

**Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association
Board of Directors Meeting – Official Minutes - Final**



Date: Oct 13, 2014
Starting Time: 5:30 pm Ending Time: 7:30 pm
Benson Tech Library

ATTENDEES:

Josh Piper (JP), Mike Landstrom (ML), Rodger Edwards (RE), Max Baker (MB), Dick Spies (DS), Rob Johns (RJ). Guest: Annika Johnson, Craig Wilcox, CTE advocate; Jeff Strong, class of 1977. Pilot with Delta. Aviation major. OSU grad.

MINUTES:

- RJ: Don Wear has resigned from the board.
- Discussion on advisory groups. We need to work with the school and teachers to help build excellent advisory groups for each discipline.
- Saturday Academy will be touring the building with Curtis.
- Craig went to OIT tour. Has been active with CTE in Idaho. Joined CEIC.
- Minutes - all minutes sent out. Please send corrections to Max by this Friday.
- There was no treasurer's report.
- Membership - JP:
 - There are 175 total members.
 - Josh will have a rough draft for membership renewal letter next meeting.
 - It worked to have the board help with collating and folding.
 - We will send in December, will include scholarship ask and Tech Show info.
- Architecture program – DS:
 - I was a 1974 grad, when architecture was a robust program. It dwindled - they took out art and mechanical drawing. We're starting to see the programs grow back. Tammy Hite was hired for Freshman/Sophomore architectural class. Art program is back too. I head an industry group that has tried to engage faculty and administrative staff. We are trying to present ideas to the staff. We're coming from different points of view, different agenda. We need to be sensitive to those differences and go through a process of vetting the ideas together so everyone is invested in success...
- Bond committee – DS:
 - Oct. 1st the committee voted unanimously for Benson, Lincoln and Madison to be on the next bond measure, to be modernized. On the bond after that would be Wilson, Jefferson and Cleveland. Benson will then qualify for \$500,000 from 1st bond for pre-design work in the 1st quarter of next year. This will engage faculty in the discussions: incredibly exciting. The next meeting is next Wed Oct 22nd.
- School tours - RJ:
 - This Wed (15th) meeting with Michael Zoikavich (Michael's Italian Sandwiches)w reps Reardon, Lew Fredericks, possibly Dembrow and some

others. Tour of Benson focused on: see what we've created with what you passed in Salem? Let's do it again!

- GeoTech program – DS:
 - The program consists of a construction and math instructor joining together to use project based learning to create something with Geometry. A great success with students. We ran into issues because there was no space. The projects are bulky. Need forklift access. We thought we had a solution with a prefab steel structure (covering). Everyone thought it was great. Met with powers that be: reps from school district and city of Portland. Turned out Benson's campus is regarded as an historic landmark. Anything requires 12 week design review process. We also would have trouble meeting code standards with the new structure.
 - Staff met and thinks they can shift things around and either purchase a new piece of equipment that meets safety standards. They will protect projects outside with a tarp. We will discuss with the design center advisory group on the 22nd. We don't want to lose the program. These are short term issues, because we have a real chance of getting a new school/remodel.
 - RJ knows someone that might be able to increase the safety of the equipment we already have. They will touch base on that.
 - DS: Looking for apprenticeships and training programs. The advisory groups can help get companies fund these things. My company has donated computers that we are getting rid of through upgrading.
- RJ: I'm going to talk to Sat Academy people about summer classes here at Benson. Sat Academy charges money, but if you don't have the means, nobody is every turned away. They haven't been able to crack getting facilities from PPS. They use PSU, Intel, other private locations. If we can get 7th and 8th graders to come to the school for a class, that's great exposure.
- RJ: Potential for Dental Clinic here. Paul Anthony and Jeanea will be on the committee applying for a grant for this. Retired dentists love this type of project. OHSU would be the sponsor of the clinic, could result in residents coming in and working with Juniors and Seniors here. Possibly student accreditation.
- Lisa White was the spearhead person that pushed RJ, NG and others to help provide food at the homecoming game. JP: would be great to have an alumni section in the bleachers. Rob will talk to Curtis about it.
- No update on Booster's club. No update on athletics. There's a lot of pressure on the teams to do well or sports will be cut. DS: I think the district is recognizing the student population is rising. I think Benson will get bigger, and they might reopen Marshall.
- Foundation update: ZIBA will inform me of the dollars raised, and we'll put it in the account. This was our first fundraiser! DS: This is a direct result of reaching out to industry and leading tours. RJ: One of the guys there was from Germany. It's common in Germany for people to either go to college or trade school. They have about 120 employees in the Pearl. Good relationship.
- Community Room - becoming Multicultural room. We need to move archival stuff and yearbooks? Max will contact Curtis and work with Annika to get touch with Archiving project.

