



BENSON TECH ALUMNI TEXT

In Brief

Page 2

Alumni Scholarship winners

Page 4

Benson Tech sports update

Page 7

The Official Newsletter of the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association (BPHSAA), September 2025 Edition

The Benson Tech band is back

In the past five months, concrete steps have been taken to bring back a band at Benson Tech this fall. This past April, Dan Foster (Class of 1975) and Gene Burton—recently retired local high school teachers—stepped forward, volunteering to help the Benson Tech Music Club organize an extracurricular band.

The Club's advisor, Heide Goertzen, met with Dan and Gene to lay out a plan for securing instruments and forming a band as this school year begins. Before school let out this past June, 30+ students met with Ms. Goertzen, indicating that they had some musical training from



middle school and were interested in joining a club band. Since then, nearly 60 students in total, including incoming freshmen, have indicated their interest in joining.

Dan actually was the Benson Tech band director for a number of years before the band and music program was shut down in 2010 for budget and district reasons. Shortly thereafter, Dan retired and has since been a fixture within the local music scene,

assisting many area high school bands. Gene taught music/band in the Gresham/Barlow District, as well as with Warner Pacific University. Through the latter, he may have access to borrowing music instruments for Benson Tech students who don't own them. (Note: While Portland Public Schools [PPS] has instruments that can be loaned to students, as a policy matter, it only loans them to students enrolled in an official—not club—music program.)

As the club's school advisor, Ms. Goertzen said she expects the band will meet after school for several

(continued on Page 3)

Benson Tech celebrates on September 13

As for the past 17 years, the BPHSAA is sponsoring an end of summer event for the Benson community—that is, everyone with a Benson Tech connection—former and current students and teachers, supporters and their families. This year's gathering will be from noon until 3:00 p.m. on September 13 in the Benson Tech's Commons. The event's focus is to celebrate Benson Tech's recently modernized building, a growing enrollment, and the school's future as one of the nation's leading comprehensive technical-focused high schools while recognizing its storied 100+ year past.

The celebration will include tours of the building led by current students from the Benson Tech's Leadership program and an "activity fair" highlighting current clubs and athletic teams. Food trucks will be available with food for sale. Benson Tech gear featuring the Astros will be available. And the Classes of 1985, 1995, and 2005 will have one of their reunion events there. The indoor Commons was selected to provide ample space for



Above: Benson Tech Commons area for students. (Photo courtesy of Portland Public Schools.)

everyone to mingle, creating connections across members of Benson Tech's diverse components.

The celebration is also intended to welcome into the Benson Tech community about 350 new incoming freshmen and sophomore students and their families.

IN BRIEF | BPHSAA AND BENSON TECH NEWS

BPHSAA Annual Meeting on November 10 at 5:30 p.m.

The BPHSAA will hold its Annual Meeting on November 10 at 5:30 p.m. in Benson Tech's Community Room. The room is immediately within the school's front entrance. While the main order of business is to fill five open Board of Director positions, the meeting will feature several speakers regarding new activities at Benson Tech as well as refreshments. Additional details will be announced on bensontechalumni.org in October.

The meeting is open to all Benson Tech alumni and supporters; however, only paid members may vote. Any paid BPHSAA member is eligible to run for one of the open director positions. The BPHSAA's 15 directors set Association policy and are directly involved in the month-in and month-out conduct of BPHSAA's activities in support of the school and social activities for alumni.

Digitizing of Tech Pep continues

Under Roger Edwards' (Class of 1963) guidance, the digitization of Benson Tech's former student-produced newspaper, the Tech Pep, has continued. The project began in 2024 with the digitization of the paper's first issue, dated Sept. 21, 1920. As of now, all issues through June 1960 are done. BPHSAA members who have paid their membership dues can access these digitized issues on the BPHSAA website, bensontechalumni.org by logging in under "Members."

The Tech Pep was discontinued in 2010 due to budget problems. Unfortunately, many printed issues from September 1960 to June 2010 were lost. *It would be greatly appreciated if anyone who has even a single printed issue from the "lost period" would lend them to Roger for digitization. Contact Roger via the BPHSAA website.*

Alumni Room officially opened at Tech Show

In the 2020-2024 modernization of Benson Tech, a special space was created for the continuing activities of Benson Tech's alumni. The space is "behind the auditorium's balcony" on the second floor of the northwest corner of the school. More than 500 alumni, their families, and friends visited the space during this past April's Tech

Show. (Alumni wishing to use the space for class reunions or other alumni activities should contact Dan Malone at dmalone@pps.net.)

