

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



Date: Mar 11, 2024  
Starting Time: 5:31 pm  
Ending Time: 7:23 pm  
Virtual meeting

### **ATTENDEES:**

At Benson: Rachael Kuryunny (RK); Rob Johns (RJ); Josh Piper (JP); Roger Edwards (RE); Thomas Smith (TS); Dale Bajema (DB); Gerry Ochs (GO); Mike Landstrom (ML); Anthony Reimer (AR)

Virtual: Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB); Bobbie (Rob) Walker (BW); Bob Trimble (BT)

Guests: Dan Malone (DM); Kevin Clark (KC); Brian Corey, Athletic Director; Ken Bakke (KB), former board member; Taylor Maiava-Hall, class of 2003

ABSENT: Dave Hutchins (DH); Jeff Strachan (JS)

### **BUSINESS**

- Guest introductions:
  - Dan:
    - Tech Show:
      - Most yearbooks are still in boxes. If you want them he'll put them on a cart and an elevator.
      - Tables and chairs as we had last year.
    - The scanned yearbooks will go on the alumni page. A few didn't come out well so they will try again.
    - Case on main floor – contents TBD
    - Re-opening day on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
      - Two alums with speaking roles (TBD) – newer and more seasoned alum. District, architect, Principal.
      - Question from the District:
        - Is the party going to feed everyone? Could be 1000 people there... or select folks? If feeding everyone, will ask the district to purchase some food.

- Class reunions – trying to contact 94 and 04. Might get a tour on a Friday night.
- Incoming Freshman:
  - Everyone that doesn't respond to forecasting by this week (75) – go back into the pool and waitlist will get in.
  - This is the District Transfer process.
  - Next year, on application, say 'extenuating circumstance' and that's where you would put legacy info.
- Construction
  - GO stated he took a tour in late February. Project is on schedule and continues to make remarkable progress moving towards the finishing touches. The C and H buildings are 3 stories each, with all brand new equipment and furnishings. Progress is on track and the School will open on time!
  - The new Furniture (300 Pieces) are coming in 53 truckloads and delivery will need to be coordinated with all the ongoing activity onsite.. It will be a very busy time with all the furniture deliveries.
  - The Auditorium looks great, with new paint and finishes ongoing.
  - The new glass partions for the Main Entrance Security System were onsite, but not installed as of my visit. The restoration of the entrance Foyer looks very sharp.
  - The Construction Management Teams for PPS and the Contractors are all located in building C now. Everyone was moved out of the Radio building to allow for the renovation work.
  - Probably not all the teachers will get parking... District is still negotiating with owners of old Tibby Dunbar's.
- Discussed the Girls' Basketball state playoffs.
- Dan Malone left the meeting.
  - Brian Corey
    - Bringing back football, after it was cancelled his first year as a teacher.
    - He was hoping for JV program, but the district said incoming Freshman only. He will work on dedication, discipline and desire. Goal is to bring back the football team, as it seems to be the cornerstone of pride in a school. He needs it to be more than practices and games – it needs to be a social club and family for the team, to draw in other city kids to apply.
    - 8<sup>th</sup> grade forecasting, they have 18 interested players, but some of those will probably drop. Aug 5<sup>th</sup> is the first day we

can start with the kids (starting earlier they would have to be at Marshall campus). Minimum seems to be 16. If he has less he will talk to the district about including sophomores. He is allowed 2 other coaches, and probably they will not be paid as Varsity coaches. It will be easier to teach 2 coaches the culture he wants to achieve.

- The schedule will include only Freshman teams – the teams from other schools will be strong because they have feeder programs. Pushing just excellence in what we do, and coming together as a team, developing together.
  - Anticipates getting a Varsity team in 4 years.
  - His friend will be setting up a 501C-3. He asks to send out messaging to the alumni list – donations are great, but volunteer hours as well. BBQ, cornhole competition, coin flips at games, teaching Brian the traditions.
  - District is giving 35 shoulderpads and white helmets. They aren't sure about other equipment at this point.
  - Hoping that as football rises, other athletics will also rise.
  - Would love to have some alumni football fans as liaisons. BW can be a touchpoint.
  - Visited a small private school in Tennessee that built a program and reputation in 30 years – they don't have to recruit now. This is what we're aiming for.
  - Looking for tailgating, and making the modernized school's new southside terrace premium seating?
  - Needs help from student body, and alums too, to bring back school spirit.
  - He's making an Instagram for kids, TikTok. JP suggested FBfor alumni. Branding with Astros mascot, too. It's all just starting.
- Brian Corey left the meeting.
    - Taylor:
      - Finishing a project she started in 2009. Documentary about Benson Polytechnic. Wants to finish by end of year, doing majority in the summer. Idea: Rise of the Phoenix.
      - RK: Sept 14<sup>th</sup> is the grand reopening/dedication. That would be a great opportunity. 2 or 3 classes are having reunions there, as well. About 15 years since alumni association was formed, trying to keep it a comprehensive 4 year school. Still have enrollment cap in place, fighting to get football back and keep sports going. Pandemic, and Marshall move have hurt the momentum. Can talk to District Office of Modernization, and Dan about getting promotional material, photos etc. or about permission to take your own.
      - GO: Tech Show – when you graduated, what you studied, and what your work is. These are great ice breakers.

