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tance, protection and support. Now is the time for you to elect Rion Lyle to help make the decisions that affect the lives of Portland's kids.

Louie Sloan: I support Gay Straight Alliances and oppose the OCA's initiative to outlaw the clubs. If elected, I will use the position to help its defeat. We need to recognize that teen-agers will engage in sex. Students need to know enough about contraception and safer-sex options to make informed decisions. I do not support giving recruiters the personal information of students. We should include "opt out" forms with high school registration materials.

John Sweeney: The world is full of all kinds of people. On the job, I have worked for, with and had working for me all kinds of people. What counted was job performance. Period! I was with Portland Parks and Recreation for almost 33 years. I believe in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To be without fear anywhere. All civic organizations should have access to school property for legal purposes.

David Wynde: Public schools must provide a safe environment for children to learn and grow into young adults. Schools should provide opportunities for the free exchange of ideas and opinions, with rules providing for mutual respect and the tolerance of differences, including sexual orientation.

ZONE 3

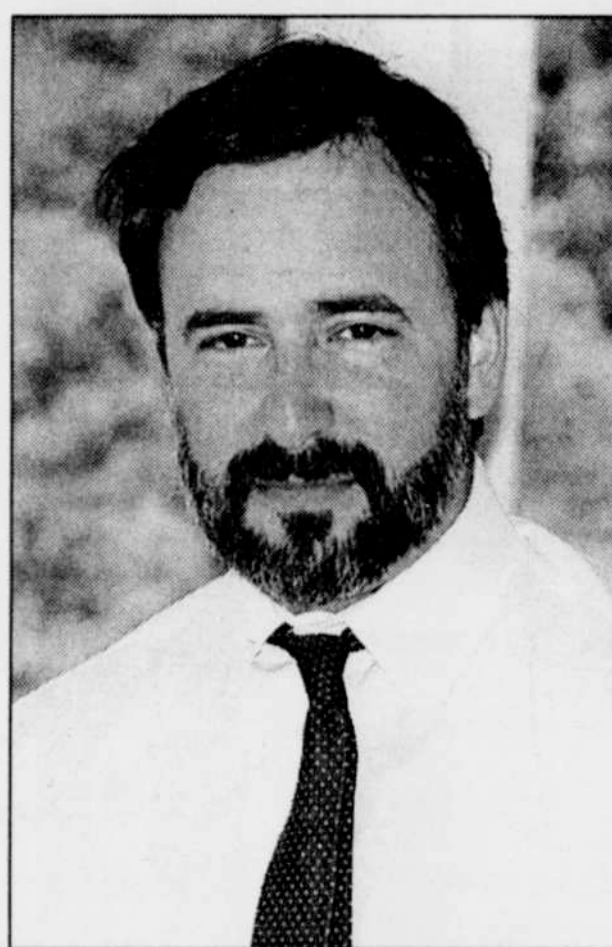
John Ball: I strongly support the LGBT Students' Bill of Educational Rights. Its hallmarks include rights to fair and accurate information, positive role models, freedom

from verbal and physical harassment, and a school atmosphere of respect and dignity for all students. I also support the Multnomah Commission on Children and Families' strategic plan for sexual minority youth, which recommends strategies in six key areas: youth development, education, social activities, system development, health and social services, and advocacy.

Sam Oakland: I was raised in a quite open society where freedom of thought was encouraged. I was introduced to the great art, music and literature at a early age and taught to understand that there were not just two ways of looking at things but that possibilities were almost endless. My family taught me that discrimination against people of different colors, ideas or styles of life was intolerance and wrong—that's the story of my life.

Bobbie Regan: As a school board member, I will work to: set and enforce policies that ensure respectful, safe and supportive learning environments for all students; support school practices that ensure all students have an opportunity to learn in an environment free from bullying and discrimination; and demand that adults in schools model inclusive, non-discriminatory behavior. Parents and students must be fully informed that they can opt out of recruitment approaches by the military.

James West: We need to allow our young adults to explore who they are. If we support and show positive guidance in these times of question, only good can happen. Teen-agers respond better when they are treated as adults, not children. We can either help to educate and show compassion now, while we can, or run the risk of allowing ignorance to take hold once they are in this world on their own.



Marc Abrams, a strong supporter of gay rights, is stepping down from the Portland Public Schools board

ZONE 7

Richard Garrett: The Portland Association of Teachers, of which I was president from 1997 through 2002, has bargained to protect educators from discrimination and also to maintain their right to provide instruction in controversial subjects. The Portland Public Schools Sexual Diversity Task Force, of which I was a member for sev-

eral years, promoted programs for safe schools, developed diversity curricula, recommended literature for schools and established parent-school alliances to enrich the students' education.

Jon Jacob: No child should feel threatened in our schools, and anybody victimizing another child should be removed from the school and counseled (with their family, if possible). We must do what we can to encourage Gay Straight Alliances to help prevent attacks on lesbians and gays. I will do what I can to fight military recruiting in our schools. I also vehemently oppose the Boy Scouts' presence in our schools. They clearly are a discriminatory organization.

Richard Nichols: I am firmly against any discrimination on issues concerning GLBTQ youth and educators. I would seek input from the gay community to ensure that these concerns were addressed. I am against the use of campuses by any discriminatory organization. PPS should mandate a policy of anti-bullying/anti-discrimination. As a business owner for 30 years in Portland, I've advertised in *Just Out* and worked directly with gay businesses. I've always supported the gay community.

Dilafruz Williams: As an Indian woman who immigrated to this country, I am sensitive to discrimination. Any form of discrimination, including sexual preference, has no place in our schools. As a PSU professor, I teach courses in the foundations of education that reflect topics of social justice as they relate to race, class, gay/lesbian/bi/trans and gender issues.... I have provided testimony to the board to keep the military out of the schools. [M]

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