



December 14th 2020

PPS Lottery Transfer Cycle (Date Extended)

Parents/Guardians if you know of anyone, student or family member that is looking to come to Benson Tech for the 2021-2022 school year then please be sure to pass along this information. The PPS Lottery Transfer Cycle opened up November 12th and closes **Thursday December 17th at 5:00pm.** Please click on the links below for more information regarding the Lottery Process for families interested in attending Benson Tech.

[pps.net/schoolchoice](https://www.pps.net/schoolchoice)
<https://www.pps.net/8thgradeinfo>

The BHS Admin Team

A Message from the BHS Math Department

Need help with math? Tutoring is now available M/W/Th/F from 3:15 - 4:15 using the Google Meet code: bhsmathtutoring We look forward to seeing you and answering your questions!

BHS Math Department

Textbook Distribution

Please note that Ms. Irma Johnson from the Library staff will be in the horseshoe parking lot area (back of school off of 15th street) on Wednesday December 16th from 12:30pm to 3:00pm distributing textbooks from certain classes. Please have your student check with their instructor to see if the students instructor will be having textbooks distributed on Wednesday.

Irma Johnson/Librarian Staff

ijohnson@pps.net

Yearbook Distribution

Please note that if you purchased a yearbook from last school year 2019-20 and have yet to pick up the yearbook Ms. Hazel Knox will be in the horseshoe parking lot area as well on Wednesday from 12:30pm to 3:00pm December 16th distributing yearbooks to families who purchased a yearbook from the last school year.

Hazel Knox

BHS Bookkeeper

***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

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

Parents/Guardians

***Please click on the link
below to read about
updated information
regarding the District's
New Attendance Policy***

***District's New Attendance
Code Policy***

***Benson Tech Weekly
Athletic Update***

Please Click Here

**BHS Attendance
Engagement Challenge**

***Please see attached flyer
for details.***

AP Information/See Attached AP Introductory Meeting Schedule

AP information sessions will take place on Wednesday January 13th. Forecasting will be occurring not long after winter break, so students are **required** to attend the informational session of the class they are interested in taking next year. If the student cannot attend the info session, they should email the teacher of that specific class. Juniors and Seniors are eligible to take AP classes at Benson.

Megan Hill/AP Coordinator

A Message from the BHS TAG Department

Hello TAG Families,

The PPS TAG Department has extended the due date for TAG nominations to be completed by December 18th. If you have nominated a student you now have until December 18th to complete the form and send it back to me.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please let me know. Have a great week.

K. Nicole Kennedy, LPN

Health Science Instructor

Black Student Union Adviser

TAG Facilitator

A Message from the BHS Counseling Team

The counseling team and our school social worker were in sophomore CTE classrooms this week presenting about stress and healthy coping strategies. If you would like to see a recording of the presentation, please visit the Benson counseling website.

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 our Wellness Center Coordinator & Social Worker
Caroline Bleckmann

If you are a family in need of financial help over the holiday break, please complete this [form](#). The Counselors and Social Worker will work to distribute Fred Meyer gift cards to as many families as we can. We will inform you the week before holiday break if we can provide you with one.

Si usted es una familia que necesita ayuda financiera durante las vacaciones este año, complete [este formulario](#). Los consejeros escolares y los trabajadores sociales trabajarán para distribuir tarjetas de regalo a tantas familias como podamos. Le informaremos la semana anterior a las vacaciones si podremos proporcionarle tarjetas de regalo.

MALE LEADER & EMPOWERMENT
VIRTUAL GROUP

Students Support Group for Young Men

Starts: Nov 20th, 2020

Every Friday 3:00 -3:45 pm

What: The program empowers young men academically and socially. Students participating will be provided space to share some obstacles and some of their personal frustrations with school. Topics to be discussed will include peer pressure, self-discipline, schedule planning and dealing with peer pressure.

We will bring in professional guest speakers who will offer guidance and discuss career option opportunities.

For more information, you can reach Montreal Granville at 971-413-3134. Email address: Mgranville@pps.net

A Message from our Wellness Center Coordinator & Social Worker
Caroline Bleckmann

Dear Benson Tech families,

If your family is needing holiday help, please feel free to reach out to me, and I can help you find what's out there! Email, call, & text are fine. [Here](#) is a link to organizations offering holiday help. You can also look up holiday help resources on 211.org.

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.

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

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BHS Parent Support Group

Parents and Guardians: Are you interested in talking with other parents and guardians in the Benson community? We are interested in starting a Parent Support Group, a confidential area where parents can gather. Take our quick survey so we can see what interest is out there. We've already heard from some parents that they need something like this. Are you interested? Let us know.

Thanks!

<https://forms.gle/6AsD2aCSqPTT2j458>

Colleen Johnston (Colleen the Dean)
Benson Polytechnic High School
Dean of Students & Team Leader of School Climate
Office phone: 503-916-5100 ext. 77106
Work cell with text: 503-610-3450
(pronouns: she/her/hers)

Parentvue Follow Up:

Thank you to Melissa Brabham for helping to make the Benson ParentVue information session possible.

