

Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association Board of Director Meeting—Official Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Starting Time: 5:06pm Ending Time: 7:15pm

Location: Group MacKenzie, 1515 SE Water Ave., Portland

ATTENDEES:

Richard Spies, Dale Bajema, Neal Galash, Bob Hyland, Paul Benninghoff, Josh Piper, Ken Bakke, Joanne Stainbrook and Tammy Hite.

Guests: Cathy Skach, Gordon Anderson, Chet Gilbertson, William Hoard, John Bell and Ben Fleskes

MINUTES:

Note: Items may not be in the exact order in which they were discussed. If any corrections or additions need to be made, please forward them to Tammy Hite.

- Minutes from October meeting accepted.
- Membership count
 - No new members entered into database since last meeting, but 22 applications handed to Tammy at start of session.
- Treasury--\$344.00
- Benson Site Council Report
 - Statical information / report card handed out at meeting: grade gap between the richer and poorer schools is closing.
 - Cathy, who is the co-chair of the site council, stated that the council has decided to hold the official position about the CTE report. 4-years vs. the 2-year scenarios.
- Portland Tribune Article
 - Large response. Several new membership applications and registration at website.
 - ♦ Number of registered users at website doubled within a couple of days.
 - Some concern about what to have people who are interested in helping do.
 - Tammy suggested posting committee meeting dates and times so people can attend if they are interested.
 - Appears to be some response to the Oregonian ad since a few of the new applications were clipped from the paper.

- Alumni Reception on November 19th
 - Josh and Neal are providing refreshments
 - Dale will provide introductory remarks and Dick to present with PowerPoint.
 - Association printed materials to be available
 - Tammy to print sign-in sheets and name tags.
 - Cathy to video tape the presentation.
 - People were notified of the presentation through the website, email and a notice in the scholarship mailing.

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Dick, Tammy, Dale, Neal, Paul and Bob will work different shifts over the 2-days.
 - Dick will have boards with the LTD vision on them for viewing
 - Tammy and Dale will make sure there are printed materials.

- Benson Principal for the Day (Dick)
 - Lack of funding was a major issue. Much of the equipment (particularly printers) is out-of-date.
 - Only \$146,000 operating budget for school.
 - Teachers wonder what they should tell their students. Is there going to be a school to come back to next year?

- LTD
 - Dick has spoken to some of the school district officials who have been assigned to address the “high school” issues; Zeke Smith and Sara Singer. They seem interested.
 - We need to start rally “power people” to the cause; people the district have to listen to.
 - Implementing sustainable career pathways could generate stimulus packages for the school and district
 - Dick has approached mayor-elect Sam Adams.
 - Steve Schvich with PCC facilities may be willing to become an advisor to the LTD committee.
 - OMSI is expanding and could be a potential partner
 - District is potentially looking at Marshall, Lincoln, Benson and Jefferson to implement new strategies.
 - Cathy asked about the district’s timeline. Dick says that the district will be looking at November 2010 for a ballot measure.
 - Chuck McClugen with the Boys and Girls Club says we can have a hearing when we get a plan together, but need to do so quickly.
 - Statics show that 15% of PPS students go to private schools and that the number of students in the lower grade levels is slowly increasing.
 - PPS needs to develop strong programs to get those students into the public schools.
 - Bob will get someone to come to a BOD meeting to discuss charter schools.
 - Cathy is now on committees for transfer policies and high school reform.

- Scholarship Committee
 - Envelope stuffing happened earlier today. 2000 letters were sent out. Notice about the November 19th event was included.

- Membership Committee
 - There is a website that has the ability to find alumni, but we would be limited to using their site which is a few steps behind ours, but we would have access to the info.
 - Tammy would like further discussion on streamlining the application processing. Josh is working so that info can be entered on-line.

- Financial Committee
 - Expenses for 2009 need to be planned.
 - Members of committee need to arrange a time to meet
 - John Bell has offered to help Paul draft a 2009 budget.

- Newsletter
 - Dale would like to have articles to put in the newsletter by Sunday so that we can hand them out at the 19th reception.

- Next meeting to be held at Benson. Tammy to reserve library classroom.
- Tammy would like to see a Benson “Achievements” spot added to the website.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.