

**Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association
Monthly Board of Directors Meeting – Final**



Date: Aug 10, 2020
Starting Time: 5:40 pm
Ending Time: 7:04 pm
Virtual meeting

ATTENDEES:

Roger Edwards (RE), Rob Johns (RJ), Josh Piper (JP), Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB), Dale Bajema (DB), Rachael Kuryunny (RK), Bob Trimble (BT)

ABSENT: Mike Landstrom (ML), Dave Hutchins (DH), Paul Rossi (PR), Andy Payne (AP), Gerry Ochs (GO)

GUEST: Kevin Clark, alum; Curtis Wilson, Principal of Benson Tech

Virtual meetings will commence until we can safely meet in person again.

NEW BUSINESS

- Treasurer's report – BT:
 - Paypal 174.32
 - Bank Statement Savings:
 - Beginning balance \$1,000.09
 - Dividend \$0.03
 - \$0.12 interest
 - Ending balance \$1,000.12
 - Bank Statement Checking:
 - Beginning Balance: \$2559.27
 - Deposit 75, 20
 - Ending balance \$2654.27
- Discussion of school this fall:
 - Earliest schools will open is Nov 5th, and probably shouldn't count on it.
- Membership – JP:
 - Currently 85.
- Girls Soccer and PPS Athletic Director – Alumni Position Statement: RJ
 - Recap: There's about 30 girls that want to play soccer - there aren't enough for Varsity and JV teams. Marshall Haskins, District Athletic Director of Portland Public Schools, is proposing JV2 team instead of JV team.
 - RJ sent the position statement letter in support of Girls' soccer being a JV team. There was a bit of back and forth about the history of removing sports from Benson Tech.

- Guest Curtis Wilson:
 - All virtual from now until Nov 5th. Somewhere in October they will make a decision if we will stay virtual for another quarter.
 - This was a nightmare for scheduling. Moving from 8 periods a day to 4 periods a day every day. Each class will be a semester, but it counts for a full year.
 - Trying to figure out how to get the teachers in the building to use the equipment to teach from the school. (Especially CTE, other schools for other programs.) Would it be possible to get some students into the building, appropriately distanced, for hands on CTE? The district is still working it out, but our CTE class spaces are fairly big.
 - PPE was already on order because they were expecting in person schooling. The issue is the hallways, where kids may or may not keep masks on and distance appropriately.
 - Cleaning: The recommendation is to clean the entire school weekly. But cleaning all the schools weekly will cost the district millions of dollars. On a daily basis it would have to be on the shoulders of the teachers: wiping desks, doors, etc. It would have to be worked out because it's not part of contracts.
 - Ventilation: some shops with open windows would be fine, but some would probably need fans. Academic classrooms can only hold about 1/3 of the students (8 to 10) - trying to figure out a schedule for that. We have to come back to these discussions. 8th grade orientation and visits, tech show, etc. are all open questions.
 - District has a macro plan in place for staff to return to buildings, but each school has to make their own plan for more than a few people to return.
 - Fall athletics have been moved to March. Winter is still slated to happen during winter. Spring will still be in spring as well. Issue of kids doing fall and spring sports will have to choose only one.
 - In the Fall health, which can more easily be done online. In Feb (2nd semester) they will have PE - hoping kids will be back.
 - Guidance on flexibility for graduation requirements? Currently, no changes in requirements. Kids will be graded. The SATs and other things, TBD.
 - Alumni should make sure your voice is heard for kids in CTE to be allowed to utilize the equipment, in a safe way.
- Curtis was excused from the meeting.
- Discussion of school situation:
 - DB suggested we have two letters from the association: How to get teachers back into the building, how to get some CTE kids back into the building. Then, pushing back the application process. Suggesting being proactive with both issues.
 - RK: if our county meets the benchmarks for reopening, even if schools aren't open we might have some leeway to get exceptions.

- Continued: Girls Soccer and PPS Athletic Director –: RJ
 - Purpose was to build a bridge with the superintendent about the fact that the current rules are not clear to people not inside PPS, suggested that since Benson Tech does not have a feeder school, and is entered through by lottery, that maybe the lottery would take into consideration athletics. It also seems that Haskins makes decisions in a silo and parent/community/booster participation would be welcome in decision making. We did hear Girls soccer will be varsity in the spring.
 - Should we have a third letter on having athletic consideration be part of the lottery? Trial program to see if it has an effect.
 - RK: I could see it having an effect if kids can get into Benson Tech with other friends they played sports with.
 - Discussion about advertising in vehicles like the Sellwood Bee or Southeast Examiner, or Asian Reporter to families near our temp location that Benson Tech will be close to them.
 - KC: State determines lottery methods and there's a lot of confusion about how the lottery works. There's no reason they couldn't put in a metric parameter that gives some weight to athletics. There are already values for gender include in the PPS lottery metric. So we may need to go beyond Haskins and PPS. There are PPS officials that believe kids should be playing sports with their 'neighborhood' schools, underscoring the need for BPHS community vigilance and action to improve lottery methods for BPHS interests.
 - RJ: I'll follow up by emailing a draft.
 - [RK sent a link to the current sports schedule to the board during the meeting: <https://www.oregonlive.com/sports/2020/08/oregons-high-school-football-season-wont-start-until-march-moves-start-of-competition-for-2020-21-sports-to-jan-11.html>]
 - [RK sent a link to the current PPS announcements about school in the Fall, as of Aug 7th. This page updates automatically to the latest news: <https://www.pps.net/fall2020>]
- Alumni newsletter - DB:
 - We need to keep our alumni informed with what's happening with Benson Tech, bond measure, etc.
 - Target: Sept 30th. We'll work back from there.
 - Potential articles, deadline Friday Sept 2nd.
 - Bond: RJ
 - Reunions blurb - RK
 - Social Distanced alumni milestone birthday - RK
 - Simon Benson scholarship fund vs. ours - RJ
 - JP will get names of our scholarship winners from the spring.
 - 2020 graduation ceremony - MB
 - Curtis updates about the fall - DB
 - Benson Tech alums working in the front line - DB

- Minutes: MB:
 - July minutes sent again a few days ago. Bob sent the statement to be added, and Roger sent a note to update the treasurer's report that the checks were deposited.
 - RK moved and JP seconded to approve all the minutes, with the additions of the email from Rob to PPS and his notes from the call they had discussing it. Motion passed.
- Gifts from Franz - RJ:
 - He'll catalogue the gifts and send a thank you.
 - Discussed asking Curtis where the large screen TV would be of best use in the school. RJ will ask him.
- Benson Tech, working on the front line - can we find a way to connect and thank them? Give them some swag? Let's use the newsletter to ask if they want to nominate anyone. DB will draft a bit for the newsletter.
- Next meetings will be virtual: September 14th, October 12th at 5:30PM.
 - <https://meet.google.com/goo-dwsy-ryi>
 - You can also join via phone by calling:
 - Dial-in: (US) +1 816-944-1361
 - PIN: 512 701 146#
- Any information that comes in after the next meeting and before draft minutes are sent out will be included below.

Parking Lot:

- Time Capsule contents during rebuild?
- sending out recognition of milestone birthdays to alums, including Benson Tech information, and estate planning. (Leftover Benson branded things that Curtis has - can we send them?)

MEETING AJOURNED

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association

5:47 PM

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Josh Piper

Carol LaBrie

Robert Johns

Unknown

Curtis Wilson