



December 20th 2020

Parents/Guardians

Please note that this will be the last Newsletter until Monday January 4th 2021. The Benson Tech Administration and Staff wish you all the best this holiday season. Please stay safe and note that we'll resume the school year on Monday January 4th 2021.

Principal Wilson

Parents/Guardians

Please be sure to pass this message onto your students.

Please note that the Advisory Class in StudentVue and ParentVue is a place holder in which you all will begin to receive important announcements and information regarding forecasting for the next school year but please note that this is not an actual attendance/graded course for a students transcripts or schedule.

Please be on the lookout for a new Canvas course to appear in the student's Canvas Dashboard page in early January.

Thanks,

Sara Callies (she/her/hers)

Vice Principal

Benson Polytechnic High School

503-916-5100

A Message from Caroline Bleckmann

Dear Parents and caregivers, here is a flyer about a free class for Black and African American parents/caregivers of children with mental health barriers:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/df3e2632201/35efe448-bed0-4fab-92e7-00b8932fd141.pdf>

I wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Sincerely,

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

Schedule a meeting

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.

[Check out the Youth Resource App!](#)

**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://www.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](#)

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](#)

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.

DISTRICT FAFSA COMPLETION NIGHT:

The District will be holding another FAFSA Completion Night on January 13th. There will be one-on-one help available in breakout rooms. Please sign up [Here](#)

College Applications:

For information on completing college applications, please refer to our [College Website](#) and the [Applying to College](#).

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

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 Benson Tech Counseling Team

YOUTH RESOURCE APP NOW AVAILABLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID USERS

Search "youth resource app" on the Apple app and Google Play app stores. The Youth Resource App is a free resource for all Portland area youth, funded by PPS and created by the PPS mental health advisory team along with 100+ PPS students. PPS does not specifically endorse any of the listed agencies. Each organization has their own independent mission and vision. We know the app is likely missing some information. Consider this the 1.0 version.

If a student does not have a phone, they can access the same information on their chromebook at [this URL](#).

Email us to give feedback. youthresourceapp@pps.net

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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 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

A Message From Our Friends From Cleveland High School

I am Emma Kogut and I am a senior at Cleveland High School. I am a part of a group out of the Multnomah County Emergency Operations Center, alongside Klara Kjome Fischer, a fellow Cleveland student, that has put together a COVID-19 toolkit for youth and families focused on taking care of ourselves and others.

The guide is available in both English and Spanish at this time, and is accessible and continually updated on the Multnomah County webpage.

The toolkit can be found at this link: multco.us/covidyouthandfamilies

This guide is unique because it was put together by both youth and county officials which allows the guide to highlight the needs of youth during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this guide, there are;

- Basics about COVID-19 and how it spreads

- Where to get tested, resources for staying home, and tips on caring for someone with COVID-19

- General prevention guidelines along with strategies for safer socializing, what to do if a family member isn't taking precautions, and dealing with peer pressure

- Maintaining mental and physical health and coping with loss and grief

- Resources to stay informed, access health care, mental health resources, culturally-specific support, LGBTQ+ and Gender resources and ways to get involved

I hope you will share this resource with your staff members so that they can share it with their students and families. Please feel free to contact me if you have any feedback, questions, suggestions, or need more information.

--

Emma Kogut

She/Her/Hers

Cleveland High School

Portland, OR

A Message from Benson's Youth Career/Transition Coordinator Kia Swain

I am looking for youth that may be interested in a paid internship opportunity. Information below:

1. Camp ELSO has another great EmpowHER cohort starting in February- beginning of April, for a real project, our home at Alberta Abbey. [EmpowHER application is OPEN](#) and due 1/15. The vision of this project is to *Create and Embody a living garden outdoor space for Black and Brown women/ femme/nb people to engage and HEAL through storytelling, culture and creative forms.* Alberta Abbey is a historically Black church in the Alberta Neighborhood, and we want to capture the histories of community members & descendants of the church.

This cohort will focus on 4 project paths that participants get to choose:

- Digital Storytelling of Abbey, Past, Present & Future
- Mental Health Event Planning
- Design & Build of Outdoor Garden Healing Space- includes art interventions
- Gardening & Healing

At the end of the cohort on April 10th, we will have a Build/Plant day that includes a pop up mental health event. This will be figured out in compliance with the latest CDC and OHA guides to keep us all safe.

For more details of the program, see our working Syllabus.

[EmpowHER Abbey Winter Cohort Syllabus](#)

Please share with BIPOC Women/femme/nb folks ages 14-20!

2. Your Street Your Voice winter cohort will be online starting January 12th, Tuesdays 4-6! This studio is with LEVER architecture and will be looking at Dekum neighborhood. Please share the [application](#) due 1/5 with your student networks and BIPOC youth ages 14-20. Here is the [syllabus](#), and the flyer attached.

Students get a \$250 stipend upon completion of either program!

3. OHSU Summer Internship Program- University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

<https://www.ohsu.edu/university-center-excellence-development-disability/summer-internship-program>

Please reach out to Mrs. Kia Swain for any questions-

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

MALE LEADER & EMPOWERMENT
VIRTUAL GROUP

Students Support Group for Young Men

Starts: January 8th 2021

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

[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.

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

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

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