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Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?



Rigler Elementary School in northeast Portland has endured high teacher turn around rates, a pattern that takes a toll on efforts to reduce the achievement gap between white and African American students, according to a new audit of Portland Public Schools from Oregon's Secretary of State Dennis Richardson.

Blistering Schools Audit

District hit on achievement gap, fiscal order

A new audit of Portland Public Schools from Oregon's Secretary of State Dennis Richardson revealed a staggering achievement gap in the district where African American students dramatically underperform their white counterparts, and where money is spent with little strategy or accountability.

The audit, released Jan. 9, determined there is a 53 percent achievement gap between white and African-American

students in Oregon's largest school district versus the 29 percent state achievement gap average.

A number of financial issues were cited in the report, including an insufficient oversight of contracts. The audit also determined that teachers at high-poverty schools had an average of one month of absences per year, they had a high turn-over rate, and that hiring rules gave high-poverty schools fewer qualified teachers to choose from than wealthier schools.

The audit cited Rigler Elementary School, located at 5401 N.E. Prescott St., which

has endured four new principals in the last five years and had some of the lowest scores for state assessments.

Over the past four years, despite overall third-grade reading and writing test scores having improved slightly across the district, academic results for African-American and economically disadvantaged students have fallen in that same period, the audit found. All of this, despite Portland Public Schools having more funding-per-student than any other district in the state.

State Sen. Jackie Winters,

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Security Shoots Man Outside Bar

Marks second deadly incident in months

Authorities said a man died after being shot by a security guard outside a southeast Portland strip club early Tuesday after a confrontation erupted between two men and the security

guard. The name of the victim was withheld pending notification of his next of kin.

Portland Police Officers responded to the incident when a report of the disturbance and shooting at the Dream On Saloon, located at 15920 S.E. Stark St., came in around 2:30 a.m.

A 911 caller reported that a man had been shot by a private

security guard. It happened after the two men had approached the security guard in the parking lot where a disturbance ensued, police said.

The injured man was discovered nearby after fleeing, police said. He was provided emergency first aid and transported by ambulance to a hospital, but

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