



November 9th 2020

Veterans Day/Revised Schedule This Week

Please note that there will be no school for students on Wednesday November 11th as we recognize Veterans Day. The teaching schedule will be as follows for this week.

**Monday A Day Periods 1-2 (Live) Periods 3-4 (Asynchronous)
Tuesday B Day Periods 3-4 (Live) Periods 1-2 (Asynchronous)
Thursday A Day Periods 1-2 (Live) Periods 3-4 (Asynchronous)
Friday B Day Periods 3-4 (Live) Periods 1-2 (Asynchronous)
*BHS Admin Team***

Parent/Teacher Conferences: November 23rd & 24th

Please note that the Benson Tech Virtual Conferences will be happening Monday and Tuesday November 23rd and 24th. Please be sure to click on one of the links below in the preferred language and read about the upcoming Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences. In the links below you will find sign up instructions and important information as to how the virtual conferences will proceed this year. Please be sure to read all the instructions slowly as they will take you through all the procedures for setting up conference meeting times with our teachers for the 23rd and 24th of November.

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Russian](#)

[Vietnamese](#)

[Chinese](#)

BHS Admin Team

Benson Tech Climate Survey

Parents/Guardians please take a few minutes to complete this survey from our Climate Coach Colleen Johnston. This short survey will help us to become better stewards as we look to improve on supporting the students and families for Benson Tech. <https://forms.gle/U7Xo5p9hTm3DgAJk6> (Benson Tech Survey)
Colleen Johnston (Dean of Students/Climate Coach)

*Please be sure to follow me
on Twitter*

@BensonTechPride

***PPS Website For Up To
Date Information &
Resources for the 2020-21
school year.***

[Pps.net/fall2020](https://pps.net/fall2020)

Start Spreading The News

***Benson Tech Application
Lottery Dates will be
November 12th to
December 11th 2020.***

***Please be sure to go to the
BHS Website as
www.bensonhs.net for
school information as it
becomes relevant.***

***Please click on the link
below to access updated
information regarding
Athletics at Benson Tech***

***[Benson Tech Athletics
Weekly Update](#)***

Textbook Distribution

The next opportunity to pick up textbooks will be on Wednesday November 18th from 12:30pm to 3:00p in the Horseshoe Parking Lot Area. Textbooks will be distributed by Irma Johnson. Please email Ms. Johnson at ijohnson@pps.net with specific questions.

BHS Library

A Message from BHS Activities Coordinator Lisa Sweeney

Gain leadership experience and help shape your school community by joining ASB! Elections are being held November 16th to November 20th. If you would like to run for your class's president, vice president, treasurer, or secretary, fill out the candidate registration [form](#). Forms are due November 9th! Contact the activities coordinator Lisa Sweeney (lsweeney@pps.net) if you have any questions. Go Tech!
<https://forms.gle/6dw1AGEbjTkfZMSV6>

TAG Message

Hello Benson Tech Families,

TAG Nomination/Permission Forms are due to your school by **Nov. 20th** in order to be nominated for a possible TAG Identification this year. Additional Questions? Reach out to me, kkennedy@pps.net your TAG Facilitator. The TAG department is currently working on a digital form for nominations. This will be uploaded some time in October. Check the TAG website linked below for updates.

<https://www.pps.net/Page/3884>

K. Nicole Kennedy, LPN

Health Science Instructor

Black Student Union Adviser

TAG Facilitator

Benson Alumni

Benson Polytechnic High School

The Benson Wellness Center is back open!

Students are seen by appointment only; sorry, no walk-ins due to COVID Restrictions.

Need a medical appointment? There are two steps:

Step 1: Register if you are a first time patient at 503-494-8505.

Step 2: Call to schedule an appointment in person or virtually at 503-418-0409

Sincerely,

[Caroline Bleckmann, LCSW](#), She/her

School Social worker, Benson Polytechnic High School

[Benson Wellness Center](#)

Cell/Non-urgent texting: 503-729-3486

Monday-Friday, 8-4:00

[How can the School Social Worker help me?](#)

Outside of office hours, if you or your loved one is experiencing a mental health crisis, please call the Multnomah County Crisis line at 503-988-4888.

A Message from the BHS Counseling Department

Looking for something to do and wanting to gain some work experience? Here is a rare opportunity to volunteer! Store to Door of Oregon is a non-profit organization that supports independent living in the Portland area for seniors and people with disabilities by providing an affordable, personal, volunteer-based grocery shopping and delivery service. The easiest way to get started is to visit their volunteer website, linked below, to create an account and sign-up for a grocery shopping shift. You will be provided with a training video at sign-up and a verbal in-store training.

www.storetodooroforegon.volunteerhub.com

--

Amy Henry (she/her)

Counselor/Supervisor, Social Courtyard

Benson Polytechnic High School

Working with Students with the last name A-Gq

971-378-0457 (phone/text)

A Message from Kia Swain

The annual Future Vision seminar presented by the AIA Oregon Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion will be held virtually this year through multiple sessions the week of November 9-13. The symposium consists of 4 sessions and 2 happy hours over 4 days Nov 9-13 (minus veterans' day on the 11th). The themes for each day are: Design Justice, Critical Race Theory, Climate Justice, and Application (an arch firm panel that contextualizes the weeks discussions to our practice).

