

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



Date: Oct 14, 2024
Starting Time: 5:37 pm
Ending Time: 7:33 pm
Hybrid meeting

ATTENDEES:

At Benson: Rob Johns (RJ); Josh Piper (JP); Roger Edwards (RE); Thomas Smith (TS); Rachael Kuryunny (RK); Jeff Strachan (JS); Anthony Reimer (AR)

Guests: Dan Malone (DM), PPS; Kevin Clark (KC); Dick Spies (DS) former board member, alum; Jane Wong, class of 2000; Coach Kendall Lewis – Football; Assistant Football Coach Darien Dyles; Ken Bakke (KB), former board member, alum

Online: Mike Landstrom (ML); Gerry Ochs (GO); Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB); Bob Trimble (BT)

ABSENT: Dave Hutchins (DH) , Bobbie (Rob) Walker (BW); Dale Bajema (DB)

BUSINESS

- Guest introductions:
 - DM:
 - Cabinetry in the Alumni room
 - 3rd national conference will walk through – 50 people in the morning, 50 in the afternoon. There was a group of national administrators last week. Assembly honoring the first women, and also Athletic Hall of Fame is also this week.
 - Wood in the gym! It's curing for a few weeks.
 - Down in the lockerroom the sheetrock needs to be replaced and the electronics need to be checked, tiles replaced.
 - Temp weight room is finished today.
 - They may take the Freshment ice skating.
 - Teachers feeling a little more at home, and the other groups that have toured were impressed.
 - Auditorium is ready!
 - Concession stand works.
 - 8th grade info night: November. Transfer portal opens mid Nov through mid Dec. No discussion about raising the cap. We do have room for more students. Superintendant has said that she's not supportive of caps. Cleveland and

Franklin are over capacity. Dan said we could easily pick up to 550, 600. The board would have to recind the cap.

- KB arrived.
- Board membership – RJ
 - JP provided this information about board positions:
 - Positions 6-10 will become open at the annual meeting
 - Position 14 is also open (shortened duration - ends Q4 2025)
 - As the bylaws currently stand, none of the directors in positions 6-10 are eligible for renewal due to term limits.
 - RK proposed the following two amendments to the BPHSAA Bylaws separately:
 - **Article IV, Section 4**
 - *Current text:*
 - Terms. Board members will be elected to 3 year terms. Board members are limited to two consecutive 3 year terms but there is no limit on nonconsecutive terms a member may serve.
 - *Proposed text:*
 - Terms. Board members will be elected to 3 year terms. There is no limit on consecutive terms a member may serve.
 - **Article IV, Section 7**
 - *Current text:*
 - Officers and Duties. There shall be four officers of the Board consisting of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These four offices, when vacant, will be filled by election conducted by the newly elected Board at a meeting of the new Board to be held after the annual meeting and before January 1 of the following year. A quorum of 10 Board members will be required at this meeting. Officers will be elected to 2 year terms which will begin on January 1 following their election. Officers will be limited to 2 consecutive terms with no limit on non-consecutive terms. Their duties are as follows:
 - *Proposed text:*
 - Officers and Duties. There shall be four officers of the Board consisting of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These four offices, when vacant, will be filled by election conducted by the newly elected Board at a meeting of the new Board to be held after the annual meeting and before January 1 of the following year. A quorum of 10 Board members will be required at this meeting. Officers will be elected to 2 year terms which will begin on January 1 following

their election. There is no limit on consecutive terms an officer may serve. Their duties are as follows:

- RK moved that we accept the proposed text for Article IV, Section 4. JP seconded. The votes were counted – 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
- JS moved that we accept the proposed text for Article IV, Section 7. RK seconded. The votes were counted – 11 Yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
- Member report – JP:
 - 117 members
 - The re-opening ceremony was great – alumni table was very busy.
- Financial Report – BT:
 - Grand Re-opening surge of income.
 - \$5797.83 in the Credit Union
 - Over \$1000 transferred from Paypal to the Credit Union. Majority was vemo payments.
 - Almost \$7000, there are a few outstanding receipts, needed by end of month.
 - Discussion of how to hype the poster sales – annual re-opening, newsletter, and including info about it with Benson Swag reminders.
- Merchandise-JP:
 - We are leaving merch up to what the Benson store/kids can do. They aren't as interested in doing online sales, so we can push that. The boosters are also in there... so it's possible Josh will act as middle person to purchase from the store and ship to alums, cost is pass-through plus shipping.
- Guests –
 - Football coach Kendall Lewis – Football
 - Assistant Football Coach Darien Dyles
 - Fundraiser went live today: cookie dough! But can just donate as well. They've raised \$1170 so far. Company helping them gets 15% right now. If you can help send out the information out, that would be great. QR code is there.
 - They want a varsity team, they ended up with 37 kids in the Freshman team this year (later 4 dropped, one of which became team manager), which the district didn't believe they could do. Right now they are concentrating on a JV team now.
- September minutes approval
 - Sep minutes were sent.
 - JS moved to approve the minutes, RJ seconded. Motion passed.
- Newsletter -RE:
 - Articles have been assigned, due date mid December.
 - RK:
 - Need to capture how the Re-Opening went
 - I think we need to keep pushing the documentary, in the next few newsletters.