If you were not able to attend:

[Here is the slideshow with information](#)

(https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GcJbeWyTUQtSy83eeydLwqAlbwnf8BMaxbdt60aQSRk/edit?usp=sharing_)

If you have had ParentVue in the past, but it isn't working. You may need to update your information. Please contact Norma Lawson at nlawson@pps.net

If you have never had parentvue and would like to sign up please contact Melissa Brabham at mbrabham@pps.net

Si quiere ayuda en espanol escribes a Christina Thompson at cthompson@pps.net

Warmly,

Christina Thompson (she/her)
ESL Teacher, Benson High School
[***cthompson@pps.net***](mailto:cthompson@pps.net)

A Message from our College Counselor/AVID Coordinator

Kathleen Reid

College Counselor and AVID Coordinator, Kathleen Reid, can be reached at kreid@pps.net or 971-238-8322. You can also visit our college webpage for detailed information about college planning: [Benson College Webpage](#)

COLLEGE INFO:

Drop-in college application help over winter break:

Seniors – Application deadlines are approaching. If you need help over winter break to complete applications, come to a drop-in Zoom meeting on Tuesday, December 22nd from Noon – 3 p.m. [Click Here to Join.](#)

[Link](#) to the presentation for seniors applying to 4-year colleges in case you missed it. It includes instructions on Maia Learning.

College Applications:

- For information on completing college applications, please refer to our [College Website](#) and the [Applying to College](#).
- If you need school documentation sent to colleges, like transcripts or letters of recommendation, you must request documentation through [Maia Learning](#), our college and career platform.
- If applying to colleges that require the Common App, you must link the Common App to Maia Learning. See [Applying to College](#) information.

PCC:

If you are interested in attending Portland Community College after graduation, there will be an upcoming PCC Preview Day. Information to follow soon. To ensure that your current *juniors and seniors* receive information about PCC Preview Day postcard in the mail, please **apply to** PCC or **submit an interest form** if you have not already done so.

Links here:

Apply to PCC: pcc.edu/admissions

PCC interest form: [PCC Interest form](#)

Seniors applying to PCC, don't forget to apply for the [Oregon Promise](#) scholarship and [Future Connect](#) is a really great scholarship/mentoring program at PCC too.

A Message from our College Counselor/AVID Coordinator

Continued

FINANCIAL AID:

· If you will be applying to colleges (4-year colleges or community colleges), complete the [FAFSA](#) financial aid application or [ORSAA](#) (non-US citizen students) so that you can receive financial aid if you qualify. Be sure **all** your schools are listed. You will not receive financial aid from a school that is not listed on your FAFSA/ORSAA.

Scholarships:

· Find a list of scholarships on the Benson College Website on the [Scholarship tab](#).

Dec 23rd [Kaiser Scholarship](#) (For students pursuing healthcare professions. One Benson student will be awarded this scholarship!!)

January 8 [Pride Foundation](#) (LGBTQ+ students)

January 9 [Ron Brown Scholarship](#) (Black students)

January 14 [APIA Scholarship](#) (Asian/Pacific Islander)

January 31 [HMC Latino Scholarship](#) (Hispanic ancestry, permanently residing in Oregon or Clark County, Washington)

February 1 [Renaissance Scholarship](#) (1st in family to attend college, and no siblings have or are attending)

March 1 [Portland Scholarship Fund](#) (Black/African American students)

March 1 [OSAC](#) (Application database to hundreds scholarships for Oregon residents)

March 1 [Ford Family Scholarship](#) (Must be Pell Grant Eligible and attend college in Oregon. Almost a full-ride!!)

March 12 [Greenfield Peach Scholarship](#) (This year's scholarship is for students who identify at BIPOC - Black, Indigenous, People of Color)

March 31 [Hearthstone Housing Scholarship](#) (Must live in Multnomah County and be from a low-income household)

June 1 [Oregon Promise](#) (Free tuition at any Oregon Community College. Must have a 2.5 GPA)

Kathleen Reid (she/her)
College Counselor/AVID Coordinator
[Benson College Info Webpage](#)
kreid@pps.net
971-238-8322

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 from 1:00 pm-1:45 pm: [Post-Secondary Presentation-PCC Automotive Service Tech Program, Stedman Bailey](#)

The Automotive Service Technology program at PCC offers you the opportunity to become a skilled automotive service technician, providing you with the fundamental skills necessary to succeed in an ever changing and challenging industry. The National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF), an arm of the industry certifying body, Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), accredits both our degree and certificate. **Connected Careers-Automotive Service : Google Meeting Link:** <https://meet.google.com/jyq-vfey-iti>

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 from 2:00pm-2:45pm: [Career Presentation-Customer Service Pro, Verizon](#)

