

Police cont'd from pg 1

from 33 to 26 days, closer to the group's stated goal of 21 days.

The report noted two significant shifts in how complaints are handled, under code changes enacted by Portland City Council to both streamline the complaint process and increase police accountability. The first change allows IPR in-

“We want to know, in our office, if the system is working best for everybody

investigators to refer allegations of minor rule violations directly to a police supervisor, whose conclusions are then reviewed by IPR. But investigations of more serious cases of misconduct are still conducted by either the IPR or Internal Affairs, and any officer's supervisor who disagrees with investigators' recommended findings must explain why, rather than simply take the report under advisement. In cases where IPR disagrees with a commander's proposed findings, it can appeal the investigation to the Police Review Board, an advisory body to the chief of police that includes law enforcement officers, members of the community, and an IPR manager. IPR senior management analyst KC Jones said that since these changes were enacted in July 2018, there is not yet enough data “for us

to see if there are trends in commanders disagreeing with IPR more than IA, or anything like that. It's definitely something we're interested in knowing more about. We want to know, in our office, if the system is working best for everybody, and that's something the Department of Justice is interested in, too. We want to know: If a community member's case gets investigated by us or by IA, are they getting the same treatment?”

There was a 12 percent bump in complaints from community members, for a total of 415 complaints comprising 1,109 allegations total. Criticisms of police procedure and unprofessional conduct were most common.

IPR closed 56 percent of these cases after intake, largely because the complaints would not have violated police policy. Of the remaining cases, 19 percent were referred to IA for investigation, six percent were assigned to IPR for investigation, and 14 percent ended with the IPR's recommendation for a supervisory investigation of the officer.

While 35 percent of community complainants declined to disclose their race, the report noted those who identified as Black “were over-represented at a rate of around four times that of White complainants compared to the Portland population.”

The IPR tracks complaints received from within the police bureau separately, and found that in 2018, IA investigated 77 complaints from personnel, nearly dou-

PPS cont'd from pg 1

decision to run. Clarke currently oversees the Pan-African Commons Student Center at Portland State, which encourages student retention. The child of Jamaican immigrants, Clarke attended Portland Public Schools but dropped out, eventually obtaining a GED and later a bachelor's degree in human services and a master of arts in higher education leadership. She said she was able to return to school due to help from her support network, but her background makes her especially sensitive to the needs of students on the precipice of dropping out.

“I'm really interested in being that person that I didn't have in high school,” Clarke said.

Clarke is interested in retention, in addressing disparities in outcomes and in expanding wrap-around services like the Schools Uniting Neighborhoods program, which connects families with housing, food and employment

“I'm really interested in being that person that I didn't have in high school

assistance. She's interested in hiring more para-professionals to help students stay on track, and in expanding restorative justice programs that focus on holding students accountable for harm, rather than focusing on punishments that are disproportionately used on students of color and push them into the school-to-prison pipeline.

DePass' platform is focused on making sure PPS' budget aligns with its equity goals. She also noted that her experience at the Housing Bureau, and previously working with the Home Builders Association to develop a green building program means she has



PHOTO BY R. DALLON ADAMS

Teachers' Day of Action

Supporters, including teachers and students, gathered at Jefferson High School Wednesday morning to make signs and prepare for the May 8 Day of Action to rally for education funding. Portland Public Schools closed for the rally, which drew an estimated 20,000 people to downtown Portland. Watch for a story next week on education funding issues in the state.

ble what it did in 2017. Of those, 25% of allegations had to do with professional conduct and courtesy, 13 percent took issue with the officer's knowledge of “law, rules and orders,” 12 percent alleged less-than-satisfactory performance, 10 percent were complaints about “truthfulness,” and 7 percent called out improper dissemination of information.

Jones said that IPR was unable to account for the uptick in personnel complaints, adding that the reporting process had not changed.

“It would probably get more at something about the bureau's culture that we can't identify,” he said. “That was something we looked into, because that's a huge jump. What we saw was complaints coming from parts of

the bureau that typically don't have many complaints,” specifically records and training.

“On our side, we see the biggest rise is usually in years where there's a lot of protests,” Jones said, “or when (IPR) is investigating more protest cases, allegations of disparate treatment, and an allegation against a captain or above. That's usually where we see a bump.”

While only 10 percent of the complaints from community members were ultimately sustained, or deemed in violation of bureau policy, nearly half of the complaints from within the bureau were. Jones said this was likely due in part to bureau personnel's greater familiarity with policy and procedure. In total, 39

officers were disciplined for misconduct in 2018. Twenty were referred for command counseling, six received letters of reprimand, nine were subject to a maximum of 40 hours without pay, and one was terminated. Three resigned or retired while under investigation.

The IPR maintains an interactive database of police misconduct allegations, as well as information about officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths, which can be found here:

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/ipr/76848>

The information is updated quarterly.

Election cont'd from pg 1

The following is a list of races and candidates Portland voters will decide on this month. *The Skanner* has not yet published endorsements.

Multnomah Education Service District (MESD)

Director, Position 6, At Large

Kristin Cornuelle
Shira Newman

Director, Position 5, Zone 1

Denyse Peterson

Director, Position 7, Zone 3

Katrina Doughty

Portland Community College (PCC)

Director, Zone 2

Tiffani L Penson
Leonardo S Kendall

Director, Zone 3

Michael Sonnleitner
Jason H Young

Portland School District (PPS) (MAP)

Director, Zone 1

Zone 1 High School: Wilson
Current: Julie Esparza Brown
Candidates: Andrew J Scott

Director, Zone 2

Zone 2 High Schools: Jefferson, Cleveland
Current: Paul Anthony
Candidates: Michelle A DePass, Shanice Brittany Clarke

Director, Zone 3

Zone 3 High Schools: Lincoln
Current: Amy Kohnstamm
Candidates: Wes Soderback, Deb Mayer, Amy Kohnstamm (Incumbent)

Director, Zone 7

Current: Mike Rosen
Candidates: Robert Schultz, Eilidh Lowery

Current School Board Members: <https://www.pps.net/Page/1788>