

**Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association
Board of Directors Meeting – Official Minutes**



Date: June 14th, 2012

Starting Time: 5:30 pm Ending Time: 7:45 pm

Location: Group MacKenzie

ATTENDEES:

Dale Bajema (DB), Dick Spies (DS), Ken Bakke (KB), Neal Galash (NG), Chuck Heil (CH), Joanne Stainbrook (JS), Josh Piper (JP), Rob Johns (RJ), Max Baker (MB), Ray Simila (RS), Tammy Hite (TH) by phone, guest Don Wear

MINUTES:

- Dale opened the meeting with remarks about a recent Time Magazine article on CTE and Academics that not everyone needs to go to college and also recent articles in the Oregonian on college costs and that not everyone must attend. 200 students graduated in class of 2012, they received over \$1.5 million in scholarships. Benson's adjusted graduation rate for 2011 may make it the highest of the city schools, while the class of 2012 may rank it second. The class of 2012 legacy was they felt they had saved Benson, recalling their march on School Superintendent's Office. There are now 260 new freshmen entering fall 2012, 100 of these have academic challenges. Benson is able to take kids in that haven't done well in middle school and they do well at Benson. Since the city vote, the current budget cuts are better but still not great. There is less money for discretionary items. Last week Carol spoke to the class of 62' reunion. She and the teachers were upbeat. There is a new football coach, and everyone is optimistic.
- The minutes from May 10th were approved as sent out by MB.
- KB reported balance \$3279.10. The bank no longer issues deposit slips. They sell an endorsement stamp for \$33, but he will find the best deal he can. RJ moved and KB seconded that KB spend what was needed on an endorsement stamp. All approved. There was a deposit of \$68 for membership and donations. MB still needs to find the Tech Show helium tank receipt for \$50 for reimbursement.
- JP reported 163 total members.
- Connections with class reunions: Dale met with the class of 1962 at the school last Friday. They did a school tour, and we provided cookies and punch. Carol talked. The class of 2010 also had a reunion there. We need to find contacts and ask to attend the reunions to make connections. The class of 1992 is JS's year. They are meeting at Kenton station Friday August 3rd. The class of 2002 is talking about their reunion now. The class of 1956 is having their reunion July 26th at Johanson's place.
- PTSA connections: Chuck has been working 2 years with the PTSA and is very excited about their success. Much of the success is due to Carol being excited and engaged, very frank and respectful. Often student leaders show up for the meetings. Susan, the president, is doing a great job. This is a huge turnaround

- from 2 years ago. Monica Mueller will be leaving with her son graduating. The PTSA has appreciated all our involvement. They like the idea of heavily promoting the neighborhood cleanup at Tech Show, with sign-up sheets there. The board recognized Chuck's work with the PTSA and his role in keeping it going. We need to formalize the role of PTSA liaison.
- All Benson Supporters BPHSAA Picnic details:
 - Blue Lake for sites 18A and 18B for Saturday August 4th. \$130.00. 9:30 AM to start setup.
 - MB created a ½ sheet flyer with Dale's input and placed it in all main office staff boxes Thursday 6/7. TH will send Max the email contacts for the retired teacher's list.
 - Board discussed and decided to do:
 - 50/50 raffle
 - Benson band will play
 - Band information
 - Free dogs, burgers and punch
 - Potluck table
 - Publicity! – PTSA, school email newsletters, school incoming student packet.
 - Chuck will see about getting better audio support.
 - Chuck will invite the PTSA.
 - Max will provide laminated name tags for the board at the picnic.
 - Max will look for the volunteer sign-up sheet from Tech Show.
 - Nominating Committee – Dale suggested the formation of a board nominating committee. They will meet before the next meeting to create a slate of candidates. JS, RJ and RS to be on the committee. Josh will provide a list of the board terms to the committee. JS and MB terms expire this year. Neal suggested asking nonparticipating board members to resign and join committees instead. The idea was agreed upon.
 - Construction Design program - Dale mentioned that a week ago Monday Carol announced plans for the class next year. They are focused on trying to build an advisory committee and connect to industry. This is our opportunity to start small and build a sustainable program. Tony, Jeanette and Kathy are going to staff the program. TH reported there are 30 textbooks on teaching thinking and design, but not necessarily construction. A role for BPHSAA to provide curriculum advice is coming clear. They need industry input also, to make the curriculum relevant to the current job market needs. The plan is that non CTE can roll the principles of design into their classes.
 - KBPS Support – During Carol's budget cut announcements, she said they are cutting the position of KBPS station manager. CH announced that he is personally committed to keeping the station open.
 - Outreach and Partnerships - RJ
 - OSU not reaching back yet. U of O is waiting on the results of their program with Jefferson.
 - OIT/Oregon Tech presents a unique opportunity. There had been a relationship between OIT and Benson in the past, but that has long passed.

Marla is the current partnership organizer. RJ emailed her asking to tell us classes that could help kids crossover and get kids ready to attend OIT. The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) defines how the two parties (OIT and Benson) formalize an agreement on their partnership. The paper is done. Carol will announce the agreement pre-fall. OIT is developing a campus in the Wilsonville area, which would be perfect for Benson students. For now there is the possibility of organizing day trips on the train down to K-falls.