Meet Catassia, Customer Service Pro at Verizon. In high school Catassia wanted to be a business owner, but she faced some challenges. Starting adulthood as a young mother, Catassia was challenged in college but continued to work on her career. Find out how she has been successful at work and as a now honor student in college, mentoring others. **Connected Careers-Business, Life Coach Join the Google Meeting Link:** <https://meet.google.com/uyr-saiv-etq>

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 from 3:00pm-3:45pm: [Career Presentation-Chris Phifer, Software Research Engineer at Galois.](#)

Meet Chris, who is a Software Research Engineer at Galois. Chris started coding in high school and knew that they wanted to follow a career in Computer Science. As a first generation college student at Tufts University in Boston, Chris completed a Bachelor of Science in both Computer Science and Mathematics as well as a Master of Science in Computer Science. Follow Chris' education experience and lessons learned in the workplace. **Connected Careers-Computer Science Join the Google Meeting Link:** <http://meet.google.com/vzr-kkah-qys>

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan
Continued

Are you interested in exploring careers in Hospitality?
Do you want to meet professionals that work in a variety of hospitality and culinary fields?

Register to attend **PPS Hospitality Careers Spotlight Event!** Come to meet and learn about a variety of careers and post-secondary options relating to hospitality careers.

Presenters include:

Oregon Hospitality Foundation
Chef-Restaurant Owner
Hotel Management/Owner
Restaurant (Commercial Kitchen) Equipment Representative
Post-Secondary Hospitality & Tourism Management program

Students will also participate in virtual interactive activities!

When?

Date of the Event: **Thursday, January 7, 2021**

Time: **1:00pm-3:00pm**

How to Register?

Pre-Registration is Required. Pre-registered students will receive an email with the link to the Google meet.

Go to this link to register NOW! **<https://bit.ly/HospCFE-Registration>**

Deadline to Register?

Deadline to submit your Registration is **January 4th, 2021**. Slots are limited and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Register today!

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan
Career Learning Opportunities

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.](#)

Shift Fashion Design: We are in the process of searching for student designers interested in collaborating with a professional designer to co-design and create a garment using recycled and found materials for a fashion show fundraiser. The final designs would be modeled in our virtual gala in May by local drag performers. All of the design process planning would happen virtually to be mindful of keeping everyone safe and healthy during this time. Here is a link with more information and a link to the application: <https://mailchi.mp/7e3c0dec8247/calling-all-student-designers>

A Message from our Career Coordinator Miranda Ryan

Job Openings

KingPins Portland | 503-788-7889 General Manager | www.myKingPins.com

AmazonWarehousePosition (Troutdale, Hillsboro, Tualatin): <https://search.amazondelivers.jobs/search-jobs?alp=6252001-5744337&alt=3&CMPID=prprlc0780h6&AZREF=https://www.amazon.jobs/>

Albertsons/Safeway (Multiple/positions/Locations): <https://recruiting.adp.com/srcar/public/RTI.home?c=1208301&d=Externa>

Target: <https://jobs.target.com/>

DollarTree (Multiple positions/locations):

<https://www.dollartree.com/careers-stores>

FedEx ground

(Troutdale/Package Handler): <https://careers.fedex.com/groundwarehousejobs/jobs?>

[stretch](#)

[=10&stretchUnit=MILES&location=Portland,%20OR&woe=7](#)

Fred Meyer (Multiple positions/locations):

<https://jobs.kroger.com/fred-meyer/go/Fred-Meyer/587600/>

Winco (Multiple positions/locations):

<https://careers-winco.icims.com/jobs/intro?hashed=-435746306>

Instacart [Grocery shopper](#), [Food store delivery](#)

Safeway [Night crew member](#), [retail clerk](#), [courtesy clerk](#), [checker](#), [cashier](#), and [more](#).

UPS [Package handler](#), [dockworker](#), [package center supervisor](#), [warehouse associate](#), [driver](#), and [more](#).

Whole Foods [In-store shopper](#), [team member](#), [picker/packer](#), [dishwasher](#), and [more](#).

McDonald's : <https://careers.mcdonalds.com/main/jobs>

Walmart : <https://careers.walmart.com/>

Taco Bell : <https://www.tacobell.com/careers>

Ace Hardware: <https://www.acehardware.com/careers>

Walgreens: <https://jobs.walgreens.com/>

Lowe's: <https://corporate.lowes.com/careers/career-areas/seasonal-jobs>

The Home Depot: <https://careers.homedepot.com/>

Domino's : <https://jobs.dominos.com/dominos-careers/>

Instawork: <https://www.instawork.com/>

7-Eleven: <https://sites.7-eleven.com/careers/home>

AutoZone: <https://careers.autozone.com/jobs>

Michaels: <https://www.michaels.com/careers--store-positions/Store-Positions.html>

For more information about job openings go to: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/heres-whos-hiring-right-now-andrew-seaman/>

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