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LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Lavert Robertson, who has been the Principal at north Portland's George Middle School for the past four years, has been named Chief Executive Officer of All Hands Raised, a non-profit organization working to improve learning outcomes county-wide for kids of color.

All Hands Raised

Homegrown school leader takes helm

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Lavert Robertson, a seasoned African American education administrator at Portland Public Schools who was raised in northeast Portland, has taken the helm as chief executive officer for All Hands Raised, a non-profit organization working to improve learning outcomes county-wide for kids of color.

Robertson, formerly the principal

at north Portland's George Middle School and a principal in the district for the past seven years, already had experience working with All Hands Raised on things like improving attendance and working on disproportionate discipline issues for kids of color.

He said seeing from the ground the way All Hands Raised builds relationships with other organizations to work collaboratively to improve student outcomes made him "in awe of what they do."

"When the CEO position came open, just reading through of what they were looking for in a CEO and just thinking about my affilia-

tion and my continued support of the organization, I thought that this would be a perfect time to challenge myself, to step into a role of not just supporting single communities, but to support the entire county," Robertson told the Portland Observer.

Robertson is replacing the former All Hands Raised CEO for 11 years, Dan Ryan, a former school board member and schools advocate.

Robertson managed a \$3 million budget and staff of 50 at George Middle School over the past four years. The school's part-

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Lillard Inks New Contract

Blazers tap All Star for future of franchise

The Portland Trail Blazers have signed their sensational guard Damian Lillard to a multi-year contract extension, cementing the NBA All Star's role as the team's top franchise player through the 2023-24 season.

The four-year extension also has a player option for 2024-25, Neil Olshey, Blazers president of basketball operations announced Saturday. The so-called supermax deal is reportedly worth \$196 million.

"Since the day we drafted Damian he has exemplified every

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Damian Lillard