- Need to push the posters
 - Collaboration with New Balance and the Benson Tech specific shoe. <https://sneakernews.com/2024/09/24/amine-new-balance-740v2-benson-tech-release-date/>
 - Discussion about the world wide audience for this shoe, which drops on Nov 1st.
 - Could send him the newsletter and a commemorative poster, too, in appreciation.
- Site Council – KC
 - First meeting – excited to have student, parents, and faculty participation.
 - Some goals from last year have not been fulfilled for expanding or developing old classes and implementing new classes. Hoping to continue the discussion this year.
 - Working on a new vision statement. The mission and vision statements are posted on the Benson Tech website.
 - Quality of questions and thoughtful comments were impressive in this first meeting. An idea for establishing a minor at Benson Tech was started by KC and supported by students. Substantial district and school efforts to create CTE academy pathways have been abandoned past the first two years of education and may soon end entirely, because the district wants all schools to be on the same bell schedule. This isn't necessarily a bad thing – Benson Tech will go back to the old major system that it historically used and developed from industry and higher education programs. Minors might help complement majors and integrate additional coursework useful for postsecondary education and employment.
 - The council will invite faculty to attend and present at meetings. The arts instructor presented at the first meeting. It was valuable for others that haven't had a long term association with the school. The arts curriculum is and elective and not yet comprehensive. Discussion about how we could work current electives into a design program needs to continue.
 - The issue of program expansion and launch remains for other curriculum too, such as transportation major or a performing arts program, and it may be years down the road before these goals are realized. We need to encourage partnerships to succeed. PPS Partner Connect was a valuable resource that Benson Tech and other schools used to enhance both academic and technical classes. But budget cuts and district personnel attrition may have ended that platform. We need to refocus our discussion as an alumni association to how we can help develop school partnerships through our own professional knowledge and connections.
 - We could have used more time because there was so much good participation. Alumni should be reminded to attend Council

- meetings to discuss curricular and extracurricular development, such as launching a design program or Varsity football team.
- Principal Wilson had a hard stop for the meeting at 6PM. Starting time is 4PM to try and increase participation. Not sure if the next meeting is this Thursday or the 30th.
 - Honoring Key BPHS Modernization contributors-
 - RJ identified several. KC also knows some. Some candidates are listed below. RJ and KC will communicate over email and decide what to do, and personally meet with them.
 - Jen Sohm (Project Manager, PPS)
 - Joe Echeverri (Principal, Bassetti Architects)
 - Dan Malone (VP of Modernization, PPS)
 - Mark Kline (Construction Manager, PPS)
 - Jamie Hurd (Project Manager, PPS)
 - Dan Jung, formerly of PPS Office of School Modernization (COO, PPS)
 - Discussion about how Dan really helped get the remodel done in several ways, over several years.
 - KC mentioned that this remodel is the biggest thing that's happened since the school opened and that recognizing those involved has historical and practical significance.
 - KC attended almost every regular and special PPS BOE meeting from 2016 to 2020 and thinks former PPS Superintendent Guerrero should be considered for recognition as well. He was a strong public advocate for BPHS. It could be a controversial decision because of issues involving the Portland Teachers Association strike and criticism from some PPS stakeholder communities. RJ reminded everyone that Guerrero supported Benson Tech when many did not.
 - Alumni Room – JP
 - We can go into the room now and start working with it, cases are almost done. DM working on bringing things into the room, RE is working on getting tech peps set up, Anthony working on the screens.
 - January is a target for starting to use the room.
 - Boosters – JS:
 - Concessions - small space is better than no space.
 - Volleyball team has made \$1750 so far. Pray that the new gym opens. It's a big money maker for basketball.
 - RJ – Is there anything we can do for this? JS – in the future, we talked about a cabinet outside with T-shirts, merch stuff. When we get to the point he'll come to the alumni group for assistance. RJ reminded him that the alumni wants to help.

- Trivory site had a piece that the Boosters are tracking the money donated by class. JP – the contest is over. You can still donate but the class competition is over.
- Digital Scanning:
 - **Note that \$1000 was previously allocated for Tech Pep scanning, Authorization will run out at the end of the year so we'll decide how to move forward.**
 - They are up to the school year of 1931. The unscanned tech peps are now still in storage. DM is working to getting these to the Alumni Room.
 - RE has spent \$2381, reimbursed \$200. He indicated his will to continue to personally fund the scanning of old Tech Peps.
- Original 6 celebration:
 - Two of the original 6 women will be present.
 - Friday morning is the assembly – plaque of dedication. Aim to be there by 10:30 but parking is hard to find.
 - PPS will be there taking photos.
- Board Annual Meeting:
 - November 18th at 5:30PM in the Community Room.
 - RK will talk about what we do up front.
- Merch
 - JP got some quotes for a car sticker. We can get a good qty for about \$200.
 - JP proposed we authorize up to \$200 budget to purchase stickers for resell. JS seconded. Motion passed.

UPCOMING BUSINESS

- Nov 18th- Annual Meeting followed by monthly meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
 Secretary
 BPHS Alumni Association

