

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

*****This form is a public record*****

MEETING DATE: 5/14/2014

AGENDA # 1 OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____

NAME: Josh Piper

CONTACT INFORMATION (*optional*):

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: josh@pdxpipers.com

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD IN PERSON:

1. Fill out this form and submit to the Board Clerk.
2. Non-Agenda items will be called immediately after the vote on the Consent Agenda.
3. Agenda items will be called during that item's presentation, before the vote is taken.
4. Presenters are called to testify in the order forms are received. The Presiding Officer may rearrange the order testimony is given or ask Invited Guests or Elected Officials to speak first.
5. Public testimony is limited to **3 minutes or less** per person unless otherwise directed by the Chair, who is the Presiding Officer.
6. If submitting handouts to be given to the Board, 7 copies are required. If one copy is provided, it will be received for the file and electronically shared with the Board after the meeting.
7. All meetings are audio and video recorded and can be viewed at: multco.us. Click on Government/Board Meetings, and select meeting of your choice.
8. When your name is called, come forward and be seated at the presenter's table; state your name for the record and speak clearly into the microphone.
9. A buzzer will signify the end of your allotted time.
10. The Chair has authority to keep order and may impose reasonable restrictions necessary for the efficient and orderly conduct of a meeting. Any person who fails to comply with reasonable rules of conduct or who creates a disturbance may be asked or required to leave and upon failure to do so, becomes a trespasser and will be treated accordingly.

IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE BOARD IN LIEU OF GIVING ORAL COMMENTS:

1. Complete this form and submit it along with your written testimony to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or by e-mail at: lynda.grow@multco.us
2. Written testimony will be entered into and remain a part of the official record.

May 14, 2014

Multnomah County Commissioners,

Thank you for the great work you and your staff do to support students in Multnomah County. From your many community-based services to your outstanding SUN service system, Multnomah County is reaching a wide array of children who otherwise might not receive the timely help they need.

Please consider expanding your school-based health offerings to include a center at Benson Polytechnic High School. Benson is known district-wide as an institution that readies its students for success in living-wage professions and higher education. Graduation and testing data reinforces that a Benson education works well for all students, across all socioeconomic categories. For that reason, Benson's student population consistently draws from every corner of the district. As Benson does not currently house a student health center and a decade of budget cuts have whittled its counseling staff down to but a few, there are likely students that are not receiving the services that could help them "level up" to that next step in their career pathway. Locating a school-based student health center at Benson would go a long way towards helping Multnomah County's young adults become the hard working citizens Multnomah County needs for the future.

I submit that you reexamine the resources that are currently deployed at your other school-based health centers and consider reallocating unused resources at those facilities to a new health center at Benson. Nearly 85% of Benson's student use mass transportation to get to and from school. It is not possible for them to travel back to their neighborhood school to seek out existing services. Reallocating unused resources from these neighborhood schools to Benson just makes sense. I urge you to make this a reality.

Regards,

Josh Piper
Multnomah County Resident
Benson Alumni