

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



Date: Sept 9, 2019  
Starting Time: 5:30 pm  
Ending Time: 7:30 pm  
Benson Polytechnic Library classroom

**ATTENDEES:**

Roger Edwards (RE), Bob Trimble (BT), Mike Landstrom (ML), Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Dale Bajema (DB), Max Baker (MB), Jerome Martin III (JM)

Guests: Kevin Clark (KC) 1984 alum; Ken Bakke (KB) alum; Paul Rossi, class of 1977 alum; Dick Spies (former Board Member)

Not present: Rob Johns (RJ), Gerry Ochs (GO), Josh Piper (JP), Brent Dahl (BD), Dave Hutchins (DH)

**NEW BUSINESS**

- New guests:
  - Paul Rossi, class of 1977
- Opening talk - DB:
  - Great job everyone at the picnic. It's nice that we all step in and do what needs to be done.
  - This will be the last normal year – with the reconstruction there may be teachers bailing, students bailing, etc. There will be new difficulties. First year at Marshall will be settling in, then we might have a normal year... then the last year will be a packing year again, and the first year at Benson will be an unpacking year etc. What will happen to enrollment? Parents and students are making those decisions in the next few months. Things could get iffy with funding and student enrollment. Will we have tech show at Marshall? Will the alums come? We need to keep thinking about how we help the staff and students and alumni all keep connected during this time.
  - DS: We need to give staff and advisory groups as much support as we can. We need to get people excited about what the new school is going to be. Even if they are only at the new building a year or two, the advantages will be huge. Staff, too.
  - We need to take advantage of the pluses of being at Marshall, too – band space to start up
- Minutes:
  - Will add email approval for \$150 for coffee for the Teacher Training Days (check written to Curtis).
  - Received comments from Kevin.
  - ML moved, DS seconded approval of the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

- Treasurer's Report:
  - Current balance: \$2957.97
  - PayPal: \$73.91
  - \$200 outstanding check to be cashed.
  - \$65 reimbursement outstanding for minuteman press for picnic newsletter.
  - \$40 new member came in.
  - \$211.49 reimbursement to Bob for Teacher Appreciation event.
  - Under \$10 reimbursement to RK outstanding.
  - \$100 from DS for membership and donation.
- Membership:
  - 120 paid members as of this evening.
  - Several people signed up at the picnic.
- Benson Pride Volunteers meeting tomorrow at 6PM in the Band room. Free pizza for the first 50 people that come.
- Benson Boosters having first fundraising event on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 5PM, short program 6PM at Tabor Space. \$20 entrance, raffles, etc.
- Picnic lessons learned:
  - RK: no reunions this year, but about the same amount of attendees. A few student groups: construction, robotics team, Mr. Pelico making ice cream, TPV and Boosters made it feel like a community picnic. Great to have high schoolers lead the tours. Hoping for more classes next year. Last community picnic at Benson Tech's front lawn before construction, might be a draw. Hugely helpful to divide food responsibility from other responsibilities.
  - DB: Grill on the sidewalk etc. might think of moving? Might want a 'sign-in and meal tickets' sign. KB: Grill might not make it another year, talked to Curtis about maybe having that be a student project. Sound system was scrounged from KBPS, next year we might have BATS back to run it.
- Teacher Appreciation lessons learned:
  - Food was great. Teachers expressed a lot of appreciation, about 40 staff come through, 8 alumni. Leftover food was taken downstairs. Good face time and discussions. There is an ongoing discussion about changing venues off campus.
- DAG updates: DS
  - Lots of work left on pieces of each program, but the overall design is good and moving to the next stage. We can all be relieved that it will be fully funded. Design process has been good. Bassetti has responded well to issues brought up at meetings. The biggest thing will be zeroing in on the designs for each one of the spaces. We need to be aggressive with the CTE programs and spaces, sell the story, of moving into the next generation.
    - RK – whose input is being solicited for CTE programs that don't currently exist? No more architecture program, so who is shaping those spaces?
    - DS – Wish we had a good answer. We need to sit down with Curtis and find out the best forum for interfacing with our group and the

advisory groups for each program, etc. We need to know how we can interact with staff and help.

