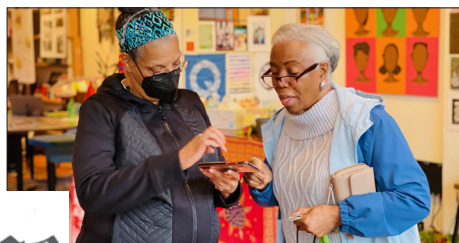




2023 Year In Review



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'City
of
Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity

Portland Public Schools Superintendent Resigns

Guadalupe Guerrero held the job for 6 ½ years

BY BEVERLY CORBELL

After holding the position of Superintendent of Portland Public Schools for 6 ½ years, Guadalupe Guerrero has resigned, effective in February of 2024, giving the district two months to find his replacement.

Guerrero, the first Latino superintendent in PPS's history, revealed in an interview with the Oregonian that he had fallen short of reading goals for BIPOC students, which testing of third graders showed that "low levels of success declined in spring of 2023 for Black, Indigenous, Pacific Islander and Asian students," the report



Superintendent Guerrero

states. "Latino third graders showed only minimal growth."

Raising graduations rates was another goal, and in that area, Guerrero succeed-

ed, stating he was leaving the state's largest school district in a "far more stable condition" than when he arrived in the fall semester of 2017.

He defended his efforts, even if in some areas his administration fell short.

"We did some really foundational work," Guerrero told the paper. "Had we not been interrupted by Covid, I believe we'd be further along in demonstrating that our strategies and action are having a positive impact. Of course, I'd hoped for more growth (for students of color). Like the other 12,000 school districts in America, we haven't closed the achievement gap."

Guerrero said after Covid, when students returned to school campuses in the fall of 2021, because of months of isolation, the children's "emotional and behavioral health needs were enormous," and competed with the focus on academic areas.

Taking care of students' needs was critical, and he defended not meeting all of the school board's goals for him.

"I would argue that we have been attuned to our students' needs and tried to

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Breaking Ground on Year-Round Shelter and Access Center

Supportive Housing Services Measure



Washington County Housing Director Molly Rogers, Tigard Mayor Heidi Lueb, Washington County Chair Kathryn Harrington, Washington County Commissioner Roy Rogers, Just Compassion board member representing Unhoused Community: Shoshana Gebbelman, Just Compassion Board Chair Darla Tillman-Samuelson, Just Compassion Executive Director Vernon Baker, and Just Compassion board member Rob Watson

Just Compassion hosted a groundbreaking event to celebrate the future permanent, year-round shelter and access center construction at their current Tigard Day Center and temporary shelter location. The new Just Compassion Resource Center and shelter will provide 60 shelter beds in a trauma informed living space specifically designed to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness and connect them with long-term housing.

The construction of the shelter and ongoing operations will be funded by the Washington County allocation of the Supportive Housing Services measure. The site also received \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding through the sponsorship of Rep. Dacia Grayber, Rep. Courtney Neron and former Senator Ginny Burdick. Additional funding was provided by

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