



Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018 • Volume 93, No. 33 • Fremont, Washington

# The Fremont Independent

## Disciplining Diversity

By Nikki Shotz  
Staff reporter

Study provides evidence of Washington schools disproportionately disciplining students of color and in special education programs

Last year, Washington Appleseed, a nonprofit social-justice group, failed in a quest to tally up even the total number of students suspended and expelled from Washington schools each year.

But with better data from the state this year, the group last week published a much fuller picture, showing the depth of disproportionate discipline in nine school districts, which

affects not just students of color but also those in special-education programs, and those from low-income families and in foster care.

In Seattle, for example, the data suggest black students were suspended and expelled at five times the rate of white students in the 2012-13 school year.

And in Bellevue, by Appleseed's count, special-education students are dis-

ciplined three times more often than the average student.

The data also cast doubt on the view that all suspended students are bad kids, said Katie Mosehauer, Appleseed's executive director.

About half the time, she said, schools list the reason for a suspension or expulsion as "other,"

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Genesee Hill Elementary teacher Emma Klein speaks at Seattle Public Schools' Eliminating Opportunity Gaps (EOG) Institute at Chief Sealth High School last October. The EOG Institute serves as a training, sharing and brainstorming school for creating strategies for racial justice. (Mike Siegel/The Seattle Times)

## Saddle Up: Friends and family gather for annual branding of calves

By Erika Schultz  
Staff reporter



Over four days in early April, 20-year-old Shelby Kayser, a fifth-generation rancher, saddled up her quarter horse, Vodka, and headed out to the rolling hills of southern Washington with friends and family members for the annual branding of hundreds of her family's calves.

"If we don't take care of them, they can't take care of us," said Nate Kayser, Shelby's father and owner of the ranch. "Our animals did not make the choice to be our animals ... It's our responsibility to take care of them."

Nate Kayser raised his two daughters — Shelby and Macy, 18 — on his own while running his rural ranch near Centerville, Klickitat County, between Mount Adams and the Columbia River.

Shelby Kayser described her father with awe.

"He cooks dinner; he cleaned; he cooked breakfast; he brushed and braided our hair every single day," she said. "I hope that someday I'm half of the cowboy that my dad is."

During branding, about a dozen and a half people — friends as well as family — not only brand the cows but also vaccinate and castrate them, and apply a topical treatment to their skin to prevent parasites.

The vaccinations help keep the animals healthy.

The brand-	"Think	it back	breakfast at
ing helps	about the	to where	6:30 a.m.
deter theft	last big	it came	for their
and serves	recall on	from for	friends and
as way to	spinach,"	food-safety	neighbors
track the	said Nate	purposes."	for each
animals	Kayser.	The Kay-	day of the
through	"You have	ser fam-	branding.
the food	to be able	ily served	The volun-
system.	to trace	a large	teer crew
			worked

well past sunset, and finished the day with dinner and stories.

"It's like a holiday," said Nate Kayser. "You have your friends, your family and it helps you get a big job done."

"It's like a celebration of a successful calving season," said Shelby Kayser. "That always makes you feel good — like you worked hard and did your job and you took care of your animals and it shows."

1.) Marshall Bruhan, 6, center, prepares to rope calves with other children during branding at the Nate Kayser Ranch. It's a tradition for children to rope the last group of calves. Photo by Erika Schultz

2.) Shelby Kayser, 20, standing at center, brands calves on her family's cattle ranch outside Centerville, Klickitat County. Kayser, a fifth-generation rancher, worked with family and a group of more than 15 friends and neighbors to brand, vaccinate and castrate cows and calves. Photo by Erika Schultz

## Say "High" to New Cannabis Rule

By Bob Young  
Staff reporter

The state Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) adopted an emergency rule Wednesday allowing it to recall legal pot products considered a public health risk.

Washington regulators have not had a recall process in place, unlike Colorado where recalls have been frequent. The city of Denver pulled 19 pot products from the market in a recent 19-week stretch.

The new rule takes immediate effect, but it may be revised after public feedback. It gives the LCB authority to recall products deemed

to be a risk and establishes procedures for a recall.

Risk is not defined by the rule. Factors that may contribute to a recall include evidence that unapproved pesticides were used on, or are present on, pot plants.

The rule also allows recalls based on "evidence of another condition that poses a risk to public health or safety."

Washington has approved a long list of pesticides for the pot industry. The state hasn't mandated pesticide testing because it's expensive and complicated.

The state is not adopting a zero-tolerance policy,

"If a product tests very high for an unapproved pesticide, that will certainly increase the odds of recall. In the end, we may have to defend any potential recall action so a level of reasonableness will factor," Smith said.

Much remains unknown about the health impact of pesticides on pot because research that's abundant for pesticides on foods is lacking when it comes to what

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Colorado has issued recalls for some inventory last fall. Above, products from a Denver shop were recalled and tested for unapproved pesticides. Washington issued recall rules this week.