

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



Date: April 8, 2019
Starting Time: 5:33 pm
Ending Time: 7:32 pm
Benson Tech library

ATTENDEES:

Gerry Ochs (GO), Roger Edwards (RE), Max Baker (MB), Josh Piper (JP), Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Dale Bajema (DB), Jerome Martin III (JM), Mike Landstrom (ML)

Guests: Kevin Clark (KC) 1984; Ken Bakke (KB), Bob Walker, 1977

Not present: Brent Dahl (BD), Rob Johns (RJ), Dave Hutchins (DH), Bob Trimble (BT),

NEW BUSINESS

- Opening remarks: DB
 - Celebrating women's basketball victory
 - Invitational track meet – new state record: Micah Williams
 - Friday is national day of silence for LGBT youth. There will be a panel with student discussion after school.
 - There's a few issues we should think about taking a position on:
 - A year or so ago, Lincoln students walked out for the bond measure. They went to Benson and asked students to come out. Curtis called the district, they said he would be responsible for anything that happened to the students. The Lincoln principal has the strong support of the Lincoln community and can do things differently.
 - A week or so ago, students wanted to walk out to protest the cuts to CTE programs. This brings up the question of the district not having these types of student rights well defined.
 - In the 50s, Benson Tech student body was mostly white male, but there were Japanese students that had been raised in internment camps, there were Chinese. Black students were few but more arriving from other states. The general feeling was that all were welcome, but student rights were few.
 - DB remembers the black student who was one of the top students, Sam, that tried out to become a Rose Festival driver. After inquiries, they found out the English teacher had kept him from participating. DB talked about his first woman supervisor, and how he worked at the Bureau of Indian Affairs and was a minority – how that gave him a different perspective.
 - When DB came back to work with the school, 75% non-white, students doing well, from all over the city.

- We need to figure out where we stand as an organization on diversity.
- Minutes:
 - MB sent the minutes out directly after the meeting in March
 - ML moved, RK seconded to accept the minutes with the corrections sent.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - 3768.51, after everything.
 - Send anything that needs to be reimbursed to BT.
 - Tech Show: \$1550 incoming. We will reimburse the sticker man \$200.
 - We sold 20 stickers at Tech show.
- Canopy Tent:
 - Last year GoFundMe account took in about \$500. March 18, June 18, Sept 21st were the 3 deposits made. That was used to buy one tent – the rest of the cost for the one tent came from our general account.
 - After reviewing the notes, it appears that the GoFundMe was created for the original tent purchase. It's a reminder that we need to make sure we track what we say we are going to do with any monies that are donated/collected/solicited.
- Membership:
 - 105 paid members – 3 since tech show. We got around 60 paid members at tech show – it was a great year. Around 50% were new members.
- Tech Show post mortem:
 - Part of the success was having our Benson Tech tent there for membership.
 - This year's layout worked well – the further back you are, the less likely people are to go there. We'll make sure there's no way around the L shape table.
 - Next year, RK will be out of town for a month before Tech Show, so we'll need a different coordinator.
 - KB: need more people to talk to people coming in.
 - MB: We need that volunteer coordinator.
 - RK: I've kept all the membership forms where people checked boxes saying they were interested in participating. Jacob Dean, class of 06 is interested – helped get coverage for the women's basketball win.
 - Discussion about signage in the middle of the hall to direct people to the old gym. We could come up with ideas and talk to Brett Anderson.
 - Bob said he hadn't gotten notice about when Tech Show was. Let's send out a month and two weeks in advance.
 - It was really helpful to have the talking points of things we helped maintain.
 - Is there a volunteer list? There's a checklist on the membership form. 8 people checked boxes.
 - BT is inputting all the sign in sheets in digital form, then will get to RK to enter in the DB.
 - Every other year, renewal emails have been sent at the beginning of the year.

