

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



Date: May 11, 2026
Starting Time: 5:32 pm
Ending Time: 7:27 pm
Hybrid meeting

ATTENDEES:

Board Members: Josh Piper (JP); Thomas Smith (TS); Kevin Clark (KC); Rachael Kuryunny (RK); Roger Edwards (RE); Rob Johns (RJ); Dale Bajema (DB)

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

Guests: Kelly Janes, Benson Boosters; Francis (Joe) Putnam

ABSENT: Mike Landstrom (ML); Bobbie (Rob) Walker (BW); Jeff Strachan (JS); Alex Lamb (AL); Gerry Ochs (GO)

BUSINESS

- Note: 11-May-26: RJ noted that JS has resigned his position.
- Several emails went out between the last meeting and this one:
 - Franz anniversary: <https://www.opb.org/article/2026/04/17/franz-bakery-120-anniversary-block-party/> (photo below)
 - Benson alum Mandy Zelinka death: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.koin.com/news/portland/former-portland-hairstylist-shot-and-killed-by-husband-before-his-suicide-police-say/amp/>, family friend asked for donation info, given Tech Foundation information.
 - May 7th 6-8PM Public School Funding Forum at Lincoln HS.
 - <https://www.wweek.com/news/schools/2026/05/06/pps-spent-years-looking-to-one-time-dollars-for-budget-relief-it-now-faces-a-reckoning/>
- Guest: Kelly Janes, Benson Booster
 - RJ: Thank you for your service to the school! We appreciate hearing your thoughts and ideas about how to talk to prospective parent members.
 - Kelly: I got on the Boosters website when my son was in middle school, to get some gear. Lisa delivered them to my home. Lisa talked about her experience. I volunteered all the time in my son's schools, and I really enjoyed having that time with my son. In high school there's no chaperoning anymore, and kids are more independent. I got involved by volunteering to make a few changes

on the home page, which is what I do professionally. Then she called saying they legally needed at least 5 board positions to keep going, so I agreed. The first year I went to the meetings, but I didn't know what was happening or who anyone was. That was Lisa's first year after her child graduated. Then Liz's child graduated. Jeff joined as the treasurer and my mom joined from SF as secretary, which she has done for 3 years. I was simultaneously elected as President of my Neighborhood Association as well, so I learned a lot, making changes.

- DB: You've been innovative, too.
- Kelly: As a President, I don't come across as the person in charge, but more as the one that facilitating the meetings. My mom had the idea for the class competition, which has been great. Class of '85 has been killing it. Someone reached out about Secretary. They do need a President. The VP is coming back but doesn't want to be President. She leads on Sports fundraising and teacher appreciation.
 - Principal Wilson did send out info to the parent mailing list about the officer needs. We also have our own small mailing list.
 - Social event next week to honor volunteers and we will make an ask then as well.
 - If I had to improve something, that would be it. We have a table and a QR code, but usually just sit there and wait for people to come up to us.
 - Because it's not a neighborhood school, you don't have that network of people that you've grown up with for years. There's a lack of social pressure to be involved.
- Discussion about how to do more outreach to potential incoming students/parents.
- DB: What can the alumni do to support the Boosters?
- Kelly: I'm always amazed at how present and active you all are. We do have alumni come speak at pep rallies, which has gone well. Communication both ways may be a little better. Josh is the de facto Liaison.
- KC: I could help Josh with that.
- Kelly: We're selling Jam now. That might be a place to help. Josh reshapes things we put up. Continuing to help with Concessions volunteering and then recruiting for Boosters.
- Discussion around what the Boosters do and have done, because people generally only think of them as asking for money.
- Discussion about a joint social event at Kenton Station or other. Maybe quarterly.
- Thank you for everything!
- Kelly left the meeting.
- Membership: JP

- 70 paid members currently. There are a few people that I haven't entered (4 or 5 more).
 - About 15 are lifetime members.
- Financial Report – BT
 - \$5292.21 in savings, \$2349.09 in checking
 - \$1026.07 in PayPal, on its way to the credit union
 - MB submitted receipts for food for Tech Show.
 - Discussion about voting to approve recurring costs. In January meeting we could vote on these for the year.
- Discussed the work with Benson students on the alumni ad in the yearbook.
- Discussed an insert in the commencement program.
 - Joe is making an insert for the commencement program.
 - **RK moved that we offer free 4-year membership to mention in the insert. JP seconded. Motion passed.**
- **RK moved that we use \$225 for yearbook ad and gift card to student designer. TS seconded. Motion passed.**
- Discussion to purchase a professional megaphone. \$75. RJ suggested 2 because of the number of tours.
 - **RK moved to spend no more than \$200 on 2 bullhorns for various alumni purposes. JP seconded. Motion passed.**
- Open Board position: Position 1.
 - **DB moved that the board accepts JS's resignation. RK seconded. Motion passed.**
 - RK nominated Francis (Joe) Putnam to fill the vacant position to be ratified in June meeting.
- Discussion of gift card for Kelly.
 - **RK moved that we spend up to \$150 to gift Kelly for her service to the Boosters. DB seconded. Motion passed.**
- Prior Meeting Minutes Approval (MB)
 - Draft 2 sent out 7-May, one minor change since (studies to Students).
 - **KC moved and RK seconded accepting minutes as amended. Motion passed.**
- Tech Show review – RJ
 - DB: Send an email message to everyone that signed in. What is the advantage of having the alumni association? We've not had great growth. Do people think it's worthwhile? For the people that came to the alumni room at Tech show, this is something tangible we could do – thank you for coming. Free membership for the rest of the year, or half off? Or discount for the rest of this year and next year? We appreciate you.
 - KC: It would be nice to be able to give athletic event tickets.
 - JP: Just short of 300 people signed in.
 - RK: What message do we want to send? The rest of this year and next \$20.

