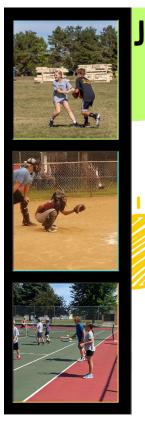


Benson Public schools

Benson Community Education and District Newsletter Summer 2025 Volume 32 Issue 2



JOIN BENSON COMMUNITY EDUCATION FOR SOME SUMMER FUN!





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Swimming Lessons			
PAC Concert Series / Pioneerland Band Festival 20			

High School

1400 Montana Avenue Benson, MN 56215 320-843-2710 (ph) 320-843-2262 (f)



Northside Elementary

1800 W Nevada Ave Benson, MN 56215 320-842-2717 (ph) 320-843-5300 (f)



Schools and Communities

LEARNING TOGETHER

Community Education

1400 Montana Ave Benson, MN 56215 320-843-4545 (ph) 320-843-2262 (f)

Summer Food Service

The Summer Food Service Program is back this summer for Benson Schools! We are excited to offer a brand new program this summer! We will be participating in the non-congregate food program. This means parents can sign up in July and August to pick up a week's worth of meals for breakfast and lunch for each child in their home. There will be a sign up survey to fill out on the Benson Schools website that will be open for enrollment starting May 12th, along with a few different options for picking up these meals. The one thing families need to remember is if they choose this option their child can not eat at Northside school for the open breakfast and lunches during July and August, but can come and eat at the High School or Northside the entire month of June. This is a trial year and hopefully it is successful and we can offer the program all summer next year.

A few things of importance are the following:

All meals will be free to any child aged 0-18 years old. We will be offering breakfast and lunch at Northside School for the whole summer.

Elementary school

Serving: June 2 through August 15, 2025
Days summer meals will be closed: June 19th, July 3rd- 4th & July 17th
Breakfast from 7:30- 8:15 a.m.
Lunch from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

High School

will be open ONLY IN JUNE and CLOSED ON FRIDAYS Opens June 2nd- June 27th. Closed June 19th. Breakfast from 8:00-9:00 am Lunch from 11:00-12:00



Menus can be found in the Northside Elementary Cafeterias. They will also be posted on the Benson Schools Website: benson.k12.mn.us by the end of May. More information on will be available on the school website and flyers will be sent home with students with updated information on and menus at the end of the year.

For more information about summer meals please contact:

Connie Evenson, Food Service Director (320) 842-2702 cevenson@benson.k12.mn.us



District #777 Board Of Education

Brian Samuelson, Chair Gary Williams, Vice-Chair Jim Berens, Treasurer Paul Carruth, Clerk Bill McGeary Director Angela Nissen, Director Melissa Wrobleski, Director



District Staff

Dennis Laumeyer, Superintendent Jessica Harris, 6-12 Principal Mitchell Kent, PreK-5 Principal Jill Lipp, Activities Director Connie Evenson, Food Service Director Al Pagel, Transportation Supervisor

Community Education Advisory Council

Sonja Schwiderski, President Paul Carruth, School Board Matthew Anderson Abby Lee Paul Syverson Joy Zehringer Sara Jaeger, Laurie O'Leary Rachel Wiebold Kerry Wilcox

Community Education Staff

Jason Brandt, Community Education Coordinator

Elementary Field Days

A great way to end the school year is with the annual Field Day celebrations. Field day will be held in the grassy area to the north of the Northside Elementary school.

Parents and Grandparents are welcome to bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Wednesday, May 15

3rd Grade from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. 4th Grade from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. 5th Grade from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 16

1st Grade from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. 2nd Grade from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



Kindergarten Program & Graduation

Kindergarten Program & Graduation is scheduled in the Performing Arts Center at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 8th. This will be general seating. Doors will open at 1:00 p.m.

The public is invited to watch live via the Benson Activities YouTube page. A link can be found on the school's activities page.

