

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



Date: May 9, 2022  
Starting Time: 5:35 pm  
Ending Time: 7:09 pm  
Virtual meeting

**ATTENDEES:**

Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB), Bob Trimble (BT), Gerry Ochs (GO); Roger Edwards (RE), Rob Johns (RJ), Michael Landstrom (ML), Josh Piper (JP), Bob Walker (BW), Jeff Stranchen (JS), Dave Hutchins (DH)

**ABSENT:** Paul Rossi (PR), Andy Payne (AP), Dale Bajema (DB)

**GUEST:** Kevin Clark, alum (KC); Curtis Wilson, principal (CW); Ken Bakke, Dick Spies; Matt Clark, Benson Tech coach; Lisa Yanase; Parker Myrus, class of 2023.

**Mixed virtual and in-person (Marshall campus annex) meeting.**

**BUSINESS**

- Curtis:
  - RJ: How is it looking for next year's enrollment?
    - CW: no cap or barriers for next year. Any student will get in. Making the building accessible to students is key - many students couldn't make it from the West side. Our numbers dipped, should level off and stay lower for one year. Should rise the next year. About 900 now. We did not lose any staff. 231 seniors, 260-70 freshman; 215-220 juniors.
  - KC: Were there different enrollments across classes and will it affect CTE Program sustainability?
    - CW (paraphrase): There's no huge class discrepancy, suggesting possible resilience of CTE major programs to enrollment fluctuations over the remaining few years at BPHS at MHS
  - August 6<sup>th</sup> is the alumni picnic, 12-4PM. Class of 2020 has prom money to use, otherwise that money will be donated to the next incoming class.
  - Huge influx when we have new Benson Tech. We know we'll be able to get 1700, but will we be allowed to get that? Not sure. Other schools are pushing 2200, overcrowding. We are hoping we will provide relief at those schools and meet our 1700.
- Matt:

- Happy to attend this meeting. Haven't been at a H.S. that had an active alumni group before. Appreciate the support and energy you put back into the school. It's greatly appreciated by many in the school community.
- What questions do you have?
- RJ: How are spring sports with spring weather?
  - Matt: Track has been fine - it's the other sports that are having issues. This has been the worst spring ever. Baseball and softball have had the toughest time, across the PIL. Tennis has done OK; golf and track have done pretty well. The kids and coaches keep coming out. Numbers have been the same. Transportation has been tight but worked.
- RK: about half the board showed up at track cleanup. Suspect this will be ongoing issue. Is there an idea to continue with upkeep/volunteer effort? Fence fixed?
  - Matt: could work on a schedule. Maybe some cleanup right before fall sports, in August?
  - Discussion around formalizing dates so we know when it's coming and can advertise as well.
- Tech Youth Project:
  - Matt noticed we did not have youth sports. Multi-sports camp in June at the Marshall Campus -flagship for district-wide youth sports program. Camps and clinics are already approved by the district. A group of sports from 9-noon, lunch, then 1-4pm another group of sports. The idea is to have all in one week, but this year there were commitments made before the discussion, so this will be over 2 weeks this time, with some evening hours. Very minimal cost (\$10 a camp), and a good plug for Benson Tech.
  - After this year, it spills into clinic per sport during that season.
  - Incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grades one week was the idea, but for this summer it will be 5<sup>th</sup> through Freshman in one week. Next summer, or with clinics, this age range will spread out.
  - Promotional push: PIL made a digital push through school messenger to every family in the district. Another person sent materials to principals, and it was up to them how to disseminate it. Matt will try and get it to secretaries as well. Wrestling coach is plugged in and will reach out to PE teachers. Booster parents alerted him to an online site parents look at to find activities for their kids, and he'll try and post it there.
  - ML suggested reaching out to kinesiology departments, teaching candidates, etc. Matt will look into that.
- Boosters:
  - RJ: Discussion around challenges for the Boosters. The group leading the boosters is going to have their kids graduate soon. Who will continue to lead the group?

- Does it make sense to merge the groups? The functionality is different in both groups.
    - Boosters - any adult interested in Benson Tech, etc. Members of the alumni association could become part of the structure of the Boosters if they want to.
    - How can we support the group so they can continue?
  - Lisa:
    - Has a senior at Benson Tech. When that student was a Freshman, we kicked off the parent group and started the Boosters as a 501C-3. There was success, but since Covid, it's been difficult to get parents involved.
    - 2 of the 4 officers have students graduating, one had their student transfer schools. So there is only one officer left, so we need help keeping this group going until we are back at our physical school again.
    - Activities: senior banners went well; ready set go tech fundraiser worked great. Some alumni did a match gift so they ended up with \$10,000. Concessions was going great in December (about \$400 a game basketball, good track meets...) but then it was shut down. Looking for someone to oversee concessions.
    - Lisa doing secretary and treasurer. Elizabeth will continue with copy and marketing. Some parents are interested but some are potentially leaving. Transportation has been a big challenge. School liaison, Alumni liaison, and President are the three titles for 501C3 status. The biggest need is concessions director, by July. Fiscal year starts August 1.
  - Matt: Booster club is vital. Matt will also put out a plea to sports parents. Talked about the fact that while the concessions director does need to manage tasks, the individual tasks are not difficult.
  - There was general agreement, the two groups should remain separate. Booster is a parent run group, focus is supporting sports programs. Alumni could be helpers or even on board to provide perspective on school and to be visible to students and parents.
  - The funds from this year will be for new JV uniforms, since they have mismatched ones from several years. Also, replacing equipment that went missing during the move. Funds are apportioned based on team participation. Class competitions would be fun.
    - RK: to keep in mind, classes usually have reunions over the summer, so we should advertise with that in mind.
  - KC: Do you have a count of how many parents involved in the Boosters are alumni? I know from my own experience with TPV and the Boosters that a number of alumni had been involved several years ago. Would that be a place to continue the crossover between BPHSAA and the Boosters? It might create a sense of legacy and stimulate closer connection between groups.