Class of 2025 graduated in June

This past June, 221 of Benson Tech's Class of 2025 received their diplomas. During the summer, two additional seniors completed the state's requirements and graduated. In line with recent years, the percentage of Benson Tech's 2025 graduating class is above 90%, higher than Portland Public Schools (PPS) and State of Oregon graduation numbers. (*Well done, Class of 2025, and welcome to the ranks of the Benson Tech alumni!*)

Benson Tech enrollment grows and staff increases

With an entering freshmen class of about 330, Benson Tech's enrollment has grown to about 1,050 students. This is up from about 850 students while on the Marshall Campus during the Modernization Project. During the application period in late 2024, more than 500 eighth graders applied to attend Benson Tech this fall. Acceptance letters were sent to about 350 applicants, of which about 330 followed through to fill the school's allocated 335 openings. Another 25 sophomores were also admitted. With the enrollment increase for the 2025-2026 school year and a hoped-for similar increase for 2026-2027, Benson Tech's enrollment for the 2026-27 school year will exceed 1,100 students.

With a larger enrollment over the 2024-2025 school year, Benson staff was increased by the equivalent of six teachers/instructors despite budget and staff reduction across the PPS system. The district continues to be beset with budget issues, partly resulting from multi-year decreases in State of Oregon funds.

Benson Tech's revised cell phone policy

Benson Tech has tweaked its previous cell phone policy to start the 2025-2026 school year to be fully aligned with newly adopted PPS policy. PPS announced its policy following Oregon Governor Tina Kotek's July 2025 directive for all Oregon schools to establish a cell phone policy by January 2026.

In a phrase, PPS policy is "Off and Away. All Day" for all K-12 students. For students not complying, PPS has also established a set of escalating disciplinary actions, including counseling and taking phones away from students. (For more information, visit the PPS website at pps.net.)

The major change from Benson Tech's policy last spring is that phones will not be allowed during lunchtime and freshmen and sophomore will be required to keep their phones in their lockers throughout the school day.

Homecoming games

As part of 2025 Homecoming Week, Benson Tech's volleyball team is playing Roosevelt on 10/14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Benson Tech Gym; the football team is playing Franklin on Buckman Field on 10/16 at 4:00 p.m.; the boys soccer team is playing Roosevelt on 10/16 at 7:00 p.m. at Marshall Stadium; and the girls soccer team is playing Aloha on Buckman Field on 10/17 at 4:00 p.m. *It would be great to see a significant alumni presence at these games. Go Astros!*

ALUMNI TEXT CREDITS

Co-Editors & Writers: Dale Bajema and Roger Edwards

We want to thank Kelly Janes, Rachael Lizio Katzen Kuryny, Kendall Lewis, and Jessica Russell for their articles, as well as Heide Goertzen, Rob Johns, Josh Piper, Bob Walker, and Curtis Wilson for information and assistance in creating this newsletter. And, as always for the diligent efforts of Connie Mar, our designer.

FEEDBACK WANTED! Is the Benson Tech Alumni Text still relevant in 2025? We want to hear from you! Send your ideas on how to make it better, including suggestions for different formats and/or content, to info@bensontechalumni.org.

The Benson Tech band is back, continued from front cover



Above: Music has played a strong role in Benson Tech student life throughout most of the school's history. Pictured from left to right, Benson Tech's concert bands from 1922 and 1948 and its marching band from 1984.

hours on Wednesdays with Dan Foster and/or Gene Burton and during school hours periodically during Flex B "flex time" when students can meet for extracurricular activities and with teachers. In addition to the band, the Music Club will continue to welcome Benson Tech students with musical interests other than playing in a band.

Principal Curtis Wilson continues to voice his desire to actually hire a teacher in the coming 2026-2027 school year to have an "official" music program that was "promised" to Benson Tech as part of the 2020-2024 modernization project. While

the projected growth of enrollment from this school year to the 2026-2027 year will warrant additional staff and resources (including a half-time music teacher), this is a best case scenario. The PPS' budget continues to face shortfalls and Benson Tech, unlike other Portland high schools, was barely able to add a few teachers for required courses for the 2025-2026 year.

In the meantime, prospects are good that by the end of this year, Benson Tech will once again have a band playing for school events and possibly at games.

