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George Weatheroy and Ruben Nunez, representing security services for Portland Public Schools, and Sgt. Hank Hays of the Portland Police Bureau's Youth Services Division, were among a contingency of officers who went to King School Friday to investigate reports of racist intimidation, but nothing was found. It came two days after the multicultural Good in the Hood festival received death threats.



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# Staying Strong

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Trump supporters and protesters, Still, Penney emphasized, they never expected to receive a threat.

"I've lived here all my life, and northeast Portland is my home," Penney told the Portland Observer. He lamented over an increased

sense of racism in the city in light of the recent racist incident on public transit that saw two men murdered.

"The last two weeks or so has just been hectic with hate crimes and the incident on the MAX," he said.

Two days after Good in the Hood received the threats, rumors began spreading at King Elementary, located next door to NECN offices, that King students were being targeted with racist letters and graffiti. Officers from the Portland Police Bureau's Youth Services Division and other officers responded to investigate but nothing was found.

The school disruption caused the cancellation of an end of the year school carnival, but fortunately, the King's Parent-Teacher Association set up a fundraising page and by Monday over 180 people donated over \$6,000 to reschedule the carnival.

Members of the community welcomed the news that security will be increased at Good of the Hood, but others said it was ultimately up to everyone to look out for each other.

"We know the same mentality that burned and shot up churches is still alive. But the

Good in the Hood will happen,

people will get together with their friends, neighbors and family and celebrate neighborhood life," said Nabeeh Mustafa, a local black activist who volunteers for an organization helping ex-convicts embrace life.

Penney is optimistic for a good turnout. Organizers are expecting 20,000 people to attend Good in the Hood.

"I've had an outpouring of support through social media, through phone calls, my email is overflowing," he said.

Over 15 bands are scheduled to play over the three days of celebration. A market place will offer handmade goods from a range of ethnic backgrounds and a diverse group of entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to make their businesses more visible. Good in the Hood also has one of the largest kid's event areas of Portland summer festivals with OMSI and Emanuel Randall Children's Hospital hosting spaces. The local hip hop radio station WE 96.3 FM will host a new 3 on 3 basketball tournament.

The annual Good in the Hood Parade is held Saturday, June 24 at 11 a.m. starting from King School Park and following Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to Russell Street and west to the festival site at Lillis-Albina Park.

For a complete Good in the Hood lineup, visit [goodinthehood.org](http://goodinthehood.org).



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