4th and 5th Grade Music Program

Will be held in the Performing Arts Center at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2. This will be general seating. Doors will open at 1:00 p.m.

The public is invited to watch live via the Benson Activities YouTube page. A link can be found on the school's activities page.

Last day of school May 22!

School Starts Aug. 25 (1-12) & 26 (K)

Once they begin, Math Masters meet once a week with advisory Kim Ulland for about an hour. During that time, they attempt to solve as many of 75 order of operation problems as possible in five minutes and work together in small groups to solve challenging word problems. The whole group goes over the problems together with students or the advisor explaning how they got to the correct answer.

Benson's 5th grade Math Masters

A fifth grade Math Masters group has been meeting on Tuesdays after school since January 7th. That group began with Greta, Leif, Easton, Cora, Rogan, Jase, Jaden, Brinlee, Gabby, Liam, Elsa, Praydum and Sam. A selection test given on March 18th to whittle the group down to Cora Foley, Rogan Klucas, Liam Ollendick, Elsa Schwendemann, and Sam Tolifson. Those five will have five practices to work together and strategize as to how best to approach their team rounds before representing Northside Elementary at at competition in Alexandria on April 25th.

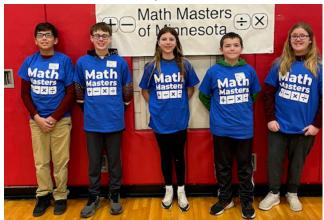


L to R: Rogan Klucas, Cora Foley, Elsa Schwendemann, Sam Tolifson, Liam Ollendick

Benson's 6th grade Math Masters

The 6th grade Math Masters met on Thursdays from Halloween through the first week of March. Due to other obligations and interests among the students, what started out as a group of 15 shrank to Eli, Addison, Macoy, Dante, Jonathan, Sadie, Sage, Mikey and Shyla by the time they took a selection test on January 16th.

The selection test resulted in Eli Carruth, Addison Gunderson, Jonathan Sanchez Villavazo, Mikey Timmerman, and Shyta Woeste competing in Osakis on March 7th. Benson took 7th place among the 15 teams competing. Leading the team, Timmerman placed 16th in the Fact Drill competition and 14th in the individual rounds followed by Carruth coming in 18th.



L to R: Jonathan Sanchez Villalvazo, Eli Carruth, Shyla Woeste, Mikey Timmermann, Addison Gunderson

Activities & Athletics

Esports

Esports is a fast growing sport/activity that currently involves over 150 schools in the state of MN. The season is 8 weeks long during the winter sport season. Benson Esports Wraps Up Successful Season

Benson Esports completed its second season with 23 students competing in games like Fortnite, Valorant, Minecraft, Mario Kart, Rocket League, and Chess. The program promotes teamwork, strategy, and discipline, and continues to grow with support from Benson Public Schools and generous sponsors.

Top honors went to Ethan Mulder and Michael Lanning as Honorary Captains. Andrew Sheggeby posted a 7-2 record in Chess and advanced to the state tournament alongside Lanning. Other award winners included Joey Wilcox, Ella Erickson, Collin Bauer, and Cian Klucas. "Super Sub" recognition went to Christopher Rodriquez.

The team graduates three seniors and looks ahead to next season. Interested students should contact Mrs. Schwarz for more info.





Sports Physicals

Sports physicals are needed in order to participate in any sport activity. New physicals will need to be scheduled for athletes who will be in **7th** and **10th grade** in the fall. If you are unsure if your child has a current physical on file, please contact the Activities Office.

Athletes cannot participate in practice until their physical has been completed. The Activities Office recommends having your physicals by August 1. These can be done at your local clinic. We also accept those done at a walk clinic and chiropractic office. You must use the physical form provided online. A link is provided on Benson School's website under "Activities and Athletics" and then under "Acvitivities and Forms".

Fall Activities Registration

Fall activities and sports registration will take place in early August in the high school cafeteria. Please check your email in July for more information.

