



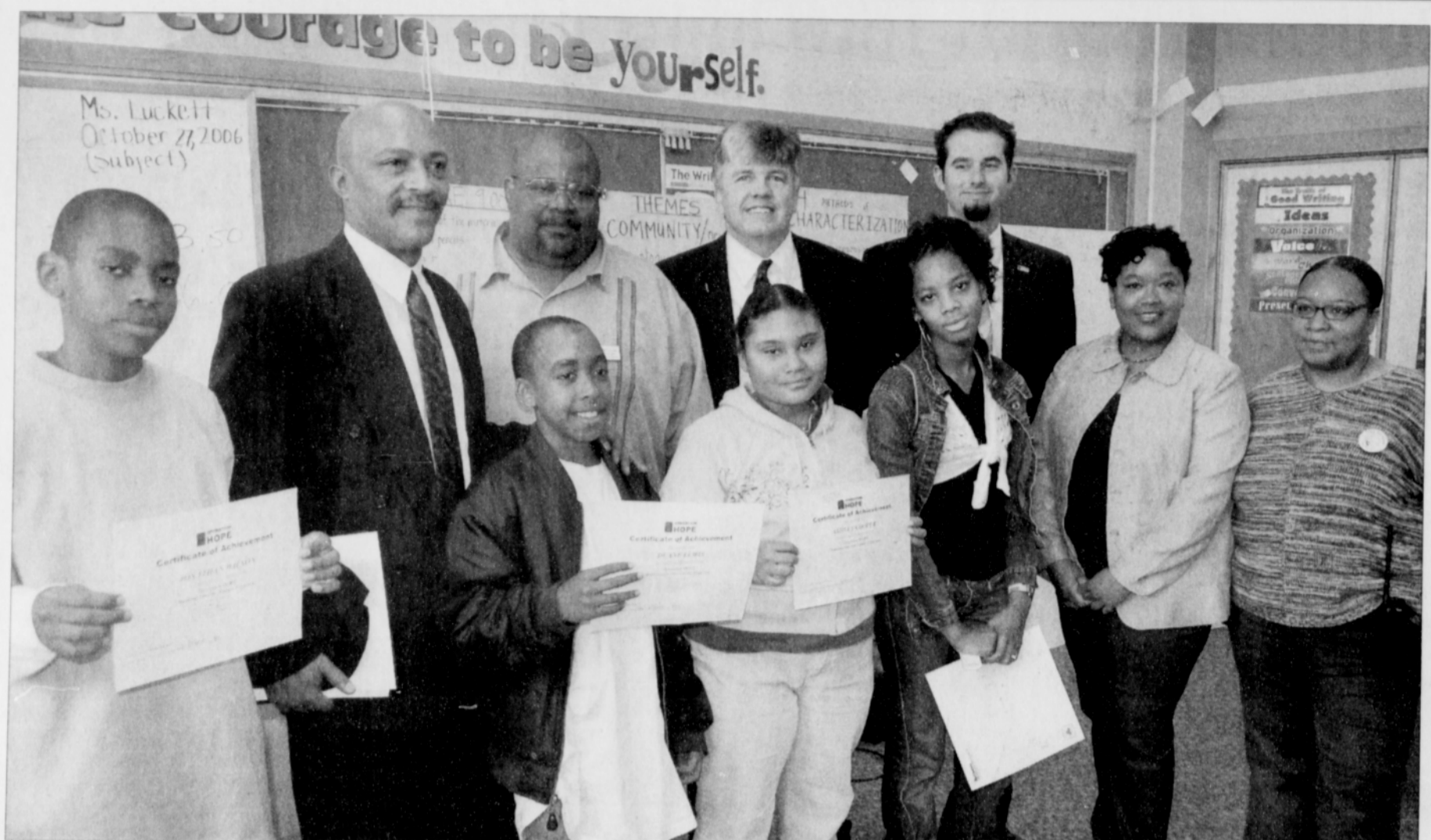
June Canty

Professor Promotes Standards

A professor and director of Education Programs at Washington State University-Vancouver was recently appointed by Gov. Christine Gregoire to the Professional Education Standards Board.

June Canty represents higher education on the panel. The board's mission is to bring greater focus to certified education professionals and evaluate requirements for new teachers prior to state certification.

"The decisions this board makes have a huge impact on all of our education students," Canty said. "It's critical they make good, sound decisions and I want to help guide those decisions."



Banking on Our Future — Savings certificates matched by Bank of the West are proudly held by King Elementary financial literacy students. Pictured (back row, from left) are Johnathan Wilson, sixth grade; Marvin Cobb of Banking on Our Future; Clarence Bethune, Umpqua Bank; Mike Rasmussen of Bank of the West and David Bell of Operation Hope. Also pictured (front row, from left) are Duane Lewis, sixth grade; students Ashley Cooper and Kiasha Causey; King Assistant Principal Harriette Jackson and Principal DaDrena Rhodes. See story, Career and Education front page.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Survey Shows College Education Pays

Degree worth \$23,000 a year

(AP)—How much is a bachelor's degree worth? About \$23,000 a year. That is the average gap in earnings between adults with bachelor's degrees and those with high school diplomas, according to the latest data from the Census Bureau.

College graduates made an average of \$51,554 in 2004, the most recent figures available, compared with \$28,645 for adults with a high school diploma. High school dropouts earned an average of \$19,169 and those with advanced college degrees made an average of \$78,093.

"There appear to be strong incentives to get a college degree, given the gaps that we observe," said Lisa Barrow, senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

The income gap narrowed slightly from five years earlier, when college graduates made nearly twice as much as high school graduates. But the differences remained significant for men and women of every racial and ethnic group.

Eighty-five percent of people 25 and older had at least a high school diploma or the equivalent in 2005, according to the Census Bureau's 2005 Current Population Survey. In 2000, 80 percent had a high school diploma or the equivalent, and a little more than half did in 1970.

Twenty-eight percent had at least a bachelor's degree, compared with about 24 percent in 2000 and 11 percent in 1970.

"I think we've done a very good job of getting individuals into college," said Cecilia Rouse, professor of economics and public affairs at Princeton University. "But we don't fully understand why we don't do as good a job of graduating them."

Chester Finn, president of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute in Washington, said too many high school graduates are unprepared



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to succeed in college.

"If you don't emerge from high school having done at least the equivalent of advanced algebra, you are not going to be ready for college math," Finn said. "You can make similar points about English."

Among the other findings in the report:

Minnesota, Utah, Montana, New Hampshire and Alaska had the highest proportions of adults with at least a high school diploma—all at about 92 percent.

Texas had the lowest proportion of adults with at least a high school diploma, about 78 percent. It was followed closely by Kentucky and Mississippi.

Connecticut was the state with the highest proportion of adults with at least a bachelor's degree, nearly 37 percent. It was followed closely by Massachusetts, Maryland and New Jersey.

Nearly 47 percent of adults in

Washington, D.C., had at least a bachelor's degree.

West Virginia had the lowest proportion of college graduates, at 15 percent. It was followed at the bottom by Arkansas, Kentucky and Louisiana.

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For more information or to apply for an internship contact:

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