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Portland NAACP Updates Work

The NAACP Portland branch invites members of the community to join them for their monthly general membership meeting, Saturday, Nov. 26 from noon to 2 p.m. at the American Red Cross building, 3131 N. Vancouver Ave.

This is an opportunity to connect with Portland NAACP's

work in advancing racial justice in the community. The local civil rights group's president Jo Ann Hardesty and executive leadership will provide updates about current and future initiatives.

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the

political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. The vision of the NAACP is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

Call to End Death Penalty Cases

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OJRC is urging the governor to take swift and decisive action that will end or greatly reduce the costs associated with the cases of those who are on death row. The organization believes the

time is right for Gov. Brown to commute all Oregon death sentences to life without the possibility of parole.

"She is able to use her powers of clemency to end the wasteful expense of endless litigation over death penalty cases while still pro-

tecting public safety by ensuring none of those who are resentenced to life without the possibility of parole ever leave prison," Lundell said. "Since executions are so rare, life without parole is already the effective sentence of those on death row."

School Sanctuaries

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"We reaffirm our unequivocal commitment to each other," Wiewel said. All Portland State students, regardless of national origin or immigration status, should be welcome, safe and able to pursue their higher education as full members of the PSU family."

Being a sanctuary campus means PSU and its public safety officers will follow state law that forbids local schools and law enforcement from enforcing federal immigration laws.

On Tuesday, Congressman Earl Blumenauer of Portland also commented on the possibility that Trump, his new administration and the Republican Congress will crack down on undocumented residents living in Oregon.

"I'm proud that people here are making a commitment to those who feel vulnerable and at risk, that we're not going to abandon them and we're going to stand up for them," he said.

Under policies adopted by both PSU and Portland Public Schools, facilitating or consenting to immigration enforcement activities or sharing confidential student information, such as immigration status, would not be permitted.

The Portland School Board resolution recites the presence of ICE officers who come on to school property as a disruption to a safe and inviting environment. It directs the Interim Superintendent to develop a plan over the next 90 days for training all necessary school staff on how to respond to any ICE personnel requesting in-

formation about students and families or attempting to enter school property.

The board also wants policies and procedures to protect and care for students who have been negatively impacted by the removal of their family members during ICE raids, until a guardian or other designated adult is contacted, and that all teachers, administrators and school staff should be trained on such procedures.

Brown said it was important to be diligent of both state and federal law, while also knowing what protections can be made for the kids, administrators, teachers and the entire school district community.

"We needed a district wide policy to take the responsibility for these decisions away from individual schools and placed at the superintendent or board level," Brown said.

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