Concussion Testing

Every student that is involved in athletics, must take an online baseline concussion test. The test is taken in 7th, 9th and 11th grade during the fall athletics/activity meeting or during school hours. Please stop by the activities office if you need more information.

Get Connected with Benson Public Schools!

- Monitor-News
- KSCR Radio (fm 93.5)

Websites

www.benson.k12.mn.us https://benson.revtrak.net/ for all registrations and PAC Events

Instagram

braves_athletics_activities

Facebook Pages

Benson Public Schools 777
Benson Activities 777
Benson Community Education
Discovery Kids Childcare Center
Benson Voluntary Pre-K and ECFE
Benson Football
Benson Braves VB
BKMS Cross Country
Benson Braves Wrestling
Benson-KMS Area Gymnastics
Benson Boys Basketball

Facebook Pages

Benson Girls Basketball Benson Baseball Association Benson Softball Association Benson-KMS Track & Field Benson Braves Golf Benson Strength (for weight room)

X (Twitter) Pages

(district) @BensonBraves777 (activities) @BensonBraves (superintendent) @Dlau5



NOTES FOR THE SENIOR CLASS OF 2025

Class Colors: Black and Gold

Class Flower: Peony



Class Motto: People change, and things go wrong but

just remember, life goes on ..- Mac Miller

Class Song: "Unwritten," by Natasha Bedingfield

MONITOR NEWS QUESTIONNAIRE was emailed to students and parents. Copies of the questionnaire are available in the 6-12 office. These should be dropped off at the 6-12 office or the Monitor News with a senior picture by Friday, May 2nd.

SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS CEREMONY will be held on **Monday, May 12** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Performing Arts Center. Seniors and their parents are invited to attend as numerous financial scholarships will be announced and additional senior honors will be recognized.

LAST DAY FOR SENIORS (in good standing) is **Wednesday, May 14.** You must: have met the 28 credit requirement and passed all required courses, be cleared by Mr. Strand and Mrs. Harris, and owe no money for athletics, missing/damaged books, or food service.

<u>BACCALAUREATE SERVICE</u> will be held on Wednesday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer'sLutheran Church

SENIOR LOCKER CLEAN OUT is during advisory time (5th period) on **Wednesday, May 14.** Chromebooks and chargers must be turned in to Mrs. Samuelson.

GRADUATION PRACTICE is Friday, May 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the PAC. Attendance is required. If you cannot attend, Mrs. Harris must pre-approve your absense. Any student not attending practice without pre-approval may not be able to participate in the commencement exercises. Practice will last approximately one hour.

COMMENCEMENT will be **Sunday, May 18.** It will be held in the PAC and will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. All seating is reserved. Tickets must be reserved online. The ceremony will be live streamed.

<u>GRADUATION CAP, GOWN AND TASSELS</u> cannot be altered in any way for the graduation ceremony. (No bling)

REPORT CARDS for seniors will be printed upon parent request after **Friday**, **May 30**.

FINAL TRANSCRIPTS will be sent to the college of your choice as noted in Mr. Strand's office.

Seniors - Class of 2026

As you start planning your senior picture sessions, please take these senior portrait guidelines into consideration.

- 1. JPEG (.jpg) digital image format is required. 300 DPI or higher for actual size of photo. (high resolution image files are better for printing purposes)
- 2. All pictures must be submitted in full color (no sepia or black-and-white)
- 3. Pictures need to be vertical and head and shoulder only format. Please no full body or partial body poses
- 4. Have your photographer leave enough space around your face to allow for the yearbook staff to feature you at your best within the design.
- 5. Note: pictures with "soft focus" appear blurred upon reproduction.
- 6. Appropriate attire only will be accepted (school dress code and policies apply)...no hats, pets, or other accessories/props.
- 7. The yearbook staff has the right to request a different photograph if the above guidelines are not met.
- 8. Photographs should be emailed by December 1 to: yearbook@benson.k12.mn.us





Community News

BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY Summer Reading Program Activity Schedule May 28th - July 