- KC – we need to keep the communication strong because DAG will only have 3 to 4 meetings over the next year, according to Project Team leaders. So the DAG voice may not be as loud now as it was in the pre-design phase. We need to bridge communication across groups. There was discussion about preparing Marshall campus for the Benson Tech move and how to meet the needs of the CTES and academic programs. ~~The Here were issues around~~ historic Landmarks Commission raised concerns about design features. – Some commission decisions ~~advice~~ may cause delays in the future so we need to keep our eyes on the process. ~~Northside of campus – C wing area – and Southside.~~ The commission seemed to focus on exterior issues, such as transitions between old and new elements, and large-scale remodeling of Northside of campus – C wing area – and Southside.
- DB – they are planning on building some temporary spaces for CTE – automotive, etc.
- KC – Each school modernization project has a steering committee assigned with district PPS and school staff.
- DB – they will be meeting monthly until the move.
- DS – if we could help the program advisory groups think through what they need to get for the move, this is the time to find people to donate money or equipment.
- RK – construction teacher says they received containers to help them start getting ready to move.
- KC – he and RJRE attended Grant opening last weekend. We need to keep aware of value engineering and budget reconciliation, etc. Saw things that seemed cheap and might not have great durability (e.g., furnishings). As a group we can help support our visionsome of this through, helping develop partnerships development and fundraising so we get the school we want and that our students deserve. ~~The district has responded well to issues at~~ Franklin and Grant communities have responded well to modernization project value engineering and budget reconciliation through affinity group activitiesat other places.
- DS – Encouraging to hear that from the tests they did on the school, it was built well. The windows were exceptionally well done. 100 year old windows had out performed windows that were only 10 years old.
- Today is Simon Benson’s birthday, 1851.
- Tech Show date next year, centennial celebration. What can we do that’s different and special in the room? RK, ML, KC, and DH will kick around some ideas this month.
- Benson Tech Pep Band – DB
  - Reached out to Wayne DeVore about having the Tech Pep Band perform at Tech Show. JP and MB will communicate with him about their participation.

- Annual meeting is coming in November, when we elect new board members. Five positions are coming vacant: RE, JM, RK, and BT
  - JP will put out announcements.
  - Need 10 paid members to conduct the meeting.
  - Discussion about providing refreshments and agenda that includes a little update on the remodel and tech show volunteer ops.
  - MB moved that we provide refreshments (\$100) for the Annual meeting. RK seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Between Nov and Jan, Board meets to elect officers. Discussion about when to have that. Think we should have election of officers in December meeting, do voting first.
- Bylaws/Budget – DB
  - Budget – Would be good to have an annual report that has some granularity to it – money for newsletters, mailing, membership, etc.
  - Discussion about difficulties in manually tracking individual income pieces coming in. Spending money is easier. But everyone agreed that more detail was needed.
  - Old Board should have draft budget to hand to the New Board in December. New board should approve the budget for 2020 at first meeting in January.
  - BT will make a basic spreadsheet with the information that we have.
  - Also an annual report at Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – summary of income and outgoing expenses.
- Alumni Storage Trailer – KB
  - We have lots of stuff now – stuff JP stores, tents, etc. Suddenly nobody knows where things are, so you have to do without or buy new stuff. Can have logos on the sides, etc. 6ft wide, 14 ft long is the dimensions of the trailer his boat club has. Approximately \$3600. Not licensed in Oregon, covered under car insurance when towing. Where would we store it? Who would tow it? Would we need insurance?
  - All agreed that it's a good idea, but we need to find a place to put it. KB says if his club gets a bigger one it's possible they could sell us theirs.
  - RE – alternative is a storage space, though that wouldn't solve transportation issues.
  - Ideally we have a space to store historical things during the remodel.
  - All agreed it was a good idea we should continue to think about.
- Finding alumni – CE
  - Average class size was about 300. In the book there's contact info for about 1100 people. JP estimates there's about that in our mailing list. We could perhaps provide a service of finding your classmates.
  - Idea: Free service to members, \$20 for non-members, we'll help you find your classmates.
  - Let's take this up again at the next meeting to discuss particulars.
- Urgent financial requests or other needs or issues – KC
  - Need better communication so that the community becomes aware of issues: Teacher Training money, cancellation of football program,

cancellation of Architecture major. We need accurate information – partly the domain of site council? When things happen in the summer, how do we communicate? Identify future problems and strategies to deal with contingencies. Fundraising, testifying before the board, etc. Can we set a priority list of urgent needs, go to TPV and Boosters etc. and try and work together?

- RK - PPS members that attended the picnic signed in – we won't add to DB but will send Thank You cards.
- RK will email JP to send out email re Annual Meeting and time capsule deadline to add items.
- Next meetings:
  - October 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30 PM Benson Tech Library
  - November 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30PM Benson Tech Library (Annual Meeting)
  - December 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30PM Benson Tech Library (elect new officers)
  - January 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30PM Benson Tech Library

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker  
Secretary  
BPHS Alumni Association