

# Madison High Remodel Begins

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ernization construction, which includes more than 170,000 square feet of new construction, including a theater, commons and gym.

Built in 1955, Madison's 1,700 students will temporarily move into the Marshall High School campus that has been occupied by Grant students the last two years during that school's modernization work. Grant students will move back into their modernized campus in the fall.

The building of the new Kellogg school, slated to open in the 2021-22 school year, will give the students a state-of-the-art facility with over 100,000 square feet

of new construction as the first new school campus to be built in southeast Portland in decades. It will include a performing arts stage, a multi-purpose gym and assembly space, a large flexible commons space, and dedicated outdoor learning spaces.

The old Kellogg campus, which was originally opened in 1917, was demolished starting in July 2018 after permanently shutting down in 2007 during a time of dwindling enrollment and funding.

Other bond work completed this summer includes new seismically strengthened roofs built at Sitton and Rigler Elementary Schools and Jackson Middle School. Rigler and Rose City Park

will also get new elevators, and the seismic retrofitting of Hayhurst Elementary will commence this summer.

Jefferson High School is set to receive a fire alarm and sprinkler upgrade and da Vinci, Community Transition Program at Green Thumb, Jason Lee, Ainsworth, Maplewood, and West Sylvan will also get fire alarm upgrades.

Also this summer: asbestos remediation projects will take place at seven schools, six schools will receive low lead drinking water stations, and lead paint stabilization will occur at 30 sites.

The projects were made possible thanks to a \$790 million bond passed by Portland voters in 2017.



Solar panels are lifted into place for the Oregon Solar Highway Demonstration Project. The archive photo is from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

## Diversity Lags in Solar Industry

Solar companies in Oregon and Washington understand the importance of workforce diversity, but they often do not know where to start or lack resources needed to diversify their employees, according to a new study by The Solar Foundation, a nonprofit whose mission is to accelerate adoption of the world's most abundant energy source.

Sponsored by the Northwest Energy Coalition and Energy Trust of Oregon, the report looked at the progress made and challenges ahead in building a skilled, diverse, and inclusive solar workforce in the Pacific Northwest.

A majority of solar employers in Oregon and Washington say that in today's tight labor market, it is

difficult or very difficult to hire qualified workers. The report finds ample opportunity and need for to improve diversity in recruitment and hiring in order to provide equitable access to employment and build a skilled workforce to meet the needs of a modern grid.

"Oregon and Washington face a challenge shared by states across the nation: How do we make the solar workforce more inclusive and representative for women, people of color, the LGBTQ community, and veterans?" said Andrea Luecke, president and executive director at The Solar Foundation. "By meeting this challenge, solar companies can expand the pipeline of skilled workers while also making the industry more innovative and profitable."



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## Promoted to Fire Chief

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northeast Portland and still calls Portland her home. She attended Lincoln High School and excelled as an athlete, earning all-state and all-American honors in track and field. She earned an athletic scholarship to Boise State University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education. While completing her student teaching at Marshall High School, she had a chance encounter with a fire inspector who encouraged her to test for Portland Fire & Rescue's first firefighter apprenticeship program.

"I am deeply honored to be the next Fire Chief of Portland Fire & Rescue, a bureau I hold in high esteem because of the men and women who serve with honor, integrity, and sacrifice," says Chief

Boone. "My mission has always been caring for the city where I was raised. I am committed to ensuring that our responsiveness and our professionalism live up to the highest ideals of service, integrity, and equity."

When Commissioner Hardesty first took office in January, she planned to execute a national search for the fire bureau's next chief. After receiving feedback from the members of the bureau and meeting department personnel, she decided to start with an internal search.

"It was clear that there were many talented leaders within Portland Fire & Rescue already and I wanted to put my focus there," Hardesty said.

A swearing in ceremony for Chief Boone is planned for the beginning of August.