- Site Council - no report.
- Future guest suggestions:
 - Charlene Williams. Athletic Director - Sanjay.
 - Do we have a standing invite to Boosters/PTSA?
 - Is Curtis still having his state of school meeting? Rob will check.
- Craig Wilcox spoke:
 - He found school bureaucracy difficult. Started getting involved with PBA and land use for industry. Use Metro Council as study guide. PPS wants to see industry move to the outskirts of the urban growth boundary, and use the inner core as shiny new area. Approached them with the idea of industrial sanctuaries. The land within the urban growth boundary is odd. East side is mixed use and repurposed land. The two concepts don't go together very well.
 - Central east side does quarterly meeting with panel of speakers. Landowners, police, etc. For us, we need to let the community know students are here and being prepared for trade school or immediate workforce. I think a presentation there would be great. Business owners don't understand how Benson is an asset to the community. We need that connection to connect the dots with PBA and PPS. If you have more conversation that resonates with our curriculum, it might help us get the point across to PPS. It could be more efficient than trying to work with the school directly.
 - RJ: Perhaps Miranda talking about career counselling. 50% of her job is supposed to be outside. Kevin Jeans-Gale: can speak to setting up apprenticeships. Like with Blount, Precision Cast Parts, etc. Kjell was a speaker before, about bamboo frames. He was interested in having this pool of students.
 - Craig - I will find out how to get on the quarterly agenda, if you can arrange speakers.
- RJ: Portland Bottling was calling the school trying to get students in. Took a long time to get students in. They love having the students. We've got Franz coming, etc. Would be good to get some of these stories out there that can add to the presentation. If we don't have parents nearby, we need the businesses nearby. We want to try and get them involved in using the students, building the program and providing equipment, as possible.
- RE: PCC facility build for plant maintenance on Swan Island.
- RJ: I didn't go to the open house, but it's a good step to have some training on Swan Island. It brought up some ideas that PPS is just focused on getting students through H.S., and let community college do the rest. A little shortsighted. Franklin now has Pathways to Manufacturing. It's going well. Kids say CTE keeps them in school. Clark College is building a STEM program. If you are a resident, you can go at no additional cost. There's plenty of room for improvement.
- JP: Some interesting emails:
 - Portland Parks and Rec guy - Central Services Manager. They are losing people to retirement and they need new blood. Want to partner with Benson to get apprenticeships going. RJ will take it.

- Kathleen Reid: College application week and looking for volunteers to help kids with it. Want every senior to apply to one college. JP will post on list.
- RJ: You can get training from Amy to help counsel the kids. That's open all year.
- MB moved the board accept Annika Johnson on the board! ML seconded. Motion unanimously passed.
- We'll schedule another Foundation marketing materials meeting.
- Adjourned at 7:00pm

OLD BUSINESS – things to keep in mind

- Benson 5 year plan.
- Who do we talk to at the awards ceremony about getting time to address students about the alumni association?
- Plan for merchandise?
- 'Pathways to Manufacturing' that is managed by Impact NW. Currently Vigors and Daimler participate in the program with Franklin and Centennial students.
- Points West does financial seminars in the community and would be willing to come to Benson and talk to students. This idea needs to be followed up with Principal Wilson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association