

# New mandate protects abused

**Emily Rask**  
Associate News Editor

Starting in January of 2013, new mandatory child abuse reporting will be set in place and all employees will legally have to report any suspected child abusers or any kind of child abuse. An email was sent out to teachers recently explaining the new mandatory child abuse reporting requirements.

Mandatory abuse reporters now include all school employees, as well as coaches, certain state agency or commission employees, legislators and peace officers.

When watching out for child abuse, one must be aware of what is considered a "child," it is any person under the age of 18 who is not married. Therefore, even college employees have

become mandatory child abuse reports because there are many students at the college who are not of age yet.

"It's kind of a given that we know it's the law," said Ida Flippo, a criminal justice instructor here at Clackamas Community College. "We're just aware of it more now and it's wherever we are we report it."

All CCC employees will then have to go through every necessary step in reporting the said child abuse, such as listening and believing what is either being said or seen, and then reporting in detail the age, sex, hair color and other essential information of the victim child.

Some teachers have taken classes on child abuse before, and for some schools this is actually required now for all employees to take, but the one for CCC employees is actually online.

"It's not so much a class as it is an online video training," said

Marsha Edwards, the Dean of Human Resources.

If employees do not report the child abuse that they see or hear about, it is reported as a prosecution of a Class A criminal violation of the law, where the penalty is up to \$2,000. Some have also been sued for not reporting, so this new law is very much enforced.

"Basically employees fined if they don't report, before it was not in place so it was not required by law," said Edwards.

Even though the new law is just now being placed, many employees have already been aware that they must report if they suspect any child abuse.

"Teachers have always been mandatory child abuse instructors," said Dawn Terrill, an Early Childhood Education and Family Services Instructor on campus.

Before the new law is to be set in place, employees are not as

aware as to what to do in a case where they witness or get told about a child abuse. To report child abuse contact a local DHS office, or contact the local law enforcement.

All around us there are people, even at CCC who could be child abusers or are abused as children, but someone should be notified. Just giving a phone call to notify someone can help more than anything.

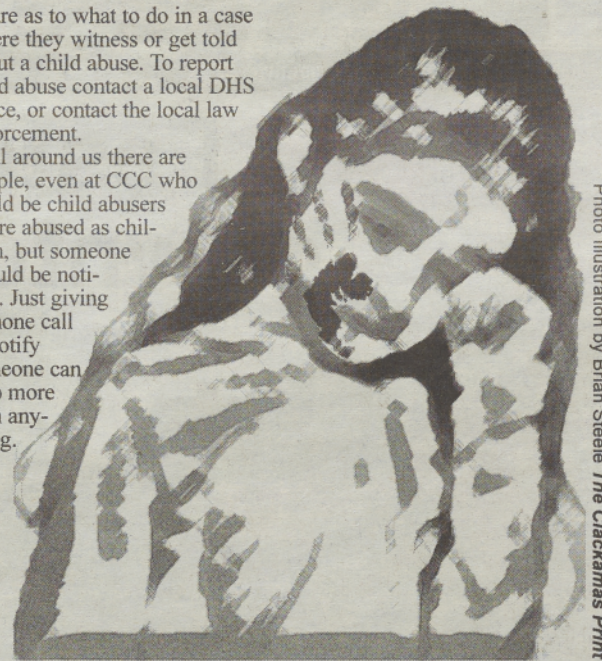


Photo illustration by Brian Steele The Clackamas Print

## Portland State University participates in SpaceX 'Dragon' launch

**Felicia Skriver**  
News Editor

The countdown began, five...four...three...two...one... The SpaceX rocket made history as it lifted into the Earth's atmosphere. The rocket named Dragon launched Sunday Oct. 7 and docked at the International Space Station Wednesday, Oct. 10. The Dragon was the first commercial space cargo mission out of the 12 scheduled.

According to a PSU press release, researchers at Portland State say they are thrilled and proud to be part of this historic event.

According to NASA's website, Administrator Charles Bolden and SpaceX President Gwynne Shotwell celebrated the liftoff of the landmark cargo mission to the International Space Station.

