon Hill, Thurgood Marshall, Kimball, John Muir

If you would like your student to attend one of these new HC sites, please fill out the [New HC Elementary School Selection Form for Current HC Families](#) to indicate your updated school choice preference. **Families have until Tuesday, March 31, to make a final decision.**

This will be your updated school choice form.

Families with students currently attending Thurgood Marshall also have the option to remain through 5th grade. Additionally, there is no further action needed for families who would like to remain at their current school.

Thank you for your partnership and continued support. We look forward to welcoming HC students to these new school communities. Please reach out to hicap@seattleschools.org as needed.

Sincerely,

Paula Montgomery, Ed.D
Director, Highly Capable
Seattle Public Schools