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Media Advisory:
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Gateways Samsung Contest Update

Tiny house project is state finalist, heading for nationals

SPRINGFIELD, ORE.— Holly Ellingson's Gateways High science classes learned last month that their proposed tiny house project had been selected the Oregon state finalist in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest (www.samsung.com/us/solvefortomorrow), winning \$20,000 in technology for the school.

The next step in the contest calls for Ellingson to send a video summary of the project, due Feb. 9. Then in early March, 15 national finalists will be chosen and their videos posted online for public voting. This will then be narrowed to the final 5 finalists.

No matter the outcome of the contest, however, Ellingson plans to move forward with the project in her two science classes. To that end, she has teamed with Alex Daniell from Backyard Bungalows (the folks who helped design Eugene's Opportunity Village) to work with students this month on design concepts.

The students will vote on which design to move forward with by the end of this week.

Beginning in February, the students will begin working on a fundraising campaign to raise funds to build the tiny house. Then, the core Tiny House Team will proceed with building—on weekends, or after school during the spring, again with help from Alex and Backyard Bungalows.

Ellingson is also beginning talks with public entities to determine an eventual location for the tiny house.

Media opportunities: There will be plenty of great opportunities to provide updates to this project throughout the duration of the project. This week will be prime time to visit the classroom Tuesday through Thursday (Jan 19-21, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.), while Alex Daniell is co-teaching on how to design and build a tiny house and the students are finishing their models.

On Friday, the group will have a culminating celebration during which students from both of Holly's classes will join up over pizza to share and vote on their designs, between 11:25 and 1:10 p.m.

Please contact the Communications office to schedule.

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