2020 Future Vision Seminar

ALL SESSIONS ARE FREE FOR STUDENTS!

Sharing an opportunity to be part of an Ethnic Studies Campaign, led by one of our EmpowHER and Benson HS Students, Hikima Edao! Hikima is looking for BIPOC Youth and adults alike to participate.

Can you please Send the following to Kia Swain by Tuesday, 11/10:
A video clip of yourself saying "We need Ethnic Studies in all PPS schools"
A photo of yourself.

Here's a note from Hikima directly:

Hey everyone I'm Hikima. I need videos of you saying we need ethnic studies in all Portland public schools (specially BIPOC youth) for a video I'm doing about why need ethnic studies in our k-12 schools. A picture of you along with the video will be very appreciated as well.

TEDxYouth@Portland are holding a virtual event this year. Their speaker application is now open. Assistant Director of TEDxYouth want to share this opportunity with as many students as possible. Please feel free to contact Amanda Bailey (Assistant Director) directly for further questions. amandabailey12@gmail.com

The website for the event is [HERE](#) and our speaker application can be found [HERE](#).

Good News! Outdoor School has opened registration for all high school students (freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors) for the 2020-2021 school year! There is no cost to students who want to participate. [Outdoor School Flyer.pdf](#) or click [here to register](#).

A Message from Kia Swain

Holiday Food Box Delivery:

Registration link:

<https://sunshine-division.cyrkusevents.com/holiday>

MAZING DESIGN JUSTICE EVENT ALERT!

This week 11/9-11/13, AIA Oregon's COEDI is having the annual [Future Vision Symposium](#), Free to all students to attend. Keynotes include:

[Bryan C. Lee Jr](#) of Colloqate and Design as Protest

[PCC Critical race Theory with Amara Perez & Students](#)

[On Friday, I will be moderating a Panel Discussion on Firms and Practices](#)

[Register HERE](#) and hope to see you there!

Mrs. Kia Swain

Youth Transition Program

Career/Transition Coordinator

Benson HS (Monday/Tuesday)

503-916-5100 x 77262

Roosevelt HS (Wednesday-Friday)

503-916-5100 x 82385

Work Cell- 971-413-9588

A Message from Caroline Bleckmann
BHS Wellness Center

Parents/Guardians,

The Wellness Center has put together a 7-minute video explaining the services of the BHS Wellness Center.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b9wWtYiVnWWRT-P98b5iOzsxtz31M5fB/view>

The link below is a flyer regarding the opening and the resources that are available and can be utilized at the BHS Wellness Center.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Cccj6iJZpyCQkddk9_UgoxYuBwjpsOPs/view?usp=sharing

Sincerely,

[Caroline Bleckmann, LCSW](#), She/her

School Social worker, Benson Polytechnic High School

[Benson Wellness Center](#)

Cell/Non-urgent texting: 503-729-3486

Monday-Friday, 8-4:00

[How can the School Social Worker help me?](#)

Outside of office hours, if you or your loved one is experiencing a mental health crisis, please call the Multnomah County Crisis line at 503-988-4888.

A Message from the Yearbook Committee Class at Benson Tech

The Yearbook committee is super excited to bring to you Benson's 2020 yearbook! To properly capture what 2020-21 is all about, we'll need your help!

We will be asking for student and parent photo submissions for various yearbook sections as well as story tips. There are so many students that are rising above the challenges of 2020.

Together with Leadership we will be giving you updates through their official IG page @btechleadership. If you have any other questions or suggestions please feel free to contact us:

Got a story to share?

Got a story you want to share? Tips? Shoot us a pitch!

bhsyearbookinfor2020@gmail.com

Senior Photos needed!

*Senior Photos are optional but if you have them, send them here! *deadline has yet to be determined**

BHSSeniorPhotos2020@gmail.com

BHS Yearbook Committee

Yearbook Announcement for Students

Each week, yearbook will be asking for photos and stories in different areas of interest. Given the unique situation, we really need support to document this historical year. Please help us represent your students.

This week:

CALL FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER PHOTOS

This year's yearbook must represent our students who have been a part of the Black Lives Matter movement! Have your students been involved with or attended any Black Lives Matter protests? We are looking for photos of demonstrations, marches, street art and events in Portland.

Submit your photos to kmico@gmail.com. Please include your name and the name of any Benson students in the photo so we can contact them for permission. Please include any personal stories.

A Message from the BHS Attendance Office

We encourage students to attend on a regular basis. Studies show that missing more than one day per month can actually lead to poorer grades and contributes to dropping out of school.

