



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grand Opening of the new hayu alqi uxyat building celebrates PPS's Multiple Pathways to Graduation alternative education programs

Sept. 18, 2024 (PORTLAND, ORE.) - We are excited to welcome you to the Grand Opening Celebration of the new hayu alqi uxyat building that celebrates PPS's Multiple Pathways to Graduation alternative education programs. The event is this Saturday, September 21st, 2024, from 10a.m. to 1p.m. at 1530 NE Glisan St., Portland, OR 97232.

This new state of the art facility is now home to Alliance High School, DART/Kuumba School, Teen Parent Services and Childcare, and Reconnection Services and Center. The 85,000 SF multi-story building unites these programs in a central location, providing comprehensive support for students as they work their way to graduation. **hayu alqi uxyat** is a Chinook word for Many Future Paths.

The Multiple Pathways to Graduation Mission is to provide educational options for all youth that empower, engage, and prepare them for college, work training, and global citizenship while serving as a vanguard for systemic educational change.

"PPS is committed to ensuring every student reaches their highest academic and personal potential," said Superintendent Kimberlee Armstrong. "This new facility, designed with love and care, embodies our belief that we never give up on learners. It stands as a testament that it's never too late to realize your full potential."

An inspirational and transformative event

The event will include a special Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with inspirational and transformative stories from MPG students and staff. The ceremony will be followed by self-guided tours of the innovative, all electric, earth friendly building. Highlights include specialized CTE program facilities for automotive, manufacturing, culinary, natural resources and digital media, a 500-seat gymnasium, a makerspace, a rooftop deck, and a multi-age childcare center with an outdoor playground.

“What you will see in the hayu alqi uxyat building is the level to which the students, alumni, families, and staff of all our programs had voice in designing the physical space. From the rooftop gardens to the murals and quotes of our students throughout - we are very clear that our charge is to serve students for whom school has been challenging and, at times, isolating. Working with tribal members from the Siletz, Grande Ronde, and Chinook nations was instrumental to completing the selection process of our building’s name hayu alqi uxyat, which means many future paths, in Chinook Wawa language. At hayu alqi uxyat, we will be able to meet each student where they’re at and support these exceptional students until they thrive.” said Korinna Wolfe, M.Ed, MSW Area Senior Director, Multiple Pathways to Graduation.

Innovative, Earth-Friendly Building

hayu alqi uxyat is an all-electric-powered building that has a solar array to generate some of its own electricity. Its mass timber construction combined with natural daylight and increased energy efficiency significantly lowers the school’s carbon footprint. Principles of trauma-informed design were centered throughout the building to create an environment that supports the diverse needs of the MPG students. To learn more [visit the MPG project bond webpage](#)

PPS Bond Program has significantly improved every school in the district

The hayu alqi uxyat building is the ninth PPS school to be modernized or rebuilt through the School Building Improvement Bond program. The bond program has also provided health, safety and infrastructure projects that have touched every school in the district. This has provided improved water quality, security upgrades, new roofs, asbestos and radon remediation, lead paint stabilization, new fire alarms and sprinklers, more accessibility, and seismic retrofits. The Bond Program’s projects employed hundreds of workers from local companies.

PPS thanks the voters for their support as we continue to upgrade our aging schools, most of which were built before WW2.

Additional Resources:

[Multiple Pathways to Graduation Program website](#)

[MPG project bond webpage](#)

[View the MPG Building Project Flyer](#)

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Media is invited to the Grand Opening. Photo, video, and interview opportunities available onsite. Details below:

WHERE: Multiple Pathways to Graduation *hayu alqi uxyat* building, 1530 NE Glisan St., Portland, OR 97232

WHEN: Saturday, Saturday, September 21st, 2024, from 10a.m.

WHO:

- Korinna Wolfe, M.Ed, MSW, Senior Director, Multiple Pathways to Graduation
- Dr. Lorna Fast Buffalo, Senior Director of Schools, Office of School Performance
- Katy Holland, Siletz Tribe
- Eddie Wang PPS Board of Education Chair
- Michelle DePass, PPS Board of Education, Vice Chair
- Julia Brim Edwards PPS Board of Education
- Sarah Alvarado, VP Alliance High School
- Allison Adams, VP of Modernization, Multiple Pathways to Graduation
- Cheryl James, VP, Teen Parent Services
- Dr. Elise Huggins, VP Reconnection Services
- Karly Lefferts, Interim Principal DART Schools

Free parking is available at Concorde Career College Portland, 1425 NE Irving Street.

To RSVP to this event: Call or email Valerie Feder at vfeder@pps.net or 917-923-3638

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Portland Public Schools, founded in 1851, is Oregon's largest PK-12 school district, with more than 43,000 students in 81 schools. PPS aspires to graduate compassionate, critical thinkers who are able to collaborate to solve problems, and lead a more socially-just world. Central to this goal is affirming and operationalizing our deeply held community value of racial equity, social justice and inclusion. Learn more at pps.net.

SUBJECT LINE: Media event: Jason Lee Elementary School to Receive Library Makeover 6/12

MEDIA ADVISORY:

Jason Lee Elementary School to Receive Library Makeover as Part of the Richard M. Robinson Literacy Champion Award from Scholastic in Collaboration with Council of the Great City Schools

WHAT: Earlier this year, [Portland Public Schools was named the winner of the Richard M. Robinson Literacy Champion Award](#) by Scholastic, the global children's publishing, education, and media company, in collaboration with the **Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS)**, a coalition of 78 of the nation's largest urban public-school systems. The award recognizes a CGCS member school district for demonstrated progress in advancing reading achievement with the goal of further supporting gains by increasing access to digital and print books, magazines, and materials within the district.

As part of this honor, Portland Public Schools has selected their very own **Jason Lee Elementary School** as the prize recipient of a library makeover. As part of the library makeover, which will happen on **Monday, June 12th**, Scholastic will **donate more than 6,000 high-quality, age-appropriate books, a one-year site license to Scholastic Literacy Pro[®], an award-winning blended learning program that provides 24/7 access to more than 2,500 fiction and nonfiction ebooks for purposeful independent reading, allowing personalized student choice while providing teachers with real-time data to inform instruction. In addition, students will receive a summer book pack of 10 titles to take home and own, encouraging independent reading beyond the classroom.**

Media is invited to the unveiling of the library makeover. Photo, video, and interview opportunities available onsite. Details below:

WHERE: Jason Lee Elementary School, 2222 NE 92nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97220

WHEN: Monday, June 12 at TBD

WHO:

- Guadalupe Guerrero, Portland Public Schools Superintendent
- Alma D. Velazquez, Jason Lee Elementary School Principal
- Patricio Dujan, Regional Vice President of Sales, Scholastic Education Solutions
- Tai Chapman, National Director, Scholastic Education Solutions
- Dr. Ray Hart, Executive Director, Council of the Great City Schools
- Students & Community Members, Jason Lee Elementary School

To RSVP to this event: Call or email Sydney Kelley at sykelly@pps.net or 971-270-6385