- Time capsule: interesting suggestions: mini frying pans (used to make in the foundry), centennial timeline, pics of championship teams, a pic from every shop/program currently here.
- JM left the meeting.
- Class reunions: RK:
 - Class of 1999 is silent, but she knows people in that class and is just going to show up with info. June, same weekend as milk carton races.
- Other items:
 - Side panels for the tents
 - 8x2 at Ellmers \$100 or 4 for \$352
 - Vistaprint 2 ½ x 8 ½: \$392, no artwork fee.
 - Discussion: we did well with tech funds, so we think the reason for tabling is moot. 2 Benson Tech, 2 Alumni.
 - We do want these in time for June milk carton races.
 - RK made a motion to spend the \$352 on the four side panels (2 Benson Tech, 2 Alumni) out of the general fund. ML seconded. Motion passed.
 - Milk Carton race is Sunday June 23rd, 10AM to 3PM. Races begin at 11AM. Tent setup – we will have time to talk about refreshments, handouts. RK will reach out to the Sellwood Bee. We think we don't need to ask anyone to set up a tent – we'll see how it goes.
- Benson Modernization – KC:
 - DAG meeting at the end of this month, April 25th.
 - Tomorrow tour at PSU to appraise different architectural philosophies in terms of melding old with new.
 - Toured Salem's CDTECH.
 - PPS BOEboard approved the most recent BOE Resolution for the BPHS project design submitted by ~~the~~ district administration and staff. This is an ongoing process. Nothing's really changed since Tech Show.
 - Programming issues have not been fully discussed.
 - Has the board determined that students will move offsite? A-ll students are currently expected to be relocated during construction, including MPG programs housed at BPHS. After modernization, fFour MPG programs will be housed in B wing, prioritized because of high utilization. Alliance will be relocated to a new planned facility to be built on SE parking lot. Meek Alliance campus might move to the same new facility here, unclear. Discussions about additional costs incurred for that move and other logistics continue and the -dDistrict has not made a firm commitment. Right now, it seems the BOEboard is committed to that new facility, which, at last estimate, will increase the overall project budget to around \$ 3354 million. There are a number of board directors who are not seeking re-election – it is unclear how new directors will view the plan.
- BPHSAA position on diversity and inclusion:
 - We think we need some kind of statement about what we believe about diversity and inclusion.

- DB passed out PPS non-discrimination anti-harassment policy, and a draft clause for our bylaws.
- Discussion ensued about reforms to the verbiage of the draft.
- (attached at the bottom)
- Let's think about how we as an organization what we do to ensure we enforce it.
- New student picnic put on by Benson Tech:
 - Usually last weekend in May? We might have contributed money in the past. Let's postpone discussion until next meeting.
- August 10th Picnic:
 - Should we invite TPV to have a booth? Provide alternative food or something? KC says they are interested in having a table – contact all three coordinators to see what they want to do.
 - Free food tickets for incoming freshman? Yes. 2 tickets each.
 - JP moved that we offer the families of incoming freshman 2 free meal tickets at the picnic (student/parent or guardian). RK seconded. Motion passed.
 - KC and DB will work on tour guides.
 - Note there will be a PPS faculty walkout sometime soon to protest all the cuts.
- Student rights policy:
 - KC – there ~~are~~ a district administrative directives policy and BOE policies statement about student demonstrations. There's been a lot of confusion about how adults can assist students – including teachers and administrators. It's been the practice policy to use hypothetical situations and other methods to guide student behavior, but this doesn't seem to be very effective. There are discussions about possible options to improve circumstances involving student activism: contacting student led non-profits, having students work through student leadership, etc. These matters are further complicated, as there appears to be no bill of rights for students in PPS.
 - After discussions with BPHSAA and TPV leaders, So we're we, as a community, may take our concerns to the board looking to see what the board feels about this. Some have suggested that we even work with ODE. We need clear district policies and practices that are instructive and supportive of student rights to enable safe structured student expression. have to decide where we stand in order to decide how we publicize or comment on student walk outs, etc. We should be changing flawed directives and policies, not teaching students to work around them. Such efforts should concentrate on student rights, adult support (e.g., parent and district employee support), conflicts of interest, and legal liabilities.
 - MB: I think we should have a policy of what we as a board will do to officially support any student actions – a student group may come and ask, so it would be better to be proactive and have something in place.
 - ML: would suggest legal counsel if we are going to support the students.