Of course, all of Benson Tech's clubs and teams can always use support. The Music Club and its band would appreciate anyone donating any unused instruments (several people have already) and/or money for music, etc. If you can help out and bring music back to Benson Tech, contact Heide Goertzen at hgoertzen@pps.net or donate at <https://schoolpay.com/pay/for/Benson-Band-/SeEDqzH>.

If you'd like to keep up to date with the band, you can follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) at @BensonTechMusic



Above: Chester Benson poses with an almost life-sized banner of his great-grandfather, Simon Benson on Feb. 6, 2025. A retired English and journalism professor, Chester is also the author of the 2024 biography, "Simon Benson, Immigrant, Lumberman, Philanthropist." He was invited to visit the school in February to make a presentation about his great-grandfather to a history class.

SAVE THE DATE

BPHSAA ANNUAL MEETING



NOVEMBER 10, 2025

**546 NE 12TH AVENUE
5:30 – 6:00 PM**

Community Room immediately inside the front door.

- Election of five directors
- Special guest speakers
- Refreshments.

Four outstanding graduates awarded Alumni Scholarship

This past spring, the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Scholarship Fund's earnings provided over \$8,000 in scholarships for four Benson Tech graduates from the Class of 2025. Recipients were selected based on their high school achievements, strength of character, and educational objectives, with preference given to individuals enrolling in two-year vocational training or pre-professional academic programs. The Class of 2025 awardees are profiled below.



Jasmin Hernandez, a proud Portland native and second of five siblings, is also the second of what she hopes will be five Benson Tech graduates. Despite facing financial hardship, family challenges, and self-doubt growing up, Jasmin remained focused and resilient—developing a strong sense of independence and

a growth mindset, inspired by her close-knit family and friendships.

While at Benson Tech, Jasmin embraced a wide range of interests, from sports to academics to community service. She played tennis and soccer, took on leadership roles in the Sun Program's Latino Network, and maintained a 3.8 GPA while excelling in AP Language & Composition, Physics, and Pre-Calculus.

Starting her sophomore year, Jasmin built her resume through volunteer work and her first job as a childcare provider. The following summer, she explored retail and fast food roles, gaining clarity about her strengths and long-term goals.

Though she majored in construction, Jasmin has long been fascinated by space and engineering. She aspires to become an astronaut or contribute to spacecraft or rocket design and construction. This fall, she'll continue her academic journey at Portland Community College to study engineering. She plans to transfer to a four-year university—ideally San Diego State or Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University—to major in aerospace engineering.

In her free time, Jasmin enjoys exploring new places, spending time with friends, organizing, helping with chores, shopping, working out, and learning anything that sparks her curiosity.



Omar Lozano is a proud first-generation Latino and Portland native and the youngest of five. After losing his father at age five, Omar was raised by his mother alongside his brother. He attended Vernon K-8 and spent much of middle school online due to the pandemic. He was excited

to return to full-time, in-person learning at the start of his freshman year at Benson Tech.

Drawn to Benson Tech for its hands-on approach, Omar initially planned to major in electrical studies. That changed in ninth grade when he discovered a passion and aptitude for health sciences—particularly dentistry. He spent his underclass years completing dental prerequisites and his upperclass years focused on dental assisting. Through Benson Tech's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, Omar gained professional skills in medical terminology, basic life support, infection control, injection

administration, and instrument sterilization. He also developed marketable soft skills like teamwork, professionalism, and empathy.

A driven student, Omar maintained a 3.27 GPA while taking AP courses that included Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, Government & Politics, and Art History. This fall, he will enroll in Portland Community College's Dental Assisting Certificate Program. Through a career as a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA), Omar hopes to help people establish and maintain healthy oral habits and feel good about their smiles.

Jose Machic-Cruz is a first-generation Mexican-American. He was born in Portland and raised in a bustling household with 10 other family members. Growing up, Jose wasn't entirely sure what he wanted to do in his life, but was inspired by his mom to pursue a field that would allow him to engage with and help his community. Among his many qualities, Jose's kindness and concern for others stands out, traits that he also credits his mom with instilling in him.

Jose possesses a strong work ethic, holding down an after-school job throughout his high school years.

While at Benson Tech, he made strong connections with his peers and teachers, and enjoyed learning new skills in his Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses, particularly construction, manufacturing, and electric. Though he majored in Computer Science, it was his participation in Benson Tech's Cooking Club that helped Jose to discover that his true passion lay in the culinary arts.

