

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



Date: Mar 10, 2025
Starting Time: 5:35 pm
Ending Time: 7:10 pm
Hybrid meeting

ATTENDEES:

Board Members: Josh Piper (JP); Roger Edwards (RE); Dale Bajema (DB); Rob Johns (RJ); Kevin Clark (KC); Thomas Smith (TS); Jeff Strachan (JS); Bobbie (Rob) Walker (BW); Gerry Ochs (GO); Bob Trimble (BT)

Online: Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB), Rachael Kuryunny (RK)

Guests: Moto, former BPHS student, transferred 1st quarter to PCC; Heide Goertzen, teacher and Music club advisor: hgoertzen@pps.net.

ABSENT: Anthony Reimer (AR); Mike Landstrom (ML)

BUSINESS

- In person people are in the Alumni room space!
- DM had to leave before the meeting, so update later.
 - 1035 is the target student population for this fall.
 - They filled quota for Sophomore transfers.
 - Cutbacks – Jefferson lost 9, Grant lost 6, Lincoln lost 6. We lost 0 on net basis – they rearranged the schedules of several teachers to fill needs. Principal Wilson seemed very optimistic yesterday.
- Guests –
 - Heidi – bringing music back to the school. Music club hasn't had great attendance but just trying to make space. Many students involved are also in Robotics and other clubs. Monday/Friday hasn't worked well. Working on a presentation for Tech Show in a visible space.
 - KBPS had purchased a baby grand years ago, but its location is unknown.
 - There are 2 pianos on campus. RJ offered a piano from his family; so far it's been refused. They believe the refusal is due to the belief there are enough there. Heidi is talking to the parents and students about what they need.
 - For pianos, there is also the concern about needed tuning/voicing. RJ noted that maybe Vancouver School for the Blind would do

tuning at a discount. [post meeting: this school closed in 2017 due to lack of funding/students]

- Heidi's been teaching full time - history and other subjects. She's also a professional musician. She can teach choir and orchestra but not band.
- Without a certified band teacher on site, access to PPS instruments has been blocked.
- If we can get a retired band teacher to volunteer some time one day a week? Maybe we could get some more momentum.
 - MB said Cynthia Plank who taught Band at Beaumont Middle School is retired or about to retire. MB will connect them via email.
- KC pointed out that it comes down to denial of educational services and equity. We may need to have a conversation with the Directors on the PPS Board of Education, particularly targeting Directors with past or current stakes in BPHS and reminding them about promises for launching a performing arts program at BPHS.RJ: Since a music program was denied by the district for many years, despite the budget cuts we're in a better place now, where the district appears like it's favorable to this idea. We'll keep moving this forward.
- [After the meeting: BT noted he is donating a Korg TM-50 electronic tuner with pickup microphone to Heidi that will tune pianos and instruments.]
- Member Report (JP)
 - Around 80 paid members.
 - By the end of the year, we should be over 100.
- Financial Report (BT)
 - \$3456.01 in savings, \$3656.93 in checking
 - Need to determine budget for Tech Show, depending on what we want to do.
- Prior Meeting Minutes Approval (MB)
 - Since minutes were first sent out after last meeting as 'Jan' instead of 'Feb', some people missed it. MB sent Draft 3 out today. Discussion ended with tabling approval of Feb minutes for next meeting.
- Tech Show
 - Taylor, the director, could come one of the nights and intro her movie.
 - Tom/Chet and Sig are the grandsons of Simon Benson. RJ: Sig has a more formal style of presentation; may not work with the format/time we have, but let's try and get both at the school, maybe a book signing?
 - KC: Amy will be addressing 7th graders in the auditorium, so maybe we screen the documentary and present in the community room? We have 40 minutes in the auditorium, just one of the 2 nights.