- KC – it has been suggested that we approach the Board of Education to create mechanisms of~~get~~ indemnity for community groups that want to support the students.
- KC – Indemnity is important. Despite planning, there are/can be unexpected legal issues sometimes with students trying to ~~demonstrations~~ peaceably demonstration in public or on private property. For example, students might be—told to stand on public sidewalks, but some students might create physical obstructions on sidewalks or might ~~be~~ standing on PPS property... these kinds of mistakes could have consequences for students and district employees and others trying to help students.
- Newsletter:
 - DB: We got a newsletter out for tech show. Will ask BD for one for beginning of June, then also one for Aug 10th picnic.
 - RK: Can we mail the tech show newsletter to all members that didn't renew at tech show?
 - JP: larger issue – how many mailings are we going to do? We need to budget for that.
 - RK: Could we fold the May letter in with picnic one – summer mailing?
- GO and ML were excused from the meeting.
- Modernization meeting:
 - PPS and Architect want to meet with alumni, discuss the plan, and get feedback. Alumni played a major role in the Franklin remodel. They will come on May 13th. Please invite other alumni to attend. We might want to have refreshments. Let's ask them to present at 7PM.
 - DB will ask if the office of modernization will host the meeting, then they can get the room and provide refreshments. If not:
 - DB will email for a vote on providing food and see about getting the band room.
 - MB offered to bring food: cookies and veggie trays. Will ask Neal about the coffee.
- Post meeting discussion about the time capsule.
- Next meetings:
 - May 13th at Benson Tech library at 5:30PM.
 - Milk Carton races: June 23rd.
 - Picnic will be August 10th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
 Secretary
 BPHS Alumni Association

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Portland Public Schools BOE Non-Discrimination Anti-Harassment Policy
(4/2018)

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society.

The district prohibits discrimination and harassment on any basis protected by law, including but not limited to, an individual's perceived or actual race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, national or ethnic origin, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, pregnancy, familial status, economic status, veteran's status, or because of the perceived or actual race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, pregnancy, familial status, economic status, or veterans' status of any other persons with whom the individual associates.

The district prohibits discrimination and harassment in, but not limited to, employment, assignment and promotion of personnel; educational opportunities and services offered students; student assignment to schools and classes; student discipline; location and use of facilities; educational offerings and materials; and in accommodating the public at public meetings.

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First draft:

BPHSAA Non-Discrimination Clause (V1.0, 4/5/2019)

Consistent with the general values of Portland Public Schools and the historical and current diversity of Benson Polytechnic High School, the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association is committed to the diversity and worth of all individuals and their roles, membership, and participation in the Association's meetings, activities, and sponsored events.

The Association prohibits discrimination (including, but not limited to, speech and actions during those meetings, activities, and sponsored events) on the basis of race, national, cultural and/or ethnic origin, physical appearance, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender

expression and/or identification, employment, economic status, political identification, health and/or wellness status, or perceived disability.

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Suggested by board, second draft:

BPHSAA Non-Discrimination Clause (V2.0, 4/8/2019)

Consistent with the general values of Portland Public Schools and the historical and current diversity of Benson Polytechnic High School, the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association is committed to the inclusion and worth of all individuals in their roles, membership, and participation in the Association's meetings, activities, and sponsored events.

The Association prohibits speech, actions, and other forms of expression during Association engagements that discriminate or harass on the basis of perceived or actual race; national, cultural, and/or ethnic origin; physical appearance, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender expression and/or identification, employment, economic status, military service, political identification; health, wellness, and/or disability; pregnancy, and parental, marital, and/or familial status.