



Schools Prepare for COVID Vaccines

Portland plans for wide distribution

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Clocks Fall Back 1 Hour

Time change begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday



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Committed to Cultural Diversity

New Start for De La Salle North High school for underserved completes new campus

De La Salle North Catholic High School, a college-preparatory high school for underserved students and the most diverse private school in Oregon, has opened a permanent new campus alongside St. Charles Church in northeast Portland.

The completion marks the beginning of a new chapter for the 20-year-old institution known for its unique and transformative education. The school is the first new Catholic high school campus in Portland in more than 50 years.

De La Salle North Catholic High School prepares urban students with limited educational opportunities for college by providing a rigorous, faith-based education emphasizing math, science and language arts. No one is turned away because of an inability to pay.

Now located near the southeast corner of Northeast 42nd Avenue and Killingsworth Street, the school is co-located with St. Charles Parish, which previous-

ly operated a Catholic grade school from 1950 to 1986. Since it opened in 2001, De La Salle North Catholic has rented its two past locations, most recently the Kenton building from Portland Public Schools.

The permanent new home provides stability, sustainability and a sense of belonging, school officials said.

"We began our search for a new home more than five years ago and it has been a roller coaster as we navigated through the search, the agreement with St. Charles, the design of the new campus, the fundraising for the new school and the global pandemic, said Oscar Leong, De La Salle North president.

Gabriella Quinto Alfaro, a 2016 De La Salle North graduate who now works as a business office associate, is one of four alumnae who currently works for the school.



PHOTO COURTESY ANDREA LONAS PHOTOGRAPHY

James Broadous II helps usher in a new permanent home for De La Salle North Catholic High School during a ceremony celebrating the completion of a renovation and construction at the former St. Charles Elementary School site, next door to St. Charles Church near Northeast 42nd and Killingsworth. Broadous serves as the school's vice principal for student life and boys basketball coach.

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Losing Bid Upsets Immigrant Group

Leader expresses deep disappointment



African Youth and Community Organization (AYCO) Founder and Executive Director Jamal Dar translates for Amran Goni as she gives a speech in Somali during a recent town hall.

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In February, when Jamal Dar of the African Youth and Community Organization (AYCO) signed a two-year lease for a Metro government-owned building at Northeast Glisan and 74th Avenue, he hoped it would be a permanent home for his nonprofit, even though plans called for the site to eventually be demolished for new affordable housing.

Dar said AYCO even entered a housing proposal for the development, the former Trinity Broadcasting site, and is deeply disappointed that Metro instead selected a New York-based firm, Related Northwest, and he's not satisfied with the selection process.

"I just want to know more, get more information about what criteria were used, what score sheet was used, and what kind of calculations were used for the score sheet," he said.

Now that his group is out of the compe-

tition, Dar is looking to raise funds for a new building for AYCO, which serves refugees from the African continent, mostly from Somalia. Donations can be made to <http://aycoworld.org/donate-now>.

Dar said he has reached out to City Commissioner Dan Ryan, who oversees the Portland Housing Bureau, the Bureau of Development Services, and the Joint Office of Homeless Services, to get some answers, but has not heard back after more than a week.

"He hasn't returned my phone calls or letter," Dar said. "We are just looking for the opportunity so Commissioner Ryan can explain the funding priorities, how they shifted to a company from New York that is not a nonprofit."

The AYCO proposal, which included collaboration with REACH Community Development, Sera Architects, Black-

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