



**URBAN LEAGUE OF PORTLAND**  
**SUMMER CAMP** =

**HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
 JUNE 26TH - JULY 21ST

- \$300 stipend for successful completion
- Multiple field trips a week to colleges & employers!
- Students get tangible experience and knowledge about different professions
- Students walk away with a strong resume and cover letter for future ideas

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
 JULY 24TH - AUGUST 12TH

- Completely free of charge! All transport needs are paid for.
- Students get to run their own town at J.A. Biztown! Getting work experience before they are even in high school!
- Students get to get out of Portland and experience the outdoors at an overnight multicultural camp!
- Students will get to form bonds with students around the state at the overnight camp

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Construction crews work to complete the modernization of Franklin High School. The renovation process is preserving the campus' historic buildings, while adding new wings that complement the existing 100-year-old structure.

# On the Ballot

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

at the completed structure.

"We had a 100 year old building," Valder said, "So it was time."

Pointing to the tremendous impact of the 2012 bond measure on her students, Valder says that it's essential to continuing funding school revitalization for Portland's long-term economic health.

"Investing in our children is investing in our future," explained Valder. "It's an effective use of money that will support our kids for the next 100 years."

She adds that by making lasting contributions into the education system, students will be able to achieve greater academic success.

"It's amazing to watch the faces of the four that are here today... They feel valued," Valder said.

Christina Strommer, a 16-year-old Franklin High School junior, says that the building improvements are also enhancing her educational opportunities. She compares the new technologies that are being implemented in the campus' classrooms and theatre to those you'd find at a four-year

university.

"Even the little things are really making a difference," Strommer said. "Having advanced classes in this advanced building is just an absolute treat."

17-year-old Franklin High School junior Michelle Jaramillo says that the new features at her school, such as increased natural light and more classroom space, will help her focus as she continues on in her academic career.

"Having bigger classrooms and fewer distractions will really help us improve our focus," Jaramillo stated.

Despite the clear success of the 2012 school bond measure, public confidence in PPS has waned over the leadership of the district and former Superintendent Carole Smith's resignation last year.

Wright explains, however, that community members' concerns with school administration should not affect their decision on the school bond.

"The school modernization work is overseen by a citizen advisory board, the Bond Advisory Committee," Wright said.

Addressing the anticipation for a new superintendent and the three board members' slots open and up for election, he says "We're at a juncture for the district to turn a corner and begin a new chapter."

Buildings renovated by the bond measure will comply with the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver certification. Wright says that by minimizing the energy used by PPS facilities, following these stringent environmental guidelines will actually help the school system reduce its operating expenses over time.

Wright emphasizes that the bond presents a long-term solution to PPS' infrastructural woes, rather than a series of temporary fixes.

"This is our best opportunity to impact the lives of Portlanders for many generations," Wright said. "When our students are provided learning opportunities in safe, healthy, modern and efficient schools, they'll be better equipped to compete in college and career."

Vote-by-mail ballots must be received before 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16. Postmarked dates are not accepted. Ballots can also be deposited at any official election drop box prior to 8 p.m.

**ACCESSORIES**



**APPAREL**

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*In short "Cambridge" is for the excellence and "Tradition" is for the consistency.*

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