- JP: There will be a unique code for this deal, so it's easy to know who uses it.
 - **RK moved that we offer the rest of this year and next year for \$20 deal to those that come to signed in to Tech Show (that don't already have membership). DB seconded. Motion passed.**
- The signage around the school seemed like it worked well. Note that the gyms were not open this year.
- CW: Can we consider having alumni kiosks throughout the school, where people can sign up?
 - Gerry was at the front of the school last year.
 - People seem to not be reading because there are a lot of signs everywhere.
 - Discussed having an iPad with alums walking around the school, so people could sign up.
 - RJ: pay 8 kids to wear sandwich board with QR code to sign up?
 - DB: I like the kiosk idea just to get the word out that we exist. Pics of the alumni room, celebration, 5 bullet points on what they do. You're talking to business folks, parents, kids, etc.
 - RK: This is a secondary location. We should pick this up in the fall. Based on attendance numbers this year, we probably could have had some of the board doing the roaming or secondary location.
- RJ: Let's make sure we get a speaker/time in the auditorium. This year it was really mushy re auditorium. I would like to refocus this.
- RK: Taylor was here on Friday and nobody was there when she was there. It's no longer the first opportunity.
- RK: I thought the BAT tours were great.
- Site Council: May 28th 4PM. RK asked CW if she could attend: yes. RK will give her info about the Community Celebration.
- Scholarship and middle school info:
 - RK finished scholarship duties and pulling together middle school letter info.
 - Ilsa Brewer manages the Staff bulletin. RK will send some info to get Staff to the Community Celebration. Specifically, to help lead tours.
 - RK will send RJ the email he sent to Curtis and Ilsa and he can reply.
 - KC: I've tried to get information about forecasting for majors every year.
 - RJ: It would be good to target teachers that want to hype their majors/classes to lead the tours.
- Community Celebration:
 - RJ will firm up with Principal Curtis that the Alumni Association does not need a CUB.

- Just had a few class reunions ask about when the Community Celebration is NEXT YEAR. RK can't do it the third sat of August (23rd). We could do the 28th but we don't know when the first day of school is going to be next year. Dan thinks Aug 25th. Maybe the 14th? Because they have freshman registration before, then back to school night later.
- DB: suggest we talk about the 14th or the 21st during Site Council.
- Discussed July 13th meeting at 5:30PM at Kenton station to say farewell to JS.

UPCOMING BUSINESS

- Next meetings: June 8th, Take July off, August 17.
- July 13th meeting at 5:30PM at Kenton Station to say farewell to JS.
- Graduation: June 2nd, 4:30 PM PSU Viking pavilion
- Community Celebration: Aug 22nd noon – 3PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association



The iconic Oregon bakery celebrated its anniversary on April 14 with factory tours and a community block party.



People stand outside of Franz Premium Bread during a block party on April 14, 2026 in Portland, Ore. The bakery, which is one of the largest family-owned bakeries on the West Coast, held the party to celebrate 120 years.

Saskia Hatvany / OPB

BUSINESS SAVINGS	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
BSAV00	\$5,202.08	\$0.13	-\$0.00	\$5,202.21
	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.47	\$0.00		

Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
04/30	04/30	Dividend Annual Percentage Yield Earned= 0.03% For 30 Days	0.13	5202.21

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

BUSINESS FLEX CHCK	BEGINNING BALANCE	TOTAL DEPOSITS	TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	ENDING BALANCE
BFLX00	\$2,858.67	\$0.00	-\$509.58	\$2,349.09
	YTD DIVIDENDS	YTD DIVIDENDS WITHHELD		
	\$0.00	\$0.00		

Actual	Effective	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
04/08	04/07	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #247 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-359.58	2499.09
04/28	04/27	Withdrawal Draft Clearing Check #249 - Withdrawal, Draft Clearing	-150.00	2349.09

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 #	DATE PAID	AMOUNT
247	04/07	359.58	249	04/27	150.00			