

Student relations with community questioned

"Would you please keep off my lawn, you're tramping it down to nothing."

"Oh, shut up ya old bag! I'll move when I well feel like it. Ya got that?"

The door slams fearfully and the housewife, thoroughly shaken, covers inside her safe walls while the pranksters laugh victoriously.

Student relations in the community, the sad but true story of how the students are becoming more and more distant from the people in the community, and the petitions and meetings with authorities being held by the concerned people in the neighborhood.

These meetings and petitions directly concern a very small minority of students, but reflect greatly on the entire student body. This is the importance of this issue—the fact that the whole student body is being affected by the childish, uncalled-for actions of a few.

The importance of helping to rid the school of vulgar language used to the people in the community, the trash in and outside the school building, and the general misconduct being displayed each and every school day, is the main intent of publicity and action being undertaken in the community area.

There are, of course, excuses for the problem. Grant is a very poorly situated school with residential areas located on every side. But the location has been the same

for the past 43 years without the trouble that is arising now.

Another contributor to the problem is the cigarette law which states that no student shall smoke on the school grounds or in the immediate area of the school. This law forced those students who can't make it through the day without a cigarette to move out into the community.

From this point their violence began. The pleas to stay off peoples' neatly-kept lawns, and the vulgar replies; the unlawful use and squealing of cars during lunch periods, and as the rainy season approached, the "innocent" use of peoples' garages to stay dry.

As one member of the community stated, "We don't mind the kids being around. But if we could just enjoy this as a residential area we'd be satisfied."

Most of the people agreed that the profane language bothers them the most.

Action has been taken, and more will come unless we eliminate this problem immediately. Parking has been restricted on Thompson Street and police patrols have been more than doubled in the area. Many violators have been suspended.

Other restrictions which very well could be enforced are: no honor study hall for juniors and seniors; closed campus so that no one leaves the campus from 8:30 until 3:00 and one-way traffic on 36th avenue.

Standards committee completes assignment of evaluating dress

by Marilyn Leonard

"The Student Standards committee was charged with the task of evaluating the current school policy regarding the various aspects of student conduct, dress, and grooming," reported John Stuckey, student adviser.

Student members of the committee are George Yerkovich, Tom Zell, Julie Dille, Kim Martin, Artie Wilson and John Thompson. Adult members include Mrs. Phyllis Pittman, PTA president, Mrs. Marty Zabelan and Mrs. Carol Anderson of the PTA; Mrs. Doris Hanlon and John Stuckey, faculty.

"The PTA members were selected by Mrs. Pittman. Students were selected by myself. Regarding student selection, I selected students who would represent all viewpoints; that is conservative and liberal," continued Mr. Stuckey. The committee used the U.S. Grant Handbook (1967-68), "Rules and Regulations," pages 14, 15, and 16. In a few cases we adopted whole paragraphs from this publication. In most instances we completely rewrote the existing rules.

Within the committee's report are recommendations dealing with community relations, cafeteria conduct, care of school property, assembly conduct, smoking, drinking and use of drugs.

The decisions on dress and grooming were particularly interesting. The final vote on this issue was 9-2. On all other issues, the vote was either unanimous or only one dissenting vote prevailed. The following is the committee's decision on dress and grooming:

As a matter of general policy, all pupils are to be neat and clean in appearance when in school or participating in school related activities. Dress and grooming must be consistent with interests of health and good taste. Extreme, bizarre and conspicuous styles in grooming and dress are not permitted in the school. Though allowance is made for evolutionary changes in dress styles and grooming, radical changes resulting in extremes which violate currently accepted rules of good taste and propriety are not acceptable.

The responsibility for seeing that students meet these standards rests primarily with parents or guardians. However, the school will also help students to develop standards of good taste which are compatible with a climate of discipline and learning in the classroom.

"I was delighted to work with the members of the committee although we differed in opinion with each other consistently. Everyone was mature, polite and respectful with each other," explained Mr. Stuckey.

"It is the principal's option to accept, modify or reject the committee recommendations for it is the principal only who has this responsibility," he concluded.

The final school policy will be released at a later date, after the administration has the opportunity to analyze the committee's recommendations.

The committee met with Dr. Roy O. Malo to explain its viewpoint.

Computers program student activities; tell of attendance, citizenship, grades

Are you sweating it out, waiting for your grades, and thinking of alibis for your parents? Your grades are already known to the machine, a computer! It's busy recording your grades; attendance, citizenship and other pertinent information; making copies for you and your counselor.

Information on almost every high school student in the Portland Public Schools can be found in a matter of minutes with the use of a computer at the Administration building. Every student has a number which can be programmed together with his name, subjects in letter code subject grades, grade school attended, reg room number, last year's GPA, home address, phone number, and birthdate. In the future it is hoped that it will be possible to record all attendance patterns.

