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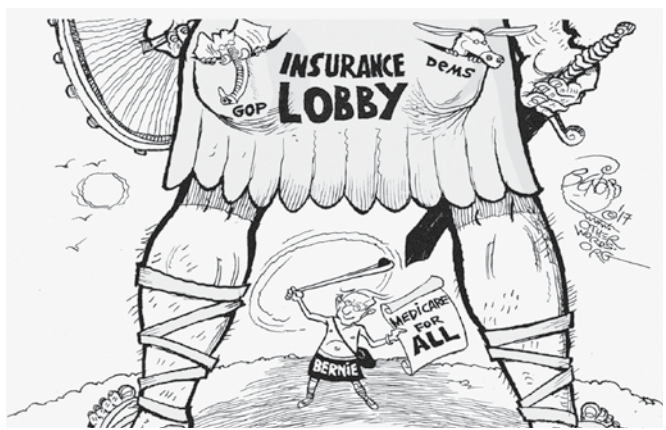
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What's on your list today?



The Portland School District is looking to end the housing of a public charter school serving predominantly black and disadvantaged families at the former Humboldt Elementary School in north Portland with a focus option school for gifted children that are 70 percent white.

School Faces Displacement

KairoxPDX serving black kids may lose building

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A proposal by Portland Public Schools would displace KairoxPDX, a public charter school of predominantly black kindergarten to fourth grade students, with ACCESS, its focus option school for gifted children that are 70 percent white.

Last week, House Speaker Tina Kotek, whose legislative district covers north and northeast Portland, said the proposal “flies in the face” of PPS’ commitment to equity.

KairoxPDX is located at the former Humboldt Elementary School on North Gantenbein Avenue and just south of Alberta Street. The school’s curriculum is aimed specifically at closing the achievement gap for students of color and other disadvantaged students. Kali Ladd, the executive director of KairoxPDX, said the move would be detrimental to their mission.

“This is the heart of the black community,” Ladd told the Portland Observer.

The proposal, if passed, would not go into effect until the 2018/2019 school year. Finding a future location for KairoxPDX or deciding where current students will get distributed, is still undetermined.

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Business Leader Settles with State

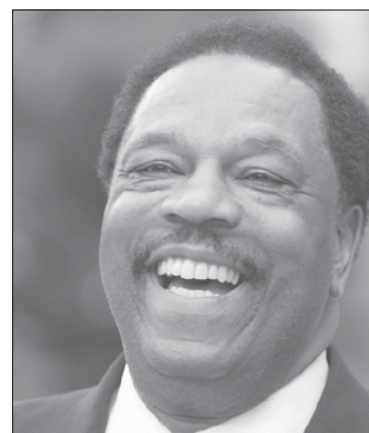
Mediation ends investigation of Jay and nonprofits

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Roy Jay, a prominent and long time business leader and community advocate from Portland’s African American community, is no longer under investigation by the Oregon Attorney General after entering into a settlement with the state Department of Justice that ends a three year investigation into the alleged misuse of monies from three nonprofits he headed.

No admission of wrongdoing or fault was made in the settlement that was reached on July 27 after all sides in the dispute agreed to mediation, according to court documents in the case.

The agreement does, however, require that the three nonprofit



Roy Jay

groups Jay was involved in be disbanded in Oregon, including a popular program he founded that gave former inmates a chance to clear criminal records and improve their employment prospects.

State investigators spent three years trying to determine if there was an inappropriate use of funds for Jay’s tax-exempt Project Clean Slate, along with the Independent Development Enterprise Alliance, and the African American Chamber of Commerce, nonprofit groups

he co-founded over the years. All parties agreed that it made sense to end the case because the cost to further litigate the accusations would exceed any potential benefit, according to a summary of the settlement conditions. Under terms of the agreement, \$600,000 will be paid to the state by the Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Co., representing Jay and the nonprofits; and Jay and his board co-directors will not be able to serve future fiduciary roles for non-profit organizations in Oregon for the next seven years without prior notice and approval of the Oregon DOJ.

Jay has always denied the allegations that led to the investigation against him. Statements from his supporters accused state investigators of looking into a “conspiracy to discredit one of Portland’s hardest working business and community ambassadors” and spending \$1.6 million in taxpayer funds to “topple the well known leader from the black community.”