

Push for Alternatives

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at-risk youth.

Portland Parents Union founder and activist Sheila Warren is asking the community to join her in an open conversation on the issue and create action together to reduce the harm of pushouts.

"We are looking for the village to show up," said Warren, a mother and grandmother who started the Portland Parents Union in 2009 after feeling "pushed out" of decisions

Input Wanted

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president since 2004, and is best known for leading Oregon's largest college through a dramatic surge in enrollment while state funding for public education has declined, seeking other resources and looking for more efficient ways to help serve the region's educational needs.

"The selection of our next president matters to everyone because PCC has such a deep, profound effect on the communities we serve," said Denise Frisbee, chair of the PCC board of directors. "What PCC does today is vital to our region's success tomorrow, and we intend to fill Dr. Pulliams' shoes with a successor who is just as passionate about serving our communities' needs."

Comment on Police Reforms

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cluding that the Portland Police Bureau uses excessive force against persons with mental illness.

The encounters too frequently resulted in a higher level of force than necessary. Officers used electronic control weapons or "tasers" in circumstances when such force was not justified, or deployed the tasers more times than necessary. Officers also used a higher degree of force than justified for low level offenses.

The city has agreed to make changes to police bureau policies, practices, training, and supervision to resolve the Justice Department's findings.

Those who are unable to attend the community conference call may also provide their comments by emailing community.portland@usdoj.gov or calling toll-free 1-877-218-5228.

Comments provided by the members of the community prior to Oct. 12 will be considered by the Justice Department, along with all other information received throughout the course of the department's investigation.

made for her children by school administration and lacking the collective support and representation to deal with it.

"We want families to have the real conversations," said Warren. "We also need to hear from those

who are educating and making decisions for our children. This action is imperative because we are all in this together."

Rather than giving students no option but to leave school, the parents union would rather see schools

adopt positive approaches to discipline like restorative practices and positive behavior supports.

The national campaign calls on states and school districts to support teachers and schools in dealing with discipline in positive ways, such as keeping students in the classroom and helping educators work with students and parents to create safe and engaging classrooms

that protect youth's human rights to education and dignity.

Warren recognizes that some districts, schools and organizations are implementing actions to reduce the "pushouts."

The Portland Parents Union's Restorative Listening Dialogue will be held from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1624 N.E. Hancock.



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
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