

Jerralynn Ness - Re: who's Kris Alman

From: Scott Schlegel
To: Jerralynn Ness
Date: 8/13/07 11:27 AM
Subject: Re: who's Kris Alman

Jerralynn - I was not familiar with Kris before her message came to us through the general contact address at our website, which I respond to.

Kris Alman is Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Improving Economic Success for Latinos, Washington County Commission on Children & Families. It appears that she is also a physician (see third link below), and donor to Young Audiences, a Portland metro youth music assn. And she appears to be a regular at Beaverton School Board meetings.

Here some of the hits I got from Google:

[http://wkkf.org/default.aspx?](http://wkkf.org/default.aspx?tabid=68&CID=271&ProjCID=271&ProjID=116&TID=1265&NID=32&LanguageID=0)

[tabid=68&CID=271&ProjCID=271&ProjID=116&TID=1265&NID=32&LanguageID=0](http://www.wkkf.org/default.aspx?tabid=129&CID=3&ProjCID=271&ProjID=116&SID=35&NID=32&LanguageID=0)

[http://www.wkkf.org/default.aspx?](http://www.wkkf.org/default.aspx?tabid=129&CID=3&ProjCID=271&ProjID=116&SID=35&NID=32&LanguageID=0)

[tabid=129&CID=3&ProjCID=271&ProjID=116&SID=35&NID=32&LanguageID=0](http://endocrinology.com/prof-dir1.htm)

<http://endocrinology.com/prof-dir1.htm>

Scott

>>> Jerralynn Ness 8/13/2007 10:59:26 AM >>>

Thanks Scott; who is Kris Alman?

>>> CONTACT 8/13/2007 8:29 AM >>>

Hi Jerralynn - I am forwarding this because I did not see your name on the lists of people it was sent to.

Scott

Community Relations

Community Action serving Washington County, Oregon

<http://www.communityaction4u.org>

503.693.3254

>>> kris alman <krisralman@yahoo.com> 8/11/2007 12:25 PM >>>

Dear Superintendent Colonna and BSD School Board members,
 I have written a letter to the editor to the Beaverton Valley Times in reference to:

"Head Start hit with space crunch; Beaverton's school space needs could leave little room for hundreds in county Head Start classes," Ray Pitz, Aug 9, 2007.

http://www.beavertonvalleytimes.com/news/story.php?story_id=118669689056501000

I understand that Bud Moore informed Farzana Siddiqui, Washington County Community Action Head Start's director of child development, of administration's consensus decision at 4 pm on the afternoon of the

last school board meeting.

My letter below includes statistics which are referenced in the attachment and obtained from Dell Ford, Head Start Specialist of the Oregon Department of Education.

I hope that the Division of Teaching and Learning and Facilities Department will work with the community to provide accessible Head Start services beyond 2008 for all our eligible children.

Sincerely,
Kris Alman

The Beaverton School District is poised to pull the plug on their school-based Head Start programs. This is a wrong move for multiple reasons.

Superintendent Colonna, in leadership of our district and as President of the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, has testified in Salem on behalf of early education. In fact, the Beaverton School District's number one legislative priority this past session was to fund pre-kindergarten.

In 1998, Head Start negotiated a 15-year contract that allowed their students access to 7 classrooms in exchange for federal money that allowed the district to purchase 7 portables. Spending \$200,000 to \$225,000 to break the contract is a cheap shot.

Portables have been a temporary fix for unbridled growth in the BSD. New developments north of Highway 26 in unincorporated Washington County typify demographics of suburban Washington County, which (according to Head Start statistics) boasts a 12.7% poverty rate-the lowest of all Oregon counties.

But another Head Start statistic is far more concerning. Only 35.7% of eligible children receive Head Start services in Washington County. Our county claims the highest percentage of unserved children in Oregon.

Funding from this past legislative session allows a significant expansion to Head Start. As Head Start is predominantly school-based in Washington County, breaking Head Start's contract would be devastating to poor kids.

A school-based program is particularly beneficial when pre-schoolers transition to their neighborhood school. That is why the decision to move Head Start from Vosc Elementary (82% free and reduced) to overcrowded Jacob Wismer Elementary (8% free and reduced) is particularly cruel. A Head Start portable may ironically allow art

classes for Jacob Wismer children.

Legislators referred a ballot measure to eliminate the double majority necessary to pass school bonds. Our school district should not be narrow-viewed and shortsighted. Head Start deserves the full length of their contract to negotiate for alternative sites within the community.

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