"This was a critical event in spaceflight tonight," Bolden said. "We're once again launching spacecraft from American soil with the supplies our astronauts need in space. NASA and the nation are embarking on an ambitious program of space exploration."

Aboard the cargo ship was an experiment made by engineering students at Portland State University designed to study the behavior of fluids in zero gravity. Students were not permitted to board the ship; however they were able to be in contact with the astronauts at the space station performing the experiment. Live video feed and constant contact made it so students could explain to the astronauts how to perform the experiment.

PSU is one of the only universities in the country that has any contact with NASA; this was the 50 experiments that the school has sent up in to space. The

results found from this experiment could potentially change the way fuel systems are made for future space crafts.

"Like you see with a straw on earth, liquid will move up it a little bit but it stops because of gravity. In orbit gravity doesn't stop it, or won't for a very long time," said William Blackmore, a graduate student of engineering at PSU, "So we can utilize that effect to make fluids move on their own."

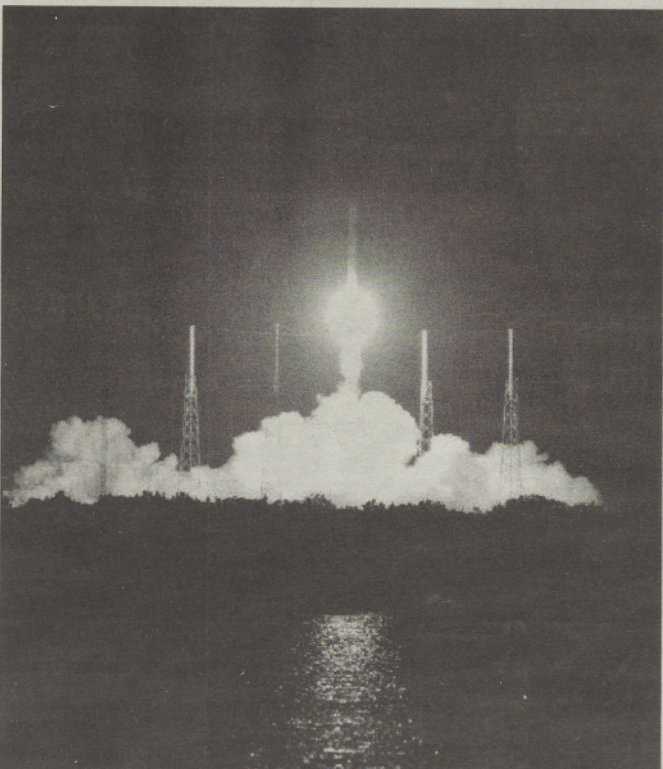
During liftoff there was one complication, one of the nine Merlin engines that power the rocket suddenly lost pressure according to the company SpaceX. Regardless of the pressure drop, Dragon made it to the station right on schedule.

"[The rocket] did everything it was supposed to," said the company. The onboard flight computer made some adjustments so the Dragon capsule met the proper orbit.

Over 1,000 pounds of groceries, clothes, experiments and gear was sent to the space station. The Dragon is scheduled to stay docked for the next three weeks and at the end of the month it will return with almost twice the amount in scientific samples.

This was the second Dragon to make it to the space station, the first one made it in May as a test run of the flight. Under a \$1.6 billion dollar contract with NASA, SpaceX is scheduled to make many more cargo freight trips; however the focal point is then going to turn towards exploring deep into the solar systems. The company is currently trying to make the Dragon capsule safe enough for passengers. It's projected that three years from now they'll be able to send personnel.

Other companies such as Orbitcomm have similar contracts with NASA for space exploration as well.



NASA

The SpaceX Dragon lifts off at Cape Canaveral with an experiment made by PSU students. The experiment is designed to study the behavior of fluids in zero-gravity. The results of the experiment could change the way fuels are made for spacecrafts.

### POLICE BLOTTER

Police Activity:  
Week of Oct 9-16

**Oct 9 - Personal property  
reported stolen at 12:30 pm  
in McLoughlin hall**

Information compiled from  
Campus Safety Logs

### POLICE BLOTTER

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