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Committed to Cultural Diversity



line at providence hospital (photo credit: Mark Washington)

Close to 1,800 Nurses and Clinicians Go On Strike

Strike Comes After Nine Months of Negotiations

Many nurses and nurse supporters circled around Providence hospital with picket signs Monday which is day one of a five day strike. About 1,800 Providence cli-

icians and nurses are on strike amid ongoing negotiations with the hospital system over a new contract. ONA said the strike follows their failure to reach an agreement with Providence for "fair contracts that will recruit new staff, retain experienced nurses and clinicians, and honor members' commitment to patients and their communities with safe patient care standards and a competitive wage and benefits package."

According to ONA contract negotiations with Providence have been ongoing since last fall. The Organization responded to the statement from Providence "Providence continues to focus exclusively on wages when, in fact, nurses and clinicians are focused on improving patient care, addressing historic unsafe staffing levels throughout the Providence system, and addressing serious patient

concerns," ONA said. "Nurses and clinicians are fighting for safe patient care standards to be protected in their contracts. By their own admission, Providence refuses to address short staffing and patient safety concerns in the hospitals, not to mention the excessive case-

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Bringing the Stomp N' Shake style to Oregon



McDaniel High school Cheer Team and Coach Sharlivia Slaughter

There is more to cheer than just flips!

Sharlivia Slaughter is the student success coordinator and the cheer coach at McDaniel High, School of The Lions. Slaughter has been the cheer coach since 2017. She told The Portland Observer that there is so much more to coaching cheer. Her girls really depend on her in other aspects as well. She oversees both the Junior Varsity and Varsity cheer teams. While with basketball season cheer spots are a little more limited for competition purposes, during football season she noted that she fills up all 25 spots. Slaughter said "I didn't do any cuts for cheer during the football season." I want to give everyone an opportunity to cheer and if I can do that, why not?"

The cheer team at McDaniel High School do not do flips or tumble, instead they have been perfecting the non-traditional style of cheer called "Stomp N' Shake." This style of cheer is popular in the south and originated from black colleges. "Stomp-N-Shake" cheerleading incorporates traditional motions that are clean and sharp, which showcase a team's skill, technique, & ability. When Slaughter was asked who idea it was to do the Stomp N' Shake style she replied "It was the girl's idea!" Oregon doesn't offer the stomp category but there are other schools in Oregon that practice Stomp N Shake. Slaughter told The Portland Observer hopefully the schools can come together and be recognized. The Lions are now preparing for an upcoming cheer competition in October in Sherwood. This competition will be inclusively for Stomp N' Shake.