

If I Were Mayor I would...

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A little bit about Harrisburg

- Harrisburg, Oregon is a small rural town with a small population of 3,648.
- Harrisburg currently pumps water from the city's five wells, which cost a low \$80,000 a year to maintain.
- Harrisburg has been around since 1866
- Harrisburg high school has only four days a week (Mon-Thurs.)



The water controversy

The city does little but chlorinate the water to kill bacteria before sending it through the municipal system. The reason why it has not been revamped is due to the estimated 3.3 million dollars it would take for the next two decades. Is it not worth it though to make sure that water can be drank and appreciated by all? Albany, Portland, Corvallis, and Lebanon found the money. Why can't we set up a fund and advertise for donations towards better water? This would be one of my first issues to tackle as mayor.



Water residue left behind on glass by harrisburg tap water.



Harrisburg City Pride

Harrisburg has been around since 1866, and it shows. With old condemned buildings and out of use railroad tracks it makes it hard to imagine how we managed to thrive here in the first place. The town is dirty and riddled with garbage and dust that turns the sky orange. We need to take pride in keeping our city clean and healthy for everyone.



School Schedules

Many people (Including myself) are outraged by the amount of school days Harrisburg has in it's week. Only 4 days of education, one of which is shortened by the extra class added for grade reports. No wonder so many are failing! Has the economy dropped so low that we cannot manage to give schools the appropriate amount of days students need in order to easily develop their education? I don't believe that should be an issue. It is leaving high school students unprepared for the "real world" schedule of Monday to Friday. In just three days so many things leak out of students brains and with more free time boredom causes many to get into teen drug abuse, alcohol, and a stressful home life.



Drugs in School



In Harrisburg high school I set up an anonymous survey depicting if a student uses or has used drugs in the past school year, and if so what kind? The results were shocking! Almost one-third of the 10th graders admit to smoking or eating marijuana in the past 6 months since school started. 9% admit to smoking tobacco or using tobacco products 16.5% have abused prescription drugs; commonly Ritalin, Nyquil, and Vicodin. 10% admit to have used a Psilocybin mushroom (aka Magical Mushrooms) 21% admit to drinking alcohol and 9 of that 21% admit to bringing it to school in Pepsi or Cola bottles! We need to educate them more on the short and long term effects as well as regulate this obvious problem before it follows them into their adult lives.

Teen jobs

I want to work on making and expanding our community even more. So many teenagers in Harrisburg are without jobs or transportation. Without jobs how does one get the money to get a car? And without a car how does one go to Eugene or Junction City to get a job? I believe we should expand the responsibilities of teens by giving them productive, rewarding work and experience so that they can have a better future. Why don't we add a pool park? It would draw more people to Harrisburg and draw more money and jobs.



Sources

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