This fall, Jose will enroll in the award-winning Oregon Coast Culinary Institute at Southwestern Oregon Community College, where he will pursue an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in



Culinary Arts. After college, Jose aspires to return to Portland and open a restaurant of his own. Jose hopes his younger brother will attend Benson Tech, where he too can take advantage of the many opportunities Jose had to explore, learn, and grow.

Born and raised in Portland, **Gloria Rivas-Ellis** is the oldest of four siblings. From an early age, she exhibited a passion for building, creating blueprints and constructing pillow forts and Lego houses. Gloria was drawn to Benson Tech for its hands-on courses, and was confident she'd found her calling after completing Tech Geometry. While she enjoyed all aspects of her Building Construction major, Gloria found creating furniture from scratch to be particularly rewarding.

In addition to being a skilled woodworker and dedicated student, Gloria is an accomplished athlete;

she was a competitive rugby player throughout high school, playing for both the Portland Grackles Rugby Club and The Rugby Oregon Red-hawks, and she also served as an integral part of Benson Tech's wrestling and bowling teams.

Gloria is intrinsically driven and professionally minded. She held internships in both urban planning and infrastructure at Portland State University, and has attended apprenticeship seminars in preparation for her carpentry training program. This summer, Gloria completed a 12-week construction pre-apprenticeship program run by Portland



Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC). At the end of the program, she was honored to be named valedictorian of her cohort. In early 2026, Gloria will begin a four-year carpentry apprenticeship through the Northwest College of Construction (NWCOC).

About the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

The Benson Polytechnic High School 50-year Reunion Award Fund was founded in 1991 thanks to generous donations from the classes of 1939, 1940, and 1941. In its first year, the fund awarded \$250 apiece to two deserving graduates. In the years since, the endowment (renamed the Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Scholarship Fund in 2012)

has grown considerably, and is now managed by the Oregon Community Foundation, where its 501(c)3 status allows donors to make tax-exempt contributions.

For more information about the Scholarship Fund or if you'd like to donate, visit the "Scholarship Fund" section of the BPHSAA site: bensontechalumni.org/sections/scholarship/.

BPHSAA TRIVIA QUIZ

- **Question 1:** What do you do at a reunion?
- **Question 2:** When did Benson's All-Class reunions begin?
- **Question 3:** Where have they been scheduled?
- **Question 4:** How has their focus evolved?
- **Question 5:** Why is a location important for reunions?

-
- **Answer 1:** Reunions provide an opportunity to catch up with your friends and acquaintances, and they are especially popular for those who have something to brag about. And good for them. Such conversations occur at All-Class reunions as well but there is also a surprising number of things held in common to discuss with attendees from other classes or eras. Typically, there are interest groups trying to make you aware of their agendas, sell their wares, or expanding their membership. Extending your business network is always a possibility. No one need go hungry and the gathering site generally has an attraction to investigate.
 - **Answer 2:** The Tech Pep archive reports that one was held in the Benson auditorium on the evening of April 22, 1960. The May 13 issue reports most attendees were from various classes in the 1930s, as well as four students from the Portland School of Trades, which predated Benson Tech. The Benson Tech Class of 1950 has and continues to get together periodically. All class graduates, faculty, and staff were invited to their 2007 picnic in hope of increasing contributions to the Reunion Scholarship, which had been established in 1991. In this same time frame, the PPS board was considering changing the purpose of Benson Tech, alarming the alumni. A general All-Class Picnic was announced in 2008 to organize an alumni group to oppose this idea. The turn-out agreed that the many successes of the school and its graduates were well worth preserving and the BPHSAA was formed. This positive result cemented the idea of annual All-Class picnics and they have been hosted most years ever since.
 - **Answers 3 & 4:**
 - » 2007- Benson All Classes Picnic, Blue Lake Park. Bring your friends, food and drink, and enjoy the day.
 - » 2008- All Class Picnic, Blue Lake Park. Approval of BPHSAA By-Laws and election of officers.
 - » 2009-Annual All-Class Reunion Picnic, Columbia Park. Election of officers.
 - » 2010- 2011-Annual Benson Community Picnic, Blue Lake Park. Car show, election of officers.
 - » 2012-2013- Benson Community Picnic, Blue Lake Park. Election of officers.
 - » 2014-Benson Community Annual Picnic, Benson Tech front lawn. School tours.
 - » 2015- Benson Tech's Community Picnic Benson Tech front lawn. Incoming freshmen and families invited, school tours.
 - » 2016- Annual Benson Community Picnic, Benson Tech front lawn. "A birthday party for Benson Tech as well as being another annual gathering of Benson alumni, incoming freshmen and their parents, Benson Teachers and staff, and Benson friends and supporters."
 - » 2017- June 10 - Benson Tech Centennial Picnic, Colwood Golf Course. Centennial attendee option with golf tournament, car show. August 12- Annual August Community Picnic, Benson Tech front lawn. Savoring the enthusiasm for the Centennial events.
 - » 2018-Benson Tech Community Picnic, Benson Tech front lawn. Meet friends, make new ones, get caught up with what's in store for the coming school year.
 - » 2019-Annual BPHSAA Community Picnic, Benson Tech front lawn. School tours.
 - » 2020-2021- Canceled by pandemic.
 - » 2022- Benson All-Class Community Picnic, Marshall campus courtyard. Greeting friends, school tours.
 - » 2023-Benson Community Picnic, Marshall campus courtyard. Special invitation to Benson Tech stakeholders and supporters.
 - » 2024-Benson Community Picnic, courtyard at renovated Benson Tech. School tours follow the official dedication of modernized buildings.
 - » **2025-Benson Tech Community Celebration, Benson Tech courtyard. Join us from noon - 3:00 p.m., September 13!**
 - **Answer 5:** The simple answer is that the features of a location affects turnout. The Blue Lake Park reunions drew attendees because it is a pleasant place and has a lot of activity choices, but visitors must drive there and pay a nominal entrance fee. There are no fees and public transportation is available at Columbia Park but parking and activity options are limited. The front lawn at Benson Tech is good for reunions because school tours are an attraction for celebrants, the location provides an attractive piggy-back feature for scheduling specific class reunions, and the traffic driving by must notice that something is going on at the school. But it gets warm there in the afternoons and there is no shelter from showers that dampened activities during one of several years at this location. The new school courtyard is even better than the front lawn because there is shade available outside and cafeteria access removes the threat of rain.