- Lisa: We don't track how many volunteers are alumni. Supporters are interested in volunteering, and in donating, but not in attending meetings.
- Matt: Thank you for the new propane grill, which is locked in my office, for the picnic. He'll get the bill to the treasurer.
- Membership: There are 78 members.
- Financial Report - BT:
  - Balances: \$3001.30 in savings; \$2665.97 in checking
  - Grill 408.98 receipt coming to BT.
  - RK has receipts for stamps/envelopes under \$20
- Previous minutes:
  - ML moved to accept minutes as corrected. RK seconded. Motion passed.
- Newsletter update: RE:
  - Newsletter out by end of the month.
  - Important resource for the association.
  - Checking on electronic delivery to students, through Curtis's school newsletter or email.
  - RK: would be good to get in the senior packet if possible.
  - GO: We should acknowledge of Connie Mar's excellent work on the Alumni Newsletter. She does a fantastic job of organizing and piecing it together, I certainly appreciate her effort and talents.
  - Includes salute to alum Carl George, who was a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Portlander and tradesman, who shared our belief that it is good to offer assistance to recent graduates. The Sue George Scholarship, run by the Portland Community College Foundation, can receive contributions.
- Alumni Picnic - RJ
  - Community Picnic: 6<sup>th</sup> of August. Class of 2000-02, and 1992 have both said they will have their reunions that weekend.
  - Marshall campus - courtyard.
  - RK will check with RoiSan about the CUB.
  - There are other reunions mid June. When the newsletter comes out it will list everything. Would be good to get at least one alumni there, with their permission.
  - We should meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August instead of 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, so that we can meet before the picnic.
- Scholarship committee - RK:
  - 13 applicants. Committee selected 4 recipients. If anyone is interested in presenting, that would be great. Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen Reed is the person to contact. JS and RJ are interested.
- DAG has received invitation for a walkthrough May 11<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. You'll see that demo is basically done and they've started building the skeleton inside.
- Rose Festival milk carton boat race is June 26<sup>th</sup>. Would be good to have the canopy and cool treats/water as in 2019. We'll talk more about this next meeting.

- Parker Myrus:
  - Prom committee requested his participation as alumni liaison for senior prom next year.
- Meeting over the summer? Virtual if nothing else. MB will check whether we can use a conference room at her office.
- Next meeting will be hybrid: June 13th 5:30PM.
  - BOD Meeting:
    - <https://meet.google.com/goo-dwsy-ryi>
    - You can also join via phone by calling:
      - Dial-in: (US) +1 816-944-1361
      - PIN: 512 701 146#
- Any information that comes in after the next meeting and before draft minutes are sent out will be included below.

Parking Lot:

- Sending out recognition of milestone birthdays to alums, including Benson Tech information, and estate planning. (Leftover Benson branded things that Curtis has - can we send them?)

MEETING AJOURNED

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker  
 Secretary  
 BPHS Alumni Association

Treasurer's statements:

| BUSINESS SAVINGS | BEGINNING BALANCE  | TOTAL DEPOSITS | TOTAL WITHDRAWALS | ENDING BALANCE |
|------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| BSAV00           | \$3,001.23   | \$0.07         | -\$0.00           | \$3,001.30     |
| 04/30 04/30      | Dividend Annual Percentage Yield Earned= 0.03% For 30 Days |                |                   | 0.07 3001.30   |

| BUSINESS FLEX CHCK | BEGINNING BALANCE  | TOTAL DEPOSITS | TOTAL WITHDRAWALS | ENDING BALANCE |
|--------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| BFLX00             | \$2,420.97   | \$245.00       | -\$0.00           | \$2,665.97     |
| 04/14 04/14        | Deposit CUSC Trnsetn 04/14 - IQ CREDIT UNION - 7017 NE VANCOUVER MALL VANCOUVER WA |                | 100.00            | 2520.97        |
| 04/14 04/14        | Deposit CUSC Trnsetn 04/14 - IQ CREDIT UNION - 7017 NE VANCOUVER MALL VANCOUVER WA |                | 145.00            | 2665.97        |

