

## New Jefferson Model Studied

### Local community would govern high school

In a joint partnership between Self Enhancement, Inc. and Jefferson High School, it was announced last week that SEI received a \$35,000 Parent, Family, and Community grant from the Portland School Foundation to study the potential of a community "governance" model for the school.

Geoff Brooks, a retired educator and member of the north and northeast Portland community has been hired as the facilitator for the project.

"The intent of the Community Involvement Grant is to bring lots of ideas together with a common goal of long-term sustainability" said Larry Dashiell, principal of Jefferson High School. "It is my hope that this project unifies the community, and truly becomes a community effort to support a community school."

In a "governance" model, a community governing board would have full responsibility and authority for running Jefferson High School including curriculum, hiring, school improvement plans, and overall direction of the school.

"This is a unique opportunity to look at the possibility of real change at Jefferson" said Tony Hopson, President and CEO of Self Enhancement, Inc.

—Tony Hopson, president and CEO of Self Enhancement, Inc.

"For many years, the community surrounding Jefferson has been left out of conversations concerning the future of our neighborhood school. We think its time to look at ways to get the community re-engaged in a way that truly effects change. But keep in mind, this is a planning grant. We may discover that this type of model doesn't work for our community."

As part of the grant, SEI and Jefferson will convene a core group of community stakeholders. This core group will be charged with studying the viability of a governance model in the Jefferson school community, including research of similar efforts taking place around the country. It is anticipated that this phase of the grant will take up to one year.

Several community forums will be held during the research and planning phase to keep the community abreast of the core group's developments and findings.



PHOTO BY ISAIAH BOUIE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A Portland Police Bureau van is using photo radar to record the speed of motorists on North Fremont Street adjacent to Boise-Elliott School.

## Safety Promoted in School Zones

BY ISAIAH BOUIE  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Police Officer John Potter sits in the photo radar van on North Fremont Street and makes sure that all the equipment is working correctly to enforce the school zone speed limit in front of Boise-Elliott school.

For the last few weeks, Potter's van has also worked school zones at Faubion, Vernon and Alameda schools in northeast Portland, and Glencoe in southeast Portland. The Police Bureau is stepping up the use of photo radar to measure the effectiveness on traffic speeds, safety and public attitude.

According to Mayor Tom Potter, "Keeping our children safe is the single most important issue in our community."

In Portland during the 1990's, over 1,000 children aged 17 and under were struck by a motor vehicle. An impact with a motor vehicle at 20 miles per hour kills 10

percent of victims. The death rate more than triples once the driver hits 30 mph.

The fine for speeding varies depending on how fast a person is over the limit, but ranges from \$141 to \$201.

The message: Don't speed, it saves children's lives and your wallet.

## Minority Entrepreneurs Host Trade Show

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs will be hosting its 17<sup>th</sup> annual Entrepreneurship Luncheon and Trade Show at the Oregon Convention Center on Thursday, May 12 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will feature 150 exhibitors doing business with small and disadvantaged firms. Admission is free.

The keynote speaker for this year's luncheon is Preston Pulliam, Portland Community College president.

A Small Business and Employee Health



Preston Pulliam, Portland Community College president



Samuel Brooks, OAME board chairman

Insurance Workshop, "What do you think of when someone mentions insurance?" will be lead by Christine Zinter of Avalon Solutions.

She'll discuss how to shop for insurance, how to know if you're paying a competitive rate, how to understand what the policy says and how to get the insurance your business needs. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in room C126 of the convention center.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$45 each and can be purchased on site or in advance by calling OAME at 503-249-7744 or visit [www.oame.org](http://www.oame.org).

## NEW SEASONS MARKET

# Strawberry Shortcakes FOREVER

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Enjoy a Strawberry Shortcake this Saturday and join the community effort to stop domestic violence. We'll give your \$3.75 to the Soroptimist Northwest Region. They'll distribute it to local domestic violence organizations in the Portland/Metro area.



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