Sports updates for Winter and Spring 2025

by Jessica Russell, Benson Tech Athletic Director

Winter Sports Recap

It was another exciting winter sports season for Benson Tech!

- Our boys and girls basketball programs did a great job in the post season this year. The boys fell in the first round to #12, West Salem. The girls were defeated by West Linn by two points in the second round. Both head coaches, Earl Clark (Class of 1995) on the boys side and Precious Alex on the girls side, earned PIL Coach of the Year. The boys did not have any seniors, so their full program returns next year. They enjoyed a fun few days at team camp this summer at the University of Oregon. The girls program said goodbye to one senior, Taliya McKelvey. They also enjoyed a few days away at team camp at the University of Portland. They expect the rest of the roster back next winter.
- Swim head coach and Benson Tech staff member Steve Espe (Class of 1984) had another awesome season setting record participation numbers.
- Fourteen wrestlers participated for their neighborhood schools this winter and two made the state tournament, senior Sadat Clowers and junior Gabi Trimble!

The wrestling room has been fully renovated, and alumni Robert Caudillo (Class of 2015) has been hired as head coach. We look forward to having wrestling back at Benson!



Spring Sports Recap

- Track and field had record-setting participation numbers this year with two athletes qualifying for the state meet: Miles Gray and Lashya'h Vincent.
- Tech baseball and softball both enjoyed successful seasons playing a JV schedule and hosting home games at Buckman Field.
- Both the boys and girls tennis teams performed well all season. Sophomore standout Carlyta Barfield qualified for the state tennis tournament after winning the district singles title.
- Our golf program also increased in size this year, with senior Ian Stocco having a standout final season.
- Finally, boys volleyball participated in their first season this spring.

Benson Tech Football kicks off 2025 season

by Kendall Lewis, Benson Tech Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator

The 2025 season has started. Practices opened on August 18, and we have a refreshed staff with four returning coaches. I lead the program, with Offensive Coordinator Shawn White guiding the offense. On offense, we have Cedric Walker, Jacob Deitas, Rich Scott, and Jaylen Russell (Class of 2019). On defense, we have Zack Davis, Robert Caudillo, Daviar Wexler (Class of 2019), and Geoffrey Hay.

We have 24 returning players and 18 new players — 11 freshmen and seven sophomores — for a total of 42 football players.

