

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



Date: Dec 11, 2018
Starting Time: 5:45 pm
Ending Time: 6:26 pm
Benson Tech library

ATTENDEES:

Gerry Oaks (GO), Mike Landstrom (ML), Roger Edwards (RE), Max Baker (MB), Bob Trimble (BT), Josh Piper (JP), Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Brent Dahl (BD)

Guests: Kevin Clark; Bob Walker, class of 1977

Not present: Don Wear (DW), Rob Johns (RJ), Rob Johns (RJ), Dale Bajema (DB)

NEW BUSINESS

- Introductions – guest Bob Walker
- Minutes - MB
 - RK moved we accept the minutes as corrected. BD seconded. Motion passed.
- Membership – JP:
 - 93 paid members.
- General Discussion – RK:
 - Reporting for DB:
 - 508 applications have been received for next fall.
 - We believe the new student cap is about 300.
 - DB met with superintendent this afternoon since he missed the site council meeting. He seems invested in the high school. Superintendent mentioned bringing back arts, band, and drama to meet the comprehensive high school standards, and comprehensive athletic upgrades.
 - KC: He endorsed a more comprehensive more expensive remodel. We're not sure the board is going to support it.
 - DB says the super is being very deliberate, and supports rebuilding the school for 1700 students and eventually transferring the other programs out of the school.
 - RK:
 - While we seem to have more support, we need good support next week. 12/18 6PM, wear orange and blue and get there early.
 - RJ forwarded to the board two awesome letters sent via email that went to the board, from people of influence in Portland. If you haven't seen them, read them over.
 - Supporting Benson is a position with bi-partisan support. We are pushing this with the board. The more people that can write to the board by the 18th, the better.

- JP sent an email out to the alumni last Monday morning.
- RK: Not a lot of news about the Benson Tech vote next week yet.
- ML arrived.
 - RE will contact Tammy Hite about having some students and class of 69/2019 to open the 1969 time capsule in the alumni room at Tech Show.
- Site Council – KC:
 - Nov meeting, group discussion about the modernization process and whether the PPS board will approve the plan and if they do what modifications will they make in the future. Curtis suggested that he invite board members to the meeting and try and address some of these issues – an approach that was used when athletics had been threatened before. Mike Rosen, Julia Brim-Edwards, Paul Anthony, Julie Esparza Brown, Amy Kohnstamm attended the meeting. We had questions that had been submitted to Curtis and he chose the questions to ask.
 - It ended up being a lot of rehashing of what they have said before.
 - Many of us have come to believe the resolution will pass. Then we need to concentrate on programming, multiple paths to graduation, any conditions that would apply, etc.
 - We’ve heard from Alliance and others that if they too readily agree to leave Benson, they don’t know where they will be located. Many are working on a plan to identify facilities where programs can be unified. There are many ideas and many issues unresolved but discussion seems to be moving in the right direction. We need to be patient.
 - They are talking about possibly redistricting to solve for Franklin H.S. overcrowding.
 - We are still fighting the perception of other high schools that Benson Tech pulling students from neighborhood schools is hurting their enrollment – though there is no data to support this.
 - The superintendent is very interest in supporting equity. Board members seem to respect his opinions, even if they don’t vote his way. He is student-centered. He has national notoriety. His endorsement of the 4 year comprehensive high school plan means a great deal.
- Next meetings:
 - January 14th, Feb 11th, March 11th. 5:30 – 7:30PM Benson Tech library.
 - Tech Show will be March 14th and 15th.
 - Next year’s picnic should be August 10th.

Parking Lot:

- nBrain – KC – will talk about this in November.
- Other event ideas – RK:
 - People agreed the golf/cruise-in event wasn’t as well attended this year. We will look for alternatives.
 - 6/23: Milk carton boat races with our tents next year. The board agreed this is a good idea. Engineering, families, free!
 - Labor Day picnic at Oaks Park. Trade Unions are there.
 - Perhaps some rose festival activities would be appropriate as well.

- Central East Side golf:
 - RJ and BD went – they chatted up people as they came through. About every other person was an alum.
- Hood to Coast – health occ kids? Hand out water, might have Benson stuff, etc.
- Take the tents to certain games?

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association