

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



Date: Sep 8, 2014

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

Benson Tech Library

ATTENDEES:

Dale Bajema (DB), Ken Bakke (KB), Don Wear (DW), Neal Galash (NG), Max Baker (MB), Josh Piper (JP), RE (Rodger Edwards), Joanne Stainbrook (JS), Dick Spies (DS).
Guests Paul Anthony (parent), Tammy Hite (teacher/former board), Amy Henry (counsellor office).

MINUTES:

- Amy Henry spoke:
 - We won two grants this year:
 - AmeriCorps 3 year grant: they have a volunteer to create mentorship for Hispanic kids. The school can't access the recent graduate info, which is stored at the district. This was what parents asked for.
 - \$40,000 planning grant from the Kaiser Foundation to see if we could have a clinic based here. We need a Medical Sponsor. Mult. Co. sponsors all the neighborhood high schools. We are in talks with OHSU and others. Re Mult. Co. the reason they aren't sponsoring our clinic is shortage in funding. 20 years ago the Benson Community said they didn't want the clinic, since then there are also the facts that we aren't K-12 and we don't have a 'community'.
 - 280 Freshman enrolled, the most funding and classes this year in the last 20 years.
 - Michael Dembrow is trying to push more funding for CTE schools.
 - DS: Julie Earnest might be someone to talk to.
 - AH: They will be forming subcommittees looking at facilities and sponsors.
- Amy Henry left.
- Tammy Hite was re-introduced and spoke about the architecture drafting classe
 - She is working on updating the curriculum. It's not been written out, so she is documenting it so that there can be continuity when there are more teachers. It's going to be a challenge getting the juniors up to speed. Equipment is still coming in. The Career tech teachers are thrilled to have the program back.
 - DS: When you get a chance get in touch with Matt about equipment. I'll take what I have to the office.
- DS:
 - There will be a meeting on the 24th for the Design Center Advisory Group.
 - Geotech program cover: were trying to put between E wing and the radio station. Challenges with permitting; historic design review because it's a historic site. We might have to plan it with brick, might have to be 40 to 70 percent enclosed. It's currently borderline feasible. We'll get better info in the next few weeks. Alternate sites were discussed.

- TH: KBPS pushed to have their old space used for a digital/video production class headed by Kathy Skatch.
- Board membership:
 - DB: In Feb we lose a few people off the board. We will need to fill 6 or 7 positions. We'll lose some institutional knowledge. It's not too early to do some recruiting. It would be good if people with interest can start attending meetings now.
 - Discussion ensued. We have four months. Let's find some people.
 - DW talked about his budding relationship building with the Oregon Tradeswomen group.
- Treasurer's report:
 - KB: \$2554.47 in the bank.
 - Approx. \$575 for the picnic.
 - Wrote \$719 for the picnic, merchandise and stamps.
 - Approx. \$80 worth of food from the picnic was used at the teacher's appreciation.
 - About 50 tickets given away.
 - JP: \$60.94 in PayPal for memberships
- Picnic discussion:
 - MB: Volunteers made it easy. Ended up with good design. Tents were crucial. Nice that KBPS was playing.
 - DW: glider project was a flop with freshmen but the 7th and 8th graders loved it. Started a discussion about creating Benson gliders and going out to elementary and middle schools about coming out to the picnic. Relationships with Sat Academy and OMSI will help with that too.
 - JS: In talking with the volunteer kids they said they wanted to see more freshmen. They really wanted to share their information. Having the students there to help was crucial, helped to get more students to come. Idea to try and get some partnerships with some food carts. Someone suggested a water slide - might be able to do a sprinkler or mister.
 - DW moved that we purchase a \$50 gift card for the janitor in appreciation of the work he did at the picnic. Dick Spies seconded. Discussion ensued. The vote was taken and the motion passed with one dissent. MB will contact Rob so he and Curtis can present.
- Minutes:
 - MB: The minutes will be caught up by the next meeting.
- Membership:
 - JP: 75 members. 4 from picnic and 2 from the website. They paid \$20.
- JP passed out newsletters and covers for the board to do folding for the rest of the meeting.
- Update on athletics and boosters club:
 - DB: There have been public meetings with the district. Early this summer met with Curtis and Jon Issacs. Now we're hearing rumors that there will be changes this coming year. The big realization was that we need more kids turn out for teams, more fans turn out, more support. In the hiring of staff for this year, we have a new full time athletic director. He's been very active already

in working with coaches. They replaced about half the coaches this year. Some of us have helped organize the boosters club. There aren't any illusions about how much money we'll raise but there are many ideas out there. This will help get the parents involved in activities around the games, like concessions and tickets, and help publicize games other than basketball and football.

- This Friday at Scappoose is another game at 7:30.
- On Wed this week is the first meeting of the boosters club at 7PM in the band room. Curtis will be there, and Sanjay. They will talk about the fall teams and what they hope to have help with. Lisa White is helping head the organization. Her son is playing sports. Please think about how you can support the boosters. We have another year to convince the district we have enough support.
- RE: Can you summarize the tax exempt status that the boosters have?
- DB: They applied for incorporation, which is the first step. Donations either go to the boosters club that are not tax deductible, or written to the school with a memo for athletics, then it's tax deductible.
- Benson Tech enrollment:
 - DS: One of the district people said they were struggling with the issue that we may not have enough high schools, so the notion of Benson at 800 students might turn into Benson with 2000. Portland State demographic analysis has changed over the last few years. 5 years ago they thought it was a modest increase. Now they are saying it will be a large increase.
 - DS: District seems to be content to let the enrollment creep up. There is some reinterpretation of the study done that resulted in the cap. They introduced the idea of a balancer last year, so that those areas that were underrepresented in Benson's population would get higher priority. The 10th of October is when they count students and that becomes the official number.
- Events:
 - Alumni and Site Council hosted a social for the teachers the week before school started. Used the leftover food from the picnic. About 25 of the teachers and staff were there. They were appreciative of the opportunity. It was a good mixer for old and new teachers. Rob and Curtis were excited about it. Maybe once a semester.
 - JS: Might be nice to have the chef's club make food we provide for this type of event.
 - DW: Might want to get food donated by Safeway or Fred Meyer. I'll check.
 - DB: This might be a good opportunity to bring in Alumni to get them interested in the board.
 - DW: Some of the teachers would have liked to have come to the event but they had to go pick up their kids - timing was off.
 - DB: Kenton gathering has been going on for three years. Many people come back, some come and go. Might think about another type of event in another section of the city. TH suggested a winter/spring dance.
 - We will form a committee to come up with some ideas: DW, JP, JS

- DB: Newsletters - 2 per year. Should we regularly update our site with info? We'd need a new person to take that on. Would Connie be interested?
 - DB will send a link out to the board to get on Curtis' mailing list.
- DW: We should continue building contacts with the Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.
- Adjourned at 7:30pm

OLD BUSINESS – things to keep in mind

- Benson 5 year plan.
- Who do we talk to at the awards ceremony about getting time to address students about the alumni association?
- Plan for merchandise?
- 'Pathways to Manufacturing' that is managed by Impact NW. Currently Vigors and Daimler participate in the program with Franklin and Centennial students.
- 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association