The offense will be led by sophomores J.P., Jaxson, Kevin, Konner, and Justin, along with newcomers Warren (a sophomore from the basketball team), Kendall (freshman), and a strong group of new and returning players.

The defense will be led by Konner, J.P., Timmy, Zac, Jayden, Jordan, J.T., Silas, Prince, and Bodhi, with newcomers Tedi (freshman), Ben (sophomore), Kayden (freshman), Jack (sophomore), and Jerry (freshman).

The Benson Tech football team will play a seven-game schedule this season, with home games on September 11 and 18, as well as



(Photo courtesy of Benson Tech Football.)

October 9, 16, and 23. All home games will start at 4:00 p.m. at Buckman Field.

We're excited for a great 2025 season as we prepare to move to the varsity level in 2026. Big things are happening at Benson Tech, and we're building something special with football. Go Astros!

Benson TechBoosters Fall 2025 update

by Kelly Janes, Benson TechBoosters, President

It's a new school year and your Benson TechBoosters are excited to continue and expand upon our work to support Benson Tech students, teachers, staff, and administration. We are planning exciting things for the 2025-26 school year!

TechBoosters launch annual fall fundraiser on September 13 at Benson Tech Community Celebration

Last year, Benson TechBoosters raised \$4,414 in our annual Ready! Set! Go Astros! fall fundraiser with a new twist: a class competition! Congratulations to the Class of 1985, which took the inaugural "W" (win) with \$1,756 in donations.

Who will win for the 2025-2026 school year? The competition is open to all classes, past, present, and future.

Want to donate today? Support the Benson TechBoosters General Fund via PayPal or visit the TechBoosters homepage to donate: bensontechboosters.org. (Alternatively, scan the QR code below to go directly to our PayPal donation page). Enter your preferred class year when you see "Add a note to your donation" on the last page to ensure you get credit in the class competition!

Our new Ready! Set! Go Astros! trophy will be on display at our table at the Community Celebration. Designed and created by our Foundry teachers, the trophy features the iconic Benson Tech gear as the top piece. The trophy base has room for plates to honor each year's winning class from our fall fundraising competition: a new tradition at Benson Tech.

Be sure to stop by during the Community Celebration and check out this brand-new symbol of class pride and community support. After the event, the trophy will reside in the front hall of the school. Go Tech!

Join us at Foster Gardens Tavern on September 18

Our first TechBoosters meeting of the school year will be on Thursday, September 18 (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.) at the Benson Tech alum-owned Foster Gardens Tavern! We'll be focusing on the work we do to support Benson Tech and how you can get involved. There will be drink specials and snacks—plus a taco truck outside. (Feel free to bring your food inside!)



NEW! Sponsor Benson Tech athletes

Your TechBoosters have been working closely with Benson Tech Athletic Director Jessica Russell to develop a sponsorship program supporting the school's sports teams. Do you own a business or know a local business owner who wants to help raise revenue for our Athletic Department? Learn about our new sponsorship packages on our website here: bensontechboosters.org/sponsorship.

New fund distribution process

Last school year, Benson TechBoosters developed a new funds disbursement process to support school teams and student organizations. Each year, TechBoosters will disburse funds across three seasons, based on the amount raised during our fall fundraiser. For the Winter, Spring, and Fall 2025 seasons, TechBoosters granted \$8,873 to support Benson Tech athletics and clubs. This amount is in addition to funds raised through concessions (managed by Jeff Strachan, Class of 1977), outside volunteer opportunities, and individual team and club fundraising efforts using the SnapRaise platform.

Supporting our teachers

Teacher appreciation remains a cornerstone of our work. We continue to provide food and staff room supplies for our incredible faculty and administration. Want to help? Donate to our Teacher Appreciation Fund on PayPal (you can use the QR code at left – be sure to choose "Teacher Appreciation" from the drop-down menu) or sign up to receive volunteer updates on our website: bensontechboosters.org.

Get involved!

We believe every contribution makes an impact. Whether through donations, volunteer time, or spreading the word, your involvement helps fuel student success and strengthens the already amazing Benson Tech community.

The Benson TechBoosters is actively recruiting new volunteers. We have several active initiatives and need more boots on the ground! Please join us on September 18 at Foster Gardens Tavern to find out how you can get involved.

Keep up to date by visiting our website (bensontechboosters.org) or following us on social media:

Facebook: [Tech Pride Volunteer Community](#)

Instagram ([BensonTechBoosters](#))

Thank you for all that you do! Go Tech! Go Astros!