- RK: there had been 3 ideas for auditorium, to present and push people to alumni room.
 - Dan: state of the school (in lieu of Principal Wilson)
 - Taylor and the documentary
 - Chet/Sig presentation
- RK: is it possible to use space behind the auditorium? Then it would flow into 3rd floor alumni room. KC agreed. He'll inquire.
- Discussion: have the documentary running low volume in the alumni room (or directly outside), a few chairs, QR code to the upload.
- RJ will reach out to Chet and Sig to promote their books/history of Simon Benson. Probably in the space with the yearbooks near the Alumni Room.
- Tech Show Subcommittee:
 - RK: Anyone attending, please come to April meeting at 4:30 to get details nailed down. She will look over the minutes and send out a note to subcommittee members.
 - RJ: How can we get 'Alumni Room ->' posters around the school – JP: We also need some slides put into the rotation of whatever slide deck is being shown. KC will speak to DM about it.
 - Laughed about someone in a sandwich board...
 - RK: Is there a question about sign-in per decade? Has it been fruitful? Yes, each board member will try and get volunteers to help.
 - RE: standup of Simon Benson at the main entrance pointing them to the Alumni Room
 - Signage at the old gym, where we used to be
 - KC will talk to DM to tell the guides to mention it as well.
 - MB: We need to utilize our volunteer base, too. Let's reach out and get some help manning cake and tables, then board can roam.
 - If everyone can be there both nights, that is appreciated. It's going to be huge! And the more faces we have to represent the alumni association; the more personal connections we can make and get people interested in supporting the school.
- Alumni Newsletter:
 - DB sent the list of articles in a previous email. We need this printed for Tech show, will also be linked in Boosters and sent to parents/students.
 - Tech Show starts this Thursday (Dale)
 - 2025-25 Budget Cuts "Nicks" Tech's Growth (Dale)
 - Benson's Music Club (TBD)
 - [Famous Benson Artist] (Roger)
 - [Benson Alum/Rapper "gives back"] TBD
 - Athletic News (Jessica)
 - Class Reunion Update (Rachael)
 - List of 2024 Scholarship Donors (Rachael)
 - Benson Tech Alumni Room Debuts (Roger???/TBD)

- Tech Pep Goes Into Orbit (Dale)
 - Benson Alumni Business Directory Update (Thomas)
 - Benson's 2025 Rose Festival Princess (Dale and Connie)
 - "Benson Tech Community Event in September" Announcement (Dale)
 - "Benson Tech Year Books Are Online" (Dale)
 - Benson Tech Triva (Roger)
 - Benson Tech Boosters (Kelly)
 - Shout Out to (Dale)
 - In Brief (Dale)
 - *Tech Pep Digitation Update
 - *HOSA news
 - *Robotic Club's Successes
 - *Benson Tech's Drones Lift Off
 - *2024 Scholarship Donations Edge Over Target
 - *Benson Tech's Cell Phone Policy Revision
- Tech Pep -> Benson Orbit:
 - Moto: Right now it's a club. Renamed the Benson Orbit. Bensonorbit.com. Handful of articles so far. Staff of about 20. Next year will be a class, journalism. Advisor: Greg Huntington. It's been a little weird with publishing because of student information being public. District does not have control over content. (see screenshots below)
 - RK: Greg is the one we worked with on the yearbook ad. Great working relationship. Excited about what he's been doing with yearbook.
- Tech Pep and Yearbook archive project:
 - RE:
 - Scanners have Tech Peps for 1941 and 1942. We don't have volumes for 43 and 44. It's possible they didn't publish during WWII.
 - We are over half done with the project.
 - They aren't quick at the scanners. It takes time to organize.
 - Thank you for your passion for the project, RE!
- Boosters – JS
 - \$1800 or so went to the kids. The kids that played, cheerleaders were all given food. We kept the running total of that and it was about \$2000. The kids really appreciated it.
 - A little over \$7000 during the fiscal year.
 - RJ: Thank you and it's so impressive how much time, energy and money you have provided for this.
 - Jamie Holmburg (AKA JT) – helped with merch. They were hot items if we have right sizes.
- Yearbook Ad purchase – RK
 - Raise the idea that we would like an ad again this year. Probably \$200 to \$250 for the ad.