- She is still in brainstorming phase.
  - KC: KBPS has an audio history program to draw interviewees and other participants as well.
  - RK: August dedication of Alumni Room and tour of the school.
- Member report – JP:
  - 81 paid members
- Financial Report – BT:
  - \$70 PayPal.
  - \$3265.02 in checking.
  - [note later in the meeting a motion passed to fund up to \$250 for newsletter printing.]
  - [note later in the meeting a motion passed to spend up to \$50 for purchasing return address stamps.]
- Archival storage – RE:
- Meeting minutes approval
  - Feb 2024 Draft 2 was sent out early this morning. Draft 3 will include the annual report information that BT handed out in person at the meeting.
  - RJ moved we accept the draft minutes, RK seconded. Motion passed.
- Newsletter -DB:
  - April 5<sup>th</sup> target.
  - There will be an article about football.
  - RK suggested keeping the QR code to the alumni site.
  - **DB moved that we set aside up to \$250 for paper newsletters at the Tech Show. GO seconded. Motion passed.**
- Scholarship Committee:
  - RK needs a return address stamp personally – suggesting that we get two for Alumni association. **RK moved that we spend up to \$50 for that. GO seconded. Motion passed.**
  - RK did some analysis of who donated, how many returning vs news, etc. We need a few more years before we look for significant trends. We had a really good year because people donated large amounts out of the blue. But it's 50% more this year. Outreach works. We average around 20 donors a year – from \$65 – 1300.
  - JP says we are at \$168,310 base. \$9339 available for scholarships this year. YAY!
  - RK has been in touch with Kathleen and received contact so that we can require contact at receipt and touch base for next several years after receiving the scholarship.
- Site Council Report – DB:
  - Fall of 2024: Dan will be kept on part time, and hire an additional electrical teacher due to more students coming in.
  - PPS is facing an even larger cut the next year.

- Branding committee has spoken with staff and students and has ideas for branding – they will come back with ideas.
- Boosters are planning an event in the fall celebrating 50 years of women at Benson Tech.
- Alumni Room – RE:
  - Subcommittee met – have a list of archived items in storage. Thrilled to learn the mold that was used to make the cog wheel logo is part of the archives. Trying to figure out where it all should go. Making progress.
  - JP: trying to meet every 2 weeks moving forward. Goal is to have the alumni room (and cabinet!) ready for Sept 14th grand re-opening..
- Booster Club – JP (for JS):
  - Concessions have been a boon to the school.
  - There isn't long term history within the people that are there. It's morphing into PTA/Booster club. They are looking at revising the bylaws. The structure will be more flexible for fundraising. Trying to figure out what they are and how to get momentum going again.
  - Kelly Janes is a dynamo. Running for City Council, too.
  - Several parents call in to meetings. They have about 60 on their mailing list.
- Tech Show – RK:
  - Confirmed that people will be there. Max will be there both nights and bringing cake.
- Concessions – JS:
- MB Left the meeting
- CTE achievement award.
  - 3 Seniors recognized for their achievements
  - Teachers would select the winners
  - School would designate a place to house the awards/plaques
  - See motion text from Dale:
    - Dale moved, RK seconded, motion passed
  - Discussion ensued about how this award might be awarded in a equitable way
  - RK: Counselors have a good handle on what awards each student is receiving, so they make an effort to distribute awards in an equitable way
  - DB: Goal is to maintain a permanent record of excellent achievement in the CTE subjects so that alumni can return to the school to see/show their awards to future generations
- ML left the meeting
- Digitizing Tech Pep
  - First year is now complete for Class Year 1920-1921
  - Scanner was very pleased at how cleanly the pages scanned
  - Cost was \$241
  - Showed an example of the PDF that resulted from the scan

- Need to think about how we're going to make these accessible to folks, what will we charge
- Look into solutions for charging for access and restricting downloading
- JP will look into a computer that might be used to display the Tech Pep at Tech Show and future use in the Alumni Room.
- [Noting the link for benson construction photos from DM:
  - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/portlandpublicschools/albums/72177720315014577/>
  - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/portlandpublicschools/albums/72177720315596928/> ]
- [Post meeting: QR code and link for football donations:  
<https://pps.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Benson--FOOTBALL/S6foxO> ]



#### ● UPCOMING BUSINESS

- Task: Need thank you list for when we move into the new building, for committed partners.
- **Next board meeting is:** April 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:30, hybrid, in-person in the auto classroom. Technology subgroup meeting after.
- **Tech show planning zoom meeting, April 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30PM:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84104770831>

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker  
Secretary  
BPHS Alumni Association



BUSINESS SAVINGS	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
	\$3,264.94	\$0.08	-\$0.00	\$3,265.02
BSAV00	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.16	\$0.00		
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
02/29	02/29	Dividend Annual Percentage Yield Earned= 0.03% For 29 Days	0.08	3265.02

TOTAL OVERDRAFT AND RETURNED ITEM FEES		
Fee Type	Total For This Period	Total Year-To-Date
Total Overdraft Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Returned Items	\$0.00	\$0.00

BUSINESS FLEX CHCK	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
	\$1,211.79	\$540.01	-\$0.00	\$1,751.80
BFLX00	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
02/13	02/13	Deposit ACH PAYPAL*TRANSFER	395.01	1606.80
02/15	02/15	Deposit CUSC Trnsectn 02/15 - IQ CREDIT UNION - 7017 NE VANCOUVER MALL VANCOUVER WA	55.00	1661.80
02/15	02/15	Deposit CUSC Trnsectn 02/15 - IQ CREDIT UNION - 7017 NE VANCOUVER MALL VANCOUVER WA	90.00	1751.80

TOTAL OVERDRAFT AND RETURNED ITEM FEES		
Fee Type	Total For This Period	Total Year-To-Date
Total Overdraft Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Returned Items	\$0.00	\$0.00