- Foundation:
 - Meetings have progressed with Rob, Dale, Ken and Neal. They are pushing ahead. Doug Wells, past CEO of Oregon Ballet, generously donated an hour to give advice and documents of drafts of bylaws, etc. The third draft of the bylaws is done. The group also met with teachers at Benson last week. We will have to incorporate in the State of Oregon. We must have bylaws and officers to get assigned an EIN – this means lots of paperwork.
 - The latest version of the bylaws clearly states that our focus is CTE – not academics and not staff salaries. This was done on purpose, so we don't conflict with the school district foundation. We will help acquire money, resources and materials for CTE.
 - This focus helps structure the board: President, VP1: Public Affairs/money, VP2: In-kind donations, Treasurer, Secretary, and 6-15 directors. There would also be an advisory council with business leaders that meets 1 or 2 times a year.
 - This focus helps structure the committees: Executive Committee, Finance, PR & Fundraising, In-Kind, Board Development/Governance, Ad Hoc.
 - Annual meetings will be announced, minutes/records will be available online, and there will be an annual audit.
 - Please review the latest draft and send your comments to the group.
- Don Wear presentation: Event Trailer and Youth Ambassador Program.
 - Please see the last meeting minutes for an explanation of the Youth Ambassador Program and the event trailer.
 - Don built a prototype 12 foot trailer and used it for an event in May. Since that had enough room for all the materials, he is redrafting his design with the idea in mind that he can get approval from Carol and the teachers to have the Benson students build a trailer this next year.
 - Don has spoken to the Killingsworth street fair and the Main Street event in St. Johns and they are excited about the idea of renting the event trailer and having 70% of the money going to school student bodies.
 - Don presented the power point presentation that he shows to neighborhood associations and event committees, which included a clip from a channel 2 news show.
 - Discussion included the fact that really there are two components: building the trailer, and starting a Youth Ambassador Club at Benson.
 - MB moved that we endorse both projects, JS seconded. Further discussion: CH said it is hard to visualize supporting an idea that is not articulated on paper. He suggested an amendment to the motion: we will endorse the idea of the trailer being built by Benson students but we would postpone endorsement

of the Youth Ambassador Club until Wear provides the board with written materials, including a course outline and nonprofit information. The motion, as amended, passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Band uniform ideas: vest?
- Band information needs to be in the welcome packet for next year:
 - Should we be a band club? Spanish teacher adviser. This may solve contacting the kids issue for reminders about practices, etc,
 - What information: meeting times and place, possible events
- We need a plan for collecting info about alumni job skills/employers, as a way to find new business partners for Benson.
- We need a plan for communication to talk with political figures at all levels: mayor, county, state. Lay out our vision of mixed use development and business partnerships.
- JP reports that there is more memorabilia in the back room where the yearbooks are stored. We need to think about how we can preserve this history.
- Ray to help coordinate PR releases to the Portland Tribune, Willamette Week and the Oregonian about what is currently going on at Benson.
- Opportunities for alums to help:
 - JS – There is a health Corps program funded by Dr. Oz. This is the 2nd year. Coordinator on campus is doing things to keep kids healthy, does classroom stretching, yoga during study hall, etc. She could use more support. Materials, time, garden.
 - JP – does internship framework exist? Dale: PWA does the internships. They present a framework with commitments to businesses, so they can evaluate it annually.
- The scholarship fund is currently called the “Reunion Scholarship Fund”. Josh will find out what is involved in changing the name of the fund.
- Ideas of alumni support:
 - Ben Fleske OMSI – Josh to contact
 - OSU Extension – 4H support – Rob to contact
 - NASA space camp scholarship for two students? Max to investigate
- Benson and the State of Oregon received the sustainable program grant and they've been working on the study for two years but haven't finalized it. Dale to contact Tom Thompson with the Oregon State Department of Education and Reese Lord, who was working for the Mayor but is now at Systems, a private group of Educational Consultants.
- RJ: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has a grant we could go after. Kyle Cold at OSU Extension could help us write the grant and submit it.
 - Science Connections – having Benson students visit some nights and days at OSU for programs. Pam Doles on the board – program for steps into college for targeted individuals.
- The Google groups list is working, so please use it for board correspondence.

- Once the Foundation has 501C3 status:
 - We could ask that it be listed as a flight miles donation option at various airline websites.
 - Instrument and cash donations to the band will be tax deductible
- MB is having her 40th birthday party and ALS Association fundraiser on Sat. September 1st at the Bagdad theater, noon to 4PM. She will mention the Alumni Association and has spread the word that this is a way the class of 1990 can celebrate their collective 40th birthdays. Save the date.
- RJ: thoughts to recruit:
 - Dig deeper into matches of people with majors. Mission based approach to recruiting.
 - Start with communication about supporting the station. Rob will draft and send to Dale and Josh, for showing to Carol for approval.
- The meeting dates for the rest of the year are scheduled for 2nd Thursdays 5:30 – 7:30PM.
 - At Dick's work:
Group MacKenzie
1515 SE Water Ave. Suite 100 (by OMSI)
(Doors locked by 5PM; be ready to wave at the window and have a phone number handy)
 - July 12th
 - August 9th (consider that the picnic is Aug 4th, with annual meeting and board elections. may want to reschedule or cancel)
 - September 13th
 - At Benson library:
 - October 11th
 - November 8th
 - December 13th

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association

Post meeting information:

Benson staff retiree lists:

Shirley Bankston shirbur@earthlink.net - email list

Della Schiebold dschiebolt@yahoo.com - telephone list for those with no emails

Forest Grove High School students build 'Viking House'

(Says Forest Grove is 'the last high school in the state' to offer this kind of hands on training.)

<http://www.kgw.com/video/featured-videos/Forest-Grove-High-Schoolers-build-Viking-House--161513795.html>