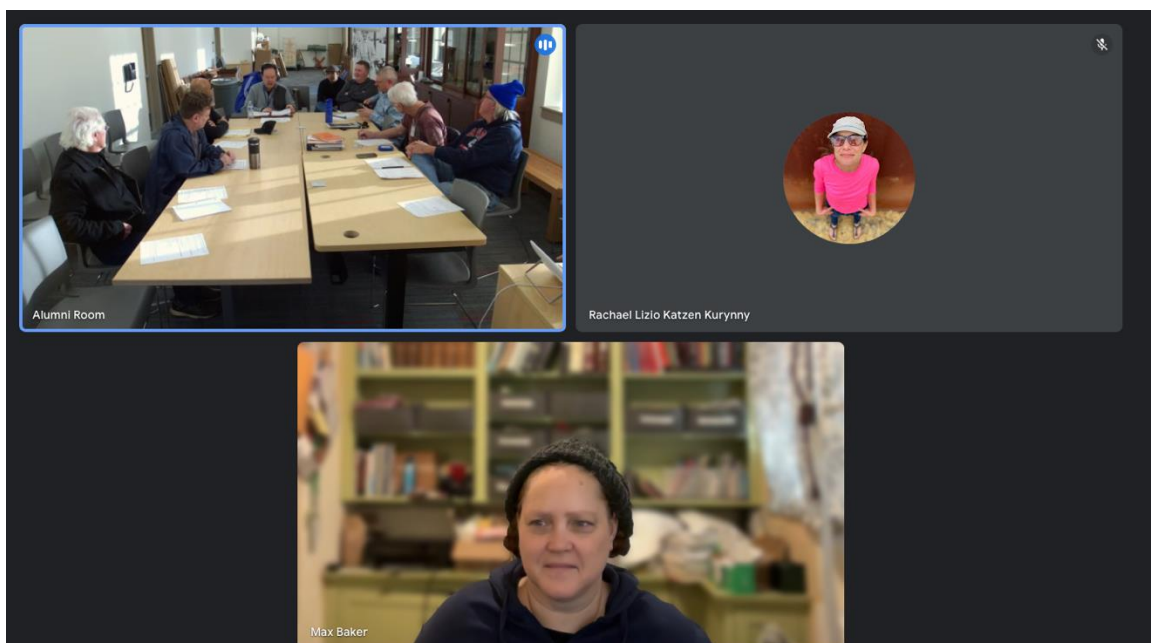
- **RK moved that we allot up to \$250 for purchase of yearbook ad that RK will work with Greg on. GO seconded. Motion was approved.**
- Renaming the Benson Community Picnic to Benson Tech Community Celebration. JS moved that we update the verbiage, DB seconded. Motion passed.
- GO is working on coordinating donations: Family friend Shirley Smith that has done CPR/First Aid training. She is donating 3 adult and 2 baby mannequins, 2AED training devices and other CPR items to Benson Tech in honor of her Father, Knute Lamvik and her Uncle, Kasper Lamvik, both were Benson Grads and became B-17 Bomber Pilots in World War II.
- JP: Thank you to Justin because we have a stand with technology. JP didn't have to bring anything for the hybrid meeting!

UPCOMING BUSINESS

- April 14, 2025 4:30 Tech Show prep. 5:30 PM Board Meeting- Hybrid

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association



BUSINESS SAVINGS			BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
BSAV00			\$3,465.93	\$45.08	-\$55.00	\$3,456.01
			YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
			\$0.17	\$0.00		
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description			Amount	Balance
02/03	02/03	Deposit ACH PointWest CU*Mobile Dep			20.00	3485.93
02/03	02/03	Deposit ACH PointWest CU*Mobile Dep			25.00	3510.93
02/10	02/10	Adjustment 02-03 Check Deposit Returned - Refer to maker			-25.00	3485.93
02/10	02/10	Withdrawal Return Itm Fee Check Returned Item Fee			-30.00	3455.93
02/28	02/28	Dividend Annual Percentage Yield Earned= 0.03% For 28 Days			0.08	3456.01

TOTAL OVERDRAFT AND RETURNED ITEM FEES		
Fee Type	Total For This Period	Total Year-To-Date
Total Overdraft Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Returned Items	\$-30.00	\$-30.00

BUSINESS FLEX CHCK		BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE	
BFLX00		\$3,021.33	\$635.60	-\$0.00	\$3,656.93	
		YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD			
		\$0.00	\$0.00			
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description			Amount	Balance
02/11	02/11	Deposit ACH PAYPAL*TRANSFER			635.60	3656.93

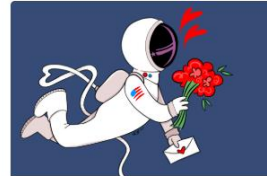
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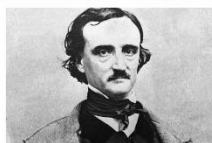
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