

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



Date: June 09, 2014
Starting Time: 5:30 pm Ending Time: 7:30 pm
Benson Tech Library

ATTENDEES:

Josh Piper (JP), Ken Bakke (KB), Neal Galash (NG), RE (Rodger Edwards), Joanne Stainbrook (JS), Dick Spies (DS), Don Wear (DW), Max Baker (MB), Rob Johns (RJ), Dale Bajema (DB), Michael Landstrom (ML)

MINUTES:

- Introduction by Rob Johns
- Treasurer's Report:
 - KB: Balance is \$2764.67. Paypal account is 0.
- Membership:
 - JP: Currently we have 167 people.
- Next meetings for July and August will be at Dick's office – Mackenzie.
- Benson Senior Awards Assembly:
 - JP was at the assembly and presented awards to two students. Before the assembly started, the students were lined up in the cafeteria for about 10 minutes. JP was able to hand out Benson Alumni stickers/clings with the alumni website on them. Next year we might ask about having more time to talk to students and possibly sign them up right away.
 - It would be great to get something in the senior packet about the alumni association.
 - It would be great to get more teacher involvement.
 - They held back money this year for next year.
- Online Merchandise:
 - JP presented the concept of a year round source of Benson Alumni merchandise. We can select the offerings available and help set the pricing. The alumni association would get a share of each sale. The items are more expensive than if we ordered them in bulk, but we won't have to store and track inventory. If we do need a large order, we can still have it made at a local shop.
 - The group felt that this was something worth pursuing.
- Update on Athletics:
 - DB: There was a meeting on May 21st to address the questions the Benson community compiled for the district regarding sports. John Issacs was absent, but Trip Goodall was there and answered the written questions.
 - The site council's athletic committee is going to meet through the summer talking to coaches and new athletic director and meet with the district with more questions. They haven't resolved the issues. Decisions for the following year (2015-2016) will be made early next year. We need to get decisions out of the district by December.

- At the school's June 3rd picnic there were about 40 parents who signed up to volunteer at the school. August 16th is another opportunity to connect.
- At our last meeting there was a question about athletic fees. The fee is \$205, but if you are eligible for reduced or free lunch you can get a reduced fee. In reality, most of the players pay \$40 per sport. A larger obstacle is academic eligibility. Rachael Draper said this was huge with kids playing a full season. Based on grades this spring Benson might not have a varsity basketball team.
- Curtis hired full time athletic director. Hopes the person he knows will volunteer this summer. He's replaced two existing coaches. At least two of the new teachers are interested in coaching. This at least addresses part of the issues with the teachers being around the kids during the school year, keeping tabs on athletic eligibility.
- Boosters Club:
 - Momentum is building for a Boosters Club.
 - There will be a meeting directly after this one to discuss the forming of a Boosters group for Benson athletics.
 - There was discussion with how the Alumni group could help with requests from coaches for funding.
 - We believe they can write checks to Benson H.S. with memo line to Football etc. Bookkeeper sends out a letter about tax deduction. . **KB will ask the bookkeeper what categories they have for donations.**
 - We can advertise on the web and post/email with appeals for help/money, with sports activities.
 - **DB will also talk to Curtis about what kind of system they have for controlling donated money to athletics.**
 - NG: Grant has a fundraising monthly deal with Papa Murphy's on Fremont. Donations aren't that big usually, it's the fundraisers that make money.
- School News:
 - The site council is looking into ways to provide more tutoring for students.
 - There will be a new athletic director at Benson this year.
 - 10-12 new teachers will be coming (mix of new FTE, retirements, replacements)
 - Benson Sports Hall of Fame had 14 new inductees this year. Leon McKenzie was one of the inductees and will also be retiring from Benson this year.
 - At the district level, Trip Goodall will be leaving PPS. He understood Benson's mission. Hopefully Principal Wilson will be able to provide input in the decision for Trip's replacement.
- Community Picnic:
 - There will be a planning meeting for the picnic on Thursday June 12 from 6:00-8:00. Location TBD.
 - Picnic is Saturday, August 19th from noon – 4:00pm at Benson.
- Update on Design/Drawing
 - DS has been working with an advisory group to get the program going. The long range goal is a Design Center at Benson that incorporates many design professions and industries.

- PPS is in the process of hiring for the teaching position. Tammy Hite has accepted the role.
- DS: We've identified new classroom space, good step in the right direction. We are hoping to free up some of the space being used for other purposes for all the programs. We're identifying equipment for the next phases. McKenzie is phasing out computers and we're extending an opportunity to Tammy to come see if anything would be useful. There are many short term projects to bolster the program. They need space for tech Geometry program, which has been a big success. This class combines geometry and construction where the kids build things. Kids that struggle with math seem to be able to break through problems with the class. We're trying to figure out if there is a cost effective way to cover the alleys in the back and use it for protecting equipment and build things. We've researched prefab systems. (handout) \$25,000. We're looking at grants. With a system like this we don't have to through it away when the school is rebuilt. Need is not there for next fall, but the fall after. Really exciting things taking place. Awaiting decisions the district is making over the summer. The bond committee is supposed to be meeting in the next few weeks on the next steps. The last meeting I attended, there were three options and Benson was on all three. The district knows they need a story in place talking about the bond 9 months ahead.
- Update on Transportation:
 - DW has been working with the transportation and construction instructors to bring in industry partners.
 - Daimler has donated a teaching truck and some engines. There still needs to be an official approval to go ahead with the diesel program.
 - DW will be assisting in assembling a core of partners to join the advisory board for these majors when the instructors are ready. Possible partners are Boeing, Cummings, Daimler.
 - The group is also looking at whether Benson could be a training location for CTE teacher apprenticeships. This could be coordinated with teaching programs at Concordia University and Oregon Tech.
 - The group also discussed ways to make the advisory boards for the majors more transparent. The more visible they are the more effective alumni and Benson supporters can be in recruiting additional partners. One thought was that Principal Wilson have CTE staff present their advisory board members at a staff meeting to promote the process and importance of the boards.
- Concept of “Apprentice”
 - RE brought up the importance of the concept of the ‘apprentice’ at Benson.
 - There is a program called ‘Pathways to Manufacturing’ that is managed by Impact NW. Currently Vigors and Daimler participate in the program with Franklin and Centennial students.
 - Benson is not part of this program.
 - Benson’s career coordinator, Miranda, is looking for summer jobs and internship opportunities for students. Her plan for next year is to get more kids out in to the community.
- Benson Tech Foundation:

- RJ will set up an account with Points West Credit Union which is right across the street from Benson. He will donate \$1000 as seed money. (Thank you Rob!)
- Points West does financial seminars in the community and would be willing to come to Benson and talk to students. This idea needs to be followed up with Principal Wilson.
- Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) Field Trip
 - 5 students have the opportunity to visit the OIT program. The cost is \$45 each.
 - PTSA has stepped up and will help with the funds.
- 5 Year Plan
 - Principal Wilson has asked the Site Council to create an abbreviated version of the 5 Year Plan and would like to see a 1 Year Plan in order to prioritize efforts.
 - DB will bring further information to the July meeting.
- Adjourned at 7:30pm

OLD BUSINESS

- Old business list needs to be reviewed and updated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association