

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



Date: Oct 13, 2025
Starting Time: 5:32 pm
Ending Time: 6:45 pm
Hybrid meeting

ATTENDEES:

Board Members: Josh Piper (JP); Roger Edwards (RE); Rachael Kuryanny (RK); Jeff Strachan (JS); Bobbie (Rob) Walker (BW); Thomas Smith (TS); Kevin Clark (KC)

Online: Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB); Bob Trimble (BT)

Guests: none

ABSENT: Dale Bajema (DB), Anthony Reimer (AR); Gerry Ochs (GO); Rob Johns (RJ); Mike Landstrom (ML)

BUSINESS

- Membership – JP:
 - 112 paid members currently.
- Reflections on Community event:
 - Torin King was great to have there and gave good feedback.
 - Need to have more leadership students next year
 - There was not a lot of new student/family turnout.
 - Since they've been at school, not so excited to come out during a Saturday.
 - Back to school night and club fair the next week, so less excited to come out.
 - Miscommunication between site council, etc.
 - Niche that wasn't filled was getting them to tour the school before school started.
 - Would like to capture more teachers, but it's not clear when school will start next year. This year it was 26th Aug. Next year they may go back to school Sep 1st, but PPS may want to do it in August. This year Aug 23rd would have been perfect since teachers would be back.
 - Other feedback:
 - Class reunions worked well.
 - Clubs that sold things did well. Suggest desserts and drinks.

- The food trucks said they did ok, but not sure. Maybe make some signs to direct folks next year.
 - We will have a table where people come in – orient and name tags, even if not sign in.
 - It would be good to get a team to help run concessions.
 - Nice to have it inside with temp control compared to previous years outside in heat or rain.
- Chose Aug 22nd for 2026 to try and capture before school excitement but not infringe on teacher's last days of summer break. We won't know for sure when kids will start until PPS chooses the date.
- Discussion about having teachers there – advisors to clubs? Will clubs be there?
- Need promotion plan.
- If it's a community event, how do we get community there?
 - It's not only re inviting current partners and businesses, but also just about inviting the community to participate in a community event, get to know us.
- Discussed advertising for this event and Tech Show this year.
 - It was on social media.
 - Not sure it was on PPS, but it was on Benson Tech's website.
 - Need to get it in spring middle school newsletters in May/June.
 - Print up 15 large signs at Middle school lawns and our front yards (if in city limits?) Posters around the feeder middle schools?
 - Get counselors the info for talking at the middle schools.
 - Needs to be big spring push.
- JP:
 - From where I was at, it looked great!
 - If groups engaged with people, they did great. If they sat at their spots and didn't engage, they didn't do too well.
 - Lots of energy with people going on tours, if they left for the tour the energy left, then came back with them. We should plan for this.
 - It might have felt roomy, but the numbers that came, if they were in old venues (Marshall or front lawn), we had good numbers.
- Food:
 - We overbought food. But it's basically because with the new school we thought there would be more participation.
 - Maybe don't staff a snack table.
- PA system welcoming everyone, was missing.
 - JP said they may not have known how to change the settings or if there was a problem with config, but you should

be able to broadcast through the school. So we just need to ensure people understand how to use the system.

- Financial Report – BT
 - \$5890 in the credit union.
- Prior Meeting Minutes Approval (MB)
 - September minutes – any additional feedback? No.
 - JP moved that we accept the minutes as edited. RK seconded. Motion passed.
- Annual meeting – RK:
 - This is next month. Let's invite Principal Wilson to speak the first 15th minutes on state of the school.
 - It has been advertised.
 - **Budget for refreshments: \$100**
 - **JS moved that we allow up to \$100 for refreshment purchases. JP seconded. Motion passed.**
- Kelly sent an email:
 - Names of notable alumni that are accomplished professionally to come speak at an assembly. RK responded with some names.
- KC:
 - Jen Sohm wants to meet with us to share some materials with us. Let's invite her to come at annual meeting on Nov 10th around 6:15PM.
 - **TS moved that we purchase a shirt "honorary astro" for Jen at a cost of about \$26, KC seconded. Motion passed.**
- Add discussion about Portland Parks/Buckman field to Dec agenda.
- Add discussion about moving the Organ to Dec agenda.
- Add discussion Alumni Association one-page sent out from RK to Dec agenda.

