

## Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association Monthly Board of Directors Meeting – FINAL



Date: Feb 13, 2023  
Starting Time: 5:30 pm  
Ending Time: 6:45 pm  
Hybrid meeting (virtual and in-person)

### ATTENDEES:

#### In-person

Josh Piper (JP); Dale Bajema (DB); Roger Edwards (RE);

#### Virtual

Rachael Kuryunny (RK); Bob Trimble (BT); Rob Johns (RJ); Gerry Ochs (GO);  
Dale Bajema (DB); Michael Landstrom (ML); Josh Piper (JP); Thomas Smith  
(TS); Bob Walker (BW); Dave Hutchins (DH); Jeff Strachen (JS)

Guests: Ken Bakke (KB); Curtis Wilson (CW); Kevin Clark (KC); Dick Spies (DS)

ABSENT: Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB)

### BUSINESS

- *Note: The prior month's meeting minutes will be delayed until next month for approval.*
- Rob officially started the meeting at 5:30PM.
- Curtis Wilson – BPHS update: Numbers have gone down the last two years that we have been at the Marshall campus. This, along with the fact that there is a PPS operations budget deficit of \$40M-60M for the 2023-2024 Academic Year means that there will be a reduction of 6.27FTE. Some cuts will need to be made, but numbers should be going up this time next year.
  - Graduation rates held steady at 92-93% which puts BPHS in the top 3-4 for schools in the district.
  - Boys and Girls basketball teams getting ready for playoffs.
  - Bowling team going to State. Will be going to Medford. Curtis had a bowling pep talk for the team.
  - The Site Council meetings are up and running, with Dale Bajema serving as the Council's chairperson. Ready to get parents more involved. They meet once per month, and Curtis and Dale have both been attending.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade forecasting night took place. Packed out the south side of the gym. All bleachers were filled, including some families who were left standing. That's a good indicator of rising numbers for the future.

- The District will give Curtis full autonomy on where to make the cuts. They will meet tomorrow (2/14/23) at 10:20am. Curtis says they will try to stay away from CTE and the Classrooms. Will try to cut something not student-facing, but they may have to go into the Classroom with the 6.27 FTE cuts. The District will vet this tomorrow and that will help determine the staffing for next year.
- We now have a nickname/mascot renaming committee of 15 people. First meeting to take place on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. RJ asked if three people he recommended from the previous Alumni Board meeting (David, Mike and Max) were on the committee as well. More information to be confirmed.
- Josh Piper – Member Report
  - We have 69 paid Alumni Association members to date.
- Bob Trimble – Financial Report:
  - \$6509.16 is what has been raised to date.
- Dale Bajema – Newsletter Update
  - We have sent a penultimate layout to the contributors for their review, and edits have been sent to Connie. We expect to have a final version by 2/17.
- Rob Johns - Tech Show Subcommittee Update:
  - The subcommittee includes Rob, Rachael and Jeff
  - Rachael sent a mapping of the alumni table/section in the old gym previously. We will be sharing new ideas with Andersen for locations near the cafeteria/concessions.
  - The idea of offering either free or highly-reduced pricing for a meal (hot dog, chips and soda) would help entice alumni to join.
  - RJ created a motion to create a price and budget for providing low-cost or break-even pricing for the hot dog meal.
    - JS amended the motion to say that the Alumni Board will provide this food, and not bring pricing into play. Gerry Ochs seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - KC mentioned that a flyer could be included with every hot dog meal to help get the word out about joining the Alumni Association.
  - Rob says he can be behind the counter, and this will help sell memberships. Rachel can assist with this and help bring them to the table to get more alumni signed up for memberships.
- Scholarship Committee update (DB, RK, KC):

- We received \$3155 in our end of the year appeal, which exceeds the \$2000 that Rob and Ken pledged to match. With other donations, the grand total raised from Jan 2022 to Jan 2023 was \$6267.12. This will help fund contributions to scholarships.
- The scholarship committee will reconvene immediately after the next board meeting in March 2023.
- RK wants to confirm with RE that he has communicated with Hazel to order the two yearbooks that we order every year. RE to purchase yearbooks, and RK will help handle the advertisements. RK will share the proposed design(s) with Connie for feedback.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Business card for Alumni Association membership: The purpose of the card is to hand to people we come across with quick and easy information at a glance on how to become members. Still in the design phase but getting close to finalization.



- JS had the idea to give new members the first year's dues for free, and that gets them on the e-mail list. JS was also asking if we could also get a spot on the website with the Promo code for people to use when joining.

- JS formally added a motion to have the first year's dues waived for new members.
  - Due to auditory issues for some in attendance who couldn't adequately hear the motion, this issue is being tabled for now until a full written/e-mailed synopsis of the motion can be brought forth. This topic will be revisited.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- KBPS Centennial celebration will kick off soon. Not for general alumni, but for alumni of KPBS. The word is out, and a good turnout is expected.

## **WRAP-UP**

- Next meeting to be on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:30pm. In-person and virtual options will be supported.
- Before the Alumni Board meeting, the Tech Show subcommittee will meet at 4:15pm.
- Immediately after the Board meeting, the Scholarship Committee will meet.
- April meeting will be on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Tech Show takes place April 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45PM

Respectfully Submitted,

H. Thomas Smith  
Secretary Protem  
BPHS Alumni Association