Naturally, we understand that there are occasions that a student must miss a school day. When this happens it is important for you to contact the school to let us know the reason for the absence. Please remember to communicate directly with the attendance office if your student will be absent for any period of time during the school day. The best ways to let us know are, in order of school preference:

Send an email to the attendance office at benson-attendance@pps.net

Call the attendance line directly at 503-916-5109

Call the school main office number at 503-916-5100 - Select option 3

Send a note via your student excusing the absence

Always remember, we need the STUDENT NAME, ID# (if known) and REASON FOR THE ABSENCE. (Saying it is an excused absence does not give us the reason, please be specific) The Attendance Office will check messages and emails at 7:30am and throughout the school day.. The attendance phone line is continuously busy throughout the school day. An email provides a written message directly to the attendance office. The attendance office can excuse previous absences up to three days after the absence occurs. After the three days, corrections cannot be made.

You can monitor your child's attendance through ParentVUE. Contact the school if you do not know how to access ParentVUE.

Please continue on the next page.....

A Message from the BHS Attendance Office

If you do not communicate with the school, we cannot properly record your child's absence. If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance do not hesitate to email or call the attendance office. Please help us, help your student have a successful year here at Benson Tech.

With the advent of distance learning, there are some questions that have arisen. I am finding that the majority of questions regarding attendance are addressing asynchronous classes. The following is an explanation of how this and other attendance calls could be avoided.

Asynchronous days are not live sessions with the instructor. There are various ways your student can contact the teacher for attendance purposes.

- They log on and just check in with the teacher.

- They contact the teacher by emailing if they have any questions or need assistance with the assignment.

- They complete the posted assignment and turn it in. The assignment cannot be turned in late to count toward attendance. While they may receive credit for turning it in late they would still be counted as absent if they don't contact the teacher in another way.

- Their parent may email the attendance email at benson-attendance@pps.net to leave a valid reason for the absence (illness, appointment, etc.)

If you get a call saying your student has missed a period, I would correspond with the classroom teacher directly. I will always need authorization from the classroom teacher to correct an absence. By contacting the teacher directly, they can send me an email for a quick correction. This is also important because the State of Oregon mandates that I may not make corrections to attendance more than three school days prior to the current school date.

Norma L. Lawson
School/Attendance Secretary
Benson Polytechnic High School

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan

2020-2021 WTS Portland Shelley Holly Transportation YOU High School Scholarship

Transportation YOU is a hands-on, interactive, mentoring program that offers young girls ages 13-18 an introduction to a wide variety of transportation careers. Through the Transportation YOU program and this scholarship, WTS chapters work to make a difference in the lives of young girls by offering opportunities and activities that will spark their interest in all modes of transportation and encourage them to take courses in math, science, and technology, which are the stepping stones to exciting careers that can change the face of the transportation industry.

See information link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZeDNBXgEHK54Ocj1d0ZYNVeWOHKYQ4srGXgwOwVLJT8/edit?usp=sharing>

Career Workshops & Speaker Series

Interview Tips November 12th, 2020

Come learn the basics of interviewing and strategies to develop and improve your interview skills. We will discuss how to prepare for an interview, what employers expect, and how to handle the most common interview questions. Registration

Link: <https://forms.gle/Z82zunpcyHreKC2B7>

Mock Interviews: November 19th, 2020

Practice your interview skills with a professional. Get valuable advice to improve your chances of getting the job. Interview slots are limited. Interview times will occur between 1:00 and 3:00. Please register for a time as soon as

possible. Registration Link: <http://bit.ly/BHSmock2020>

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan

Disaster Day Academy- November 18th, 2020

Come and learn how to help your community in the event of a disaster. The session will include Fire Safety, Basic CPR, Home Preparedness, and Mental Health. Please use the link provided to register: <https://forms.gle/FB3ENSzaiF3ELHkS6>

HOMA with Spencer Garland / BRENDA ARTS

Meets Mondays and Weds 4-5:30pm | November 30, December 2, 7, 9, 14, 16

In this workshop, students will learn about museums and power structures within the art world through a survey of contemporary Black artists and exhibitions. We'll create modern art collections in our homes by way of building original work and using digital video to curate and share our HOMA collections. Using online platforms to explore and exchange ideas, images, and information we'll define our own aesthetics and create personal canons outside the constraints of formal institutions.

[REGISTER HERE.](#)

Surviving Isolation: Zine Making in the Time of Remote Learning with Inés Paulina Ramírez

Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-5:30pm | December 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17

In an era of remote learning, how do we stay creatively connected to our friends, our school communities, and the experience of being a high schooler in 2020? This workshop offers students the opportunity to use multiple forms of creative expression to document and connect with each other at the intersection of COVID 19, racial justice protests, and a highly polarized election. Students will journal, draw, collage and compile playlists in order to create and share an original zine that encapsulates this moment in time.

[REGISTER HERE.](#)