UPCOMING BUSINESS

- Next meetings: Nov 10th (annual), Dec 8th
- Tech show in 2026 is: April 16, 17th

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association



BUSINESS SAVINGS	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
BSAV00	\$3,456.55	\$0.09	-\$0.00	\$3,456.64
	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.80	\$0.00		
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
09/30	09/30	Dividend Annual Percentage Yield Earned= 0.03% For 30 Days	0.09	3456.64

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	\$0.00	\$-30.00

BUSINESS FLEX CHCK	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
BFLX00	\$2,874.08	\$136.01	-\$570.83	\$2,439.26
	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
09/09	09/09	Deposit ACH PAYPAL*TRANSFER	136.01	3010.09
09/10	09/09	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #237 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-19.95	2990.14
09/17	09/16	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #240 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-201.84	2788.30
09/17	09/16	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #238 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-24.04	2764.26
09/24	09/23	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #239 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-325.00	2439.26

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	\$0.00	\$0.00

CLEARED CHECKS - BUSINESS FLEX CHCK						
CHECK #	DATE PAID	AMOUNT	CHECK #	DATE PAID	AMOUNT	CHECK #
237	09/09	19.95	238	09/16	24.04	239
240	09/16	201.84				09/23
						325.00

What does the BPHSAA do?

(V2.0, 10/13/2024)

We....

Advocate to advance the unrivaled Benson Tech tradition for high-quality comprehensive high school experiences with a rigorous focus on immersive, innovative Career and Technical Education (CTE)

- *Organized multifaceted effort that blocked a Portland Public Schools (PPS) Board of Education proposal to transform Benson Tech from a four-year comprehensive focus-option high school to a 2-year limited-focus CTE skills academy
- *Mounted successful campaigns against PPS proposals to eliminate athletics at Benson Tech, or to combine the athletic programs of Benson Tech and Jefferson High School
- *Successfully petitioned PPS to raise the artificial student enrollment cap from ~1,000 (2018-2019) to ~1,400 (estimated 2028-2029 enrollment)
- *Collaborated with staff, administration, and alumni to reinstate a music program
- *Helped shape and guide Benson Tech's infrastructural and curricular modernization through engagement with the Master Planning Committee (MPC), pre-Design and Design Advocacy Groups (DAG), Modernization Design Workshops, and other outreach activities

Commemorate the rich, century-old history of Benson Tech, including its educational programs, scholastic and sports achievements, current and former students and staff, and community stewardship

- *Maintain historic archives (yearbooks, "Tech Pep", photos, assorted memorabilia)
- *Track alumni and staff obituaries
- *Work to preserve paper ephemera by converting to electronic documents, including uploading photos to publicly-accessible FLICKR account, digitizing copies of old yearbooks, and creating search-ready scans of aging "Tech Pep" student newspapers published within the last one-hundred years
- *Purchase and restore sports banners
- *Locate, acquire, and display Benson Tech memorabilia (time capsule, era-specific technologies, etc.)

Communicate with alumni and community members, providing current information regarding the status of Benson Tech, BPHSAA events and initiatives, class reunions, and more

- *Manage the BPHSAA website and social media accounts, posting up-to-date news and information for alumni and the greater school community
- *Publish regular Alumni Text newsletters; provide access to newsletter archives on website

Coordinate social and community-building events for Benson Tech alumni and supporters

- *Host annual activities, such as the Community Celebration, and the alumni room at Tech Show

- *Plan singular celebrations to mark milestones, including the 2017 Centennial “Grand Reunion” and the 2024 Grand Reopening of the modernized Benson Tech campus

Elevate Benson Tech’s students and staff by procuring financial, material, and functional support for the school’s academic and CTE programs, sports teams, clubs, and affinity groups

- *Raise funds and oversee both the Alumni Scholarship Fund and the Benson Tech Foundation

- *Partner with the Benson Tech Boosters and school administration to raise funds for student athletics and clubs, teacher appreciation initiatives, campus beautification projects, and formal recognition of student scholastic, athletic, and community achievement

- *Provide generative, ready-made fundraising opportunities for student groups by facilitating concessions sales at sports events

- *Provide financial, material, and logistical support for Benson Tech food and clothing donation programs (e.g., Hopscotch Foundation weekly food pantry, PPS clothing closet, etc.)

- *Support fundraising efforts of student athletics, clubs, and community organizations (e.g., Benson Tech Football, Robotics Club, BSU, etc.) through direct BPHSAA awards and membership donations, and by promoting fundraising campaigns through email, social media, newsletters, and the BPHSAA website