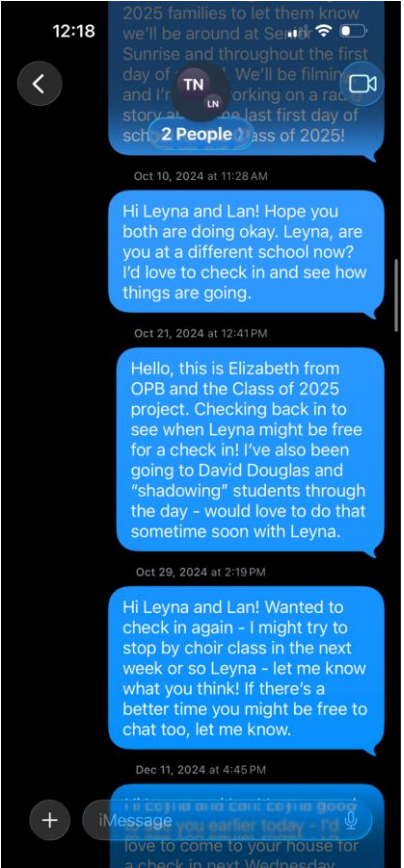
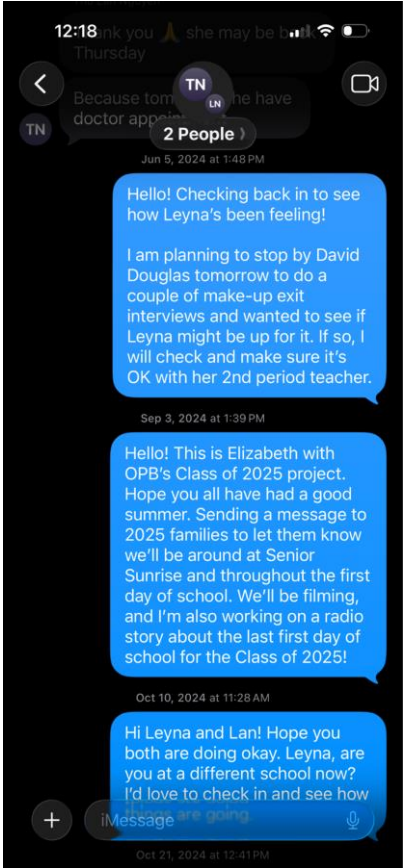
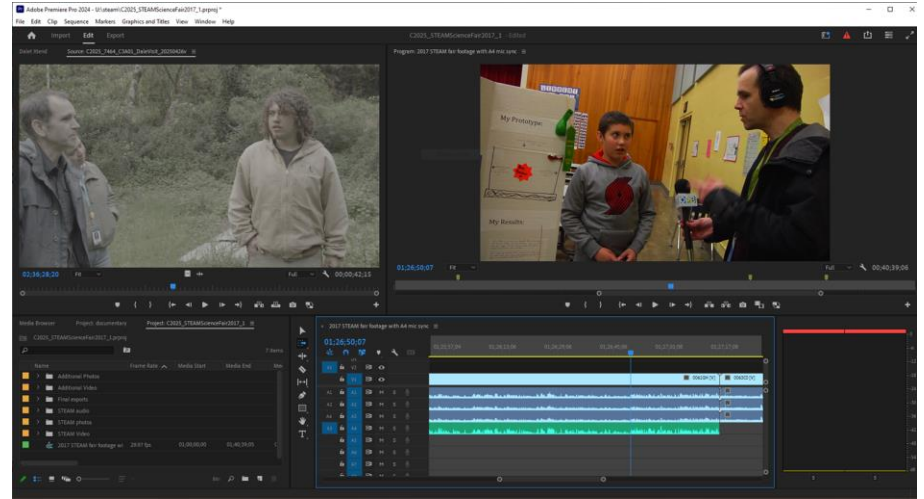


The real Sandy and Nadia



Maintaining source relationships for 13 years

- Cast a wide net
- If they don't text you back, try again at a different time or a different day. Call them!
- Listen and don't judge.
- Hear them if they don't want to do it anymore.
- Different set-ups lead to different conversations: with parents, with friends, at home, at school
- Parent voices are important but so are student voices



Interviewing students of all ages

Elementary School

- Beware the “right” answer
- Keep questions simple
- Ask again
- Be patient - but don't be boring

Middle school

- Talk to them in social settings (at lunch, with friends)
- Take time to learn about their interests

High school

- Get to the “how” - how will you get there, what will it take to do it?
- Be direct with the story you're telling and their role in it

Any age

- Interview students often (more than once in a school year, even on the same day)
- Don't overload a question
- Start slow

Building relationships makes your stories better

For Some Black Students, Remote Learning Has Offered A Chance To Thrive

MARCH 1, 2021 · 5:00 AM ET

HEARD ON ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

By Elizabeth Miller

FROM 

 4-Minute Listen + PLAYLIST TRANSCRIPT ...



Tracy J. Lee for NPR

EDUCATION

Portland freshman finds safety and growth in alternative high school

EDUCATION

Oregon judge orders Hood River County School District to pay for former student's lost year of schooling

By Elizabeth Miller (OPB)
Oct. 7, 2021 5 a.m. Updated: Oct. 8, 2021 8:30 a.m.

EDUCATION

These teens were missing too much school. Here's what it took to get them back

MAY 18, 2024 · 7:01 AM ET

HEARD ON WEEKEND EDITION SUNDAY

By Leigh Paterson, Elizabeth Miller

 4-Minute Listen + PLAYLIST TRANSCRIPT ...

Balancing long-term sources with day-to-day work

- The value of keeping in touch - what stories are important to tell now?
- Making time to check in - and putting it on your calendar
- Open communication with your editor about what you need

Portland, Nairobi and ‘100 bad days’: How Class of 2025 student Munira found her way

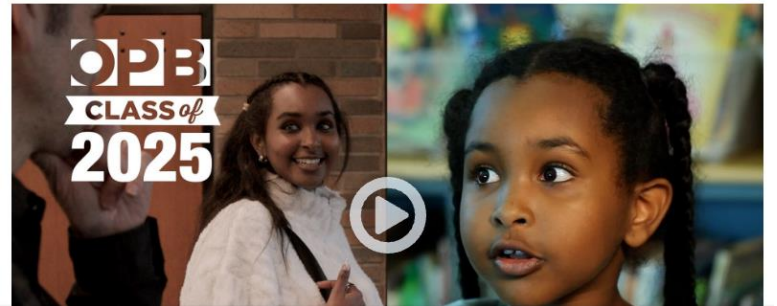


By [Elizabeth Miller](#) (OPB) and [Rob Manning](#) (OPB)

March 6, 2026 6 a.m.

Munira left Portland for Kenya in 2019, after sixth grade. Now a college freshman, she's learned "100 bad days equals 100 good stories."

OPB followed 27 students from first grade through high school as part of the [Class of 2025 project](#) to track the state's progress toward 100% high school graduation starting in 2025.



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