All information concerning students can be found on "disks." There is a separate disk for each high school. These disks must constantly be up-dated as schedules change, or as a student drops out or enrolls. During the summer the computer processor takes out all of the seniors from the disks, moves the other students up a grade, and enters the incoming freshmen.

A schedule looks like this to a computer: 5820, student number; 048, first

period code; 442, second period code; 010, third period code; 215, fourth period code; Hold V, fifth period code; 705, sixth period code; 608, seventh period code.

One of the many conveniences of the computer is that it can make any kind of list. For example, a list can be made of all the freshmen in alphabetical order, or a list can be made of all the junior boys. This can save time when tests of one particular group of students are given. The computer also makes up all of the schedules. If there is a conflict of classes, the counselors must make up the rest of the schedule.

When the computer is making up schedules, it fills each class with thirty people and goes on to the next class. After it has entered thirty students, no more can be entered without a change in the programming. When a schedule is changed, the vice-principal sends a white form to the Administration building so that the change can be recorded on the computer.

"Besides student programs and report cards, the computer makes mailing lists for the PTA and the Dads' club, and enables the school district to obtain a variety of information on any student, or combination of students, in a relatively short time, according to Gust Kanas, curriculum vice-principal.

The school district also has other uses for the computer, using it for research purposes, testing programs and payroll.

"As in any system, the computer is only as good as people make it," Mr. Kanas went on to say. "The computer is infallible if fed properly."

"Originally, Grant was one of the first four schools involved in computer data processing," stated Mr. Kanas. Lincoln was the first to begin in about 1963. Its first effort was restricted to report cards and programming.

Now there are eight high schools in the data processing program, the "home-base" computer located at 631 N.E. Clackamas, in the Administration building. The computer is run by Bob Rintoul and Charles Haddock.

Portland has had its own computer for less than two years, but still it is not elaborate enough to handle the scheduling of Jackson and Marshall, which have module scheduling. Because of lack of funds, there are no plans for a more complex data processing system in the future.

"They're working on a system to have separate numbers for each individual, so that as long as a student is in the Portland Public School system, he will keep the same number from kindergarten through high school," stated Charles Orr, counselor chairman.

Generally speaking

by Cecile O'Rourke

During the midst of the introductions, one candidate stands up and trips across the stage. The audience laughs. He wins.

The contenders for the office of student body president give their speeches. One boy tells of his plans, qualifications and future hopes for student government.

Another boy stands up, tells a few jokes, whips out a fancy slogan and sits down. The jokester wins hands down.

On what do students base their selections? Just because a candidate is a "good guy," does this qualify him to represent us in student government? When accused of always choosing the funny guy, one student said, "Who cares? Student government is a farce anyway!"

If it's only a "farce," why even bother having government? And if some students believe this, what are they doing to help make the councils what they should be?

The same student was asked why he didn't run for office in order to help change it. "I wouldn't win anyway. No one knows me. I'm not popular enough."

So, are students considering popularity as a prerequisite to running for office? Isn't it enough just to have good ideas and a willingness to serve?

Maybe not, but if not, perhaps some values and ideas need to be changed.

Voting is a student's only real chance to alter the course of present government and should be taken seriously, choosing one's representatives and leaders wisely and with much thought.

James Monroe is renewed name of Girls Polytechnic

by Julie Ferry

The apparent set rule of naming high schools after presidents or well-known men has again been displayed. Girls' Polytechnic has recently been renamed to James Monroe high school.

"The officials of the school felt that the school really didn't have a name. The idea of changing the name had been thought about for many years, since the program at the school has been changing," stated Mrs. Nancy Russell, vice-principal at James Monroe.

Voting to change the name of the school was a committee of teachers, members of the PTA and various members of the alumnae. The name change was then submitted to the school board for approval. The final approval by the board was made December 11.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

It is obvious that some of Grant's students do not care what the image of our school is to the residents in the community. On the last day of school before vacation, many were throwing snowballs at passing cars, not only during lunch, but also after school. This was particularly irritating at 33rd avenue. Besides this damage to our reputation, school property, in the form of windows, was also damaged.

Just throwing snowballs at fellow students is not especially harmful, if the student in question does not mind; the only setback being a slight disruption of classes that is only mildly annoying to teachers. If play were restricted to this area, I am sure there would be no problems.

The only ones really being hurt by the actions of such a few people, are the students. If we want to have sports and other activities in school next year, we are going to have to realize where the money comes from for such items. I hope the guilty parties will, in the future, restrict their snowball throwing to students, if they have to throw them at all.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Jensen

The Grantonian

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