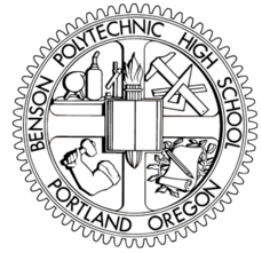


**Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association
Annual Meeting – Official Minutes - Draft**



Date: Nov 18, 2019
Starting Time: 5:35 pm
Ending Time: 6:50 pm
Benson Polytechnic Library classroom

ATTENDEES:

Roger Edwards (RE), Bob Trimble (BT), Rob Johns (RJ), Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Max Baker (MB), Dave Hutchins (DH), Mike Landstrom (ML), Gerry Ochs (GO), Josh Piper (JP), Dale Bajema (DB), Jerome Martin III (JM)

Missing: Brent Dahl (BD)

Guests: Kevin Clark (KC) 1984 alum; Paul Rossi, class of 1977 alum, Neal Galash (NG), Ken Bakke (KB), Paul Anthony, Mark Kline (PPS construction), Jim Pfau (class of 67), Amber Johnson, Elizabeth O'Malley, Ronald Sines, Scott Young, Bob Walker, Andy Payne, Dianna Montzka (Bassetti architect)

NEW BUISNESS

- KC spoke about modernization:
 - Needs to leave to attend a modernization meeting
 - 2nd DAG held for new multiple pathways building
 - Hope to have design ready by February
- DB: Welcome
 - Please sign in
 - Please have food
 - Introductions all around the room
- KC was excused
- Dianna Montzka, architect from Bassetti and Mark Kline, PPS Construction Manager presented the plan for remodel and move schedule.
 - There is a lot of activity going on now, with walking through current spaces with CTE teachers, what equipment they have now, what will go to Marshall, what will go in storage, what they need brand new. Also, Marshall inspections for power, etc. that might need to be changed for Benson use.
 - Notable design changes recently, based on cost. Building B – media center, health occ etc. It was originally going to be renovated, now it will be demolished and built new. Cost savings of \$750,000 to 1 million, will also be quicker development. The seismic wall between buildings would have been quite difficult leaving the structure up.

- C-wing façade and auditorium façade will stay, because they are historical. Other feedback from the Portland Landmark's Commission is affecting some of the materials.
- CTE district group says the new program will be audio engineering, will be under the auditorium. Under the library will be the band room and multi-purpose room, etc. Cafeteria is no longer below ground, it will be in the center of the building, central gathering space. Three courtyards.
- Co-location of CTE and academics is a key idea.
- Discussion about concerns with landscaping in the area where trucks may be coming in to load/unload equipment – can't put trees that will grow big there. Discussion about concerns re parking – currently around 200 reduced to about 160 (numbers not exact). BT mentioned issues with a Vancouver school where they promised the neighborhood they would not have kids parking everywhere. PA mentioned might want to discuss permit parking for staff.
- JM and PA were excused.
- Images of what he outside might look like were presented. Front lawn will be gradually sloped, maintenance will be able to mow lawn etc.
- Images of the interior materials was shown.
- They are working on acoustic blocking to make sure noise from CTE won't carry into academic classrooms. There will also be room for display cases in the front and throughout the building.
- There will be solar panels on the roof of the north and south wings. One end will be accessible for student learning.
- 20-30 people worked through the summer. They've been looking at paint stripping, concrete core drilling, testing rebar for strength. The restored a wood and a metal window and it went really well.
- Discussion about getting the organ that was originally at Benson Tech that was moved to Cleveland would be moved back. It will take a champion and some knowledgeable people to move it back.
- Election of board members:
 - Summary of bylaws on elections of members and officers.
 - Read the 3 year positions that are open:
 - RK nominated BT, and Paul Rossi.
 - RJ nominated RK.
 - RK nominated Andy Payne.
 - Nominations were accepted unanimously.
 - 2 year position:
 - RE nominated, and accepted unanimously.
- The board can later appoint JM and Bob Walker, who have indicated interest.
- Remarks: DB
 - When we started, there was a PTA, but soon had less than 4 members and disbanded. The Booster club had previously disbanded after an embezzlement scandal.
 - It's very nice to have the Tech Pride Volunteers and new Boosters represented here at this meeting and the Site Council as well. The Site

Council has a broad charter and has helped the Principal develop and revise the 5 year plan – helping shape where we want Benson Tech to go.

- Thank you to everyone for participating in these organizations.
- Thanks to the officers for their efforts, including Kevin Clark who has attended so many meetings and reported back to the board, has been involved in the DAG and other activities.
- Questions:
 - We meet monthly, 2 hours. Bylaws and other documents are up on our website. Depending on interests and activities, we will form ad-hoc committees.
- [Annual Report attached.]

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association

2019 Annual Report
Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association

In a nutshell, the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association (BPHSAA) is “doing well” as it continued in 2019 to pursue its two basic missions: Promote and support Benson, and Offer social activities for Benson’s alumni, friends and supporters.

Toward those ends, BPHSAA’s signature annual events (1) an August Benson Community Picnic, (2) an Alumni “welcome area” in Benson’s old gym during *Tech Show*, and (3) a ‘welcome back’ event in September for Benson’s dedicated and hard working teachers and staff were held ‘without a glitch’. BPHSAA’s connections with Benson’s alumni and others were maintained and strengthened via its webpage and social media sites. While these efforts have become ‘almost routine’ they were evaluated during the year and ‘tweaked’.

In addition to the important foregoing activities, the Association and its Board of Directors devoted considerable time and effort to the following:

- * A Preface was added to its By-Laws to make explicit the long existing Association policies and practices of inclusivity and non-discriminatory are reflective of the diversity of Benson Polytechnic’s alumni and current enrollment.
- * A mini-Benson Alumni gathering was held during the Rose Festival-related Milk Carton Boat Races held in Westmoreland Park. “Marked” by one of Benson-colored canopies, it attracted a number of Benson Alumni as well as public attention to Benson. (There are plans to make this an annual event.)
- * A number of Benson Alumni including Association Directors were active participants in Portland Public Schools Design Advisory Group – as well as to “lobby” throughout 2019-- to have the funds available and to keep the plans on track to begin modernizing Benson beginning in 2020.
- * Two new parent-based support groups for Benson were welcomed into existence: a Boosters Group and Tech Pride Volunteers. The Association has had members participating with both to get them off to a good start.
- * A concerted effort this year was made to increase membership leading to one of the largest since its creation. More members equal greater involvement in Benson and Alumni activities and more money to support BPHSAA missions. Association Directors are attempting to briefly attend all class-specific reunions to inform more alumni of the Association’s activities.
- * The Association has begun preparing for the “roller coaster ride” ahead as Benson packs up in 2020 to move to the Marshall High School building to function as a technical “magnet school” for 3 years. The ride will continue as Benson packs up again in 2024, and settle into a *modernized building* with an enlarged enrollment.

Financially, the Association carried \$1923.05 into 2019, received about \$3200, incurred \$2800 in expenses, and has maintained a healthy balance in its accounts throughout the year. A complete 2019 financial report will be available at the Association’s January 2020 Board of Directors meeting.

Finally, none of the foregoing --- the Association's webpage, meeting minutes, event preparation, etc. -- could have been possible without the continuing efforts, month by month, through the year, by all of the Association's Directors and a few dedicated members.

Dale Bajema, Chairperson, BPHSAA,
November 18th, 2019