

Local Schools Keep P.E.



Portland Superintendent Carole Smith told the school board Monday that every Portland elementary and middle school will have at least a halftime physical education teacher this fall-rather than lose PE entirely. Smith says the decision means about 120 teaching positions will be cut, not the 180 originally proposed.

School Named for Chavez

The Portland school board voted Monday to rename the Portsmouth-Clarendon school in north Portland for labor rights leader Cesar E.

Chavez. It's the first of Portland's 85 public schools to be named for a Latino. Last year's switch from 39th Avenue to Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard sparked a contentious debate but no controversy surrounded this latest name change.

High Court Pick Approved

A polarized Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday approved Elena Kagan to be the fourth female Supreme Court justice. Just one Republican joined Democrats to approve Kagan's nomination and send it to the full Senate, where she's expected to win



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confirmation within weeks.

Jobless Benefits Delay Ends

Legislation to restore unemployment benefits to millions who have been out of work for more than six months broke free of Senate Republican delaying tactics on Tuesday. Senators voted 60-40 to move ahead on the bill, clearing the way for a final Senate vote and consideration by the House on Wednesday.

Missing Boy Costs Mount

Multnomah County commissioners will consider budgeting extra money

to help find missing 7-year-old Kyron Horman. Sheriff Dan Staton and District Attorney Michael Schruck will ask the board Thursday for more than \$438,000 for their investigation. The search for missing Skyline Elementary boy has already cost the county more than \$412,000.



Prom Dispute Settled

A rural school district in Mississippi that canceled its prom rather than allow a lesbian student to attend with her girlfriend has agreed to pay \$35,000 to settle a discrimination lawsuit the ACLU filed on her

behalf. Constance McMillen, 18, said the victory came at the price of her being shunned in her small hometown of Fulton, Miss.

Lohan Begins Jail Term

Lindsay Lohan was taken into custody to serve a jail sentence for probation violation Tuesday. The 24-year-old actress showed up at the Beverly Hills courtroom about 10 minutes late. After a short hearing, she rose and was handcuffed behind her back to serve a 90 day sentence, which may be significantly shortened.



diversity in Print

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Young, Black & Gifted Recognizing kids on right track

Portland's African-American youth are often caught up in a net of negative public perceptions brought by news of gang violence, the sobering achievement gap and school drop out rates. But there's a plenty of young black kids in Portland who are on the right path, making good grades, headed to college, and are making positive contributions to the city. A new photographic tribute recognizes the hard work of some of these students and shows that there is still reason to be optimistic.



Skylar Holt excels as freshman at Jefferson High School in north Portland. Her contribution is one of the city's 'Young, Black & Gifted' students is part of a new exhibit coming to school district headquarters and Lloyd Center Mall.

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NAACP Takes Back Criticism

After worker pushed out of job

(AP)-- NAACP leaders are calling on the Obama administration to reconsider its ousting of a black Agriculture Department worker who was pushed out of her job over racially tinged remarks, reversing their previous criticism of the employee.



Shirley Sherrod

NAACP President Benjamin Todd Jealous said in a statement that the group was "snookered" into believing that USDA employee Shirley Sherrod expressed racist sentiments at a local NAACP meeting in Georgia earlier this year. Jealous said conservative activist Andrew Breitbart, whose website posted video of Sherrod's remarks, deceived millions of people by releasing only partial clips. He said the full video makes clear that Sherrod was telling a story of racial unity.

"The tape of Ms. Sherrod's speech at an NAACP banquet was deliberately edited to create a false impression of racial bias, and to create a controversy where none existed," Jealous said Tuesday afternoon. "This just shows the lengths to which extremist elements will go to discredit legitimate opposition."

The controversy began Monday when the conservative website biggovernment.com posted a two-minute, 38-second video clip of Sherrod's remarks to a local NAACP chapter. The Huffington Post said a YouTube video was then aired on Fox News. The footage has stoked racial and political tension amid allegations by the NAACP that the Tea Party movement is bigoted.

Earlier Tuesday, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack accepted Sherrod's resignation, saying

there was "zero tolerance for discrimination at USDA."

But Sherrod, in an interview with CNN, said her remarks to the NAACP were being intentionally misconstrued by conservative groups stoking racial tensions.

"I was speaking to that group, like I've done many groups, and I tell them about a time when I thought the issue was race and race only," Sherrod told CNN. She said the incident she described in her speech occurred some 24 years ago, when she worked for a non-profit aid group. "I was telling the story of how working with him helped me to see the issue is not about race. It's about those who have versus those who do not have."

The farmer's wife, Eloise Spooner, 82, told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Tuesday that Sherrod helped save their land. Spooner, who considered Sherrod a "friend for life," said that "the federal official worked tirelessly to help" the couple hold onto their farm as they faced bankruptcy in 1986, the Atlanta newspaper reported.