

The INSIDE

LOCAL NEWS

Portland Public Schools Renames Headquarters

PPS Announces the Renaming of the District's Headquarters to Honor Former Superintendent Dr. Matthew Prophet



Dr. Matthew Prophet, former PPS Superintendent

Portland Public Schools announced that the PPS Board of Education renamed the Blanchard Education Service Center (BESC). The PPS Board of Education voted unanimously to rename the central office after Dr. Matthew Prophet, former PPS Superintendent from 1982-1992, who passed away in June. The resolution is historic, and establishes that the current building – and any future PPS School headquarters – be named after Dr. Prophet.

threw Prophet, Jr.; former board members who served during his tenure; and community leaders, all in support of the measure.

“My dad always spoke with pride and love of Portland Public Schools,” said Mathew Prophet, Jr. “He was always very proud of the onsite professionals, the teachers, the secretaries, the custodians, the principals, the counselors and their contributions to the kids,” Prophet said.

Several board members also spoke affectionately about the beloved superintendent. Board Chairman Andrew Scott said, “I graduated from Wilson in 1991,

and I got a world class education from Portland Public Schools – and I think you have to give credit to the superintendent at the time...I just remember the reverence that people at the school had for him: that when he showed up, there was just an immense amount of respect.”

Portland Public Schools Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero said that his team will expedite this action and take immediate steps to bring this resolution to fruition.

PPS welcomes this decision and is very excited by this new beginning.



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

page 11-13

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

pages 14

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Resources Available to Help Students with Career Paths

PCC's new Opportunity Center being built for students and community

Tracee Wells has been helping students and members of the public connect to opportunities and navigate their career paths at Portland Community College. She recently transitioned into a new role as training and education specialist. She supports a variety of programs and services at the Portland Metro Workforce Training Center (PMWTC) in Northeast Portland. The center helps people explore careers that will provide upward mobility in an inclusive environment. PM-



Training and education specialist Tracee Wells

WTC will include 84 affordable housing units and other supportive services to be accessed by surrounding communities.

The facility is part of PCC's Opportunity Centers, which work to close opportunity gaps to give people the tools they need

to develop their skill sets and the confidence to be competitive for high-demand careers. They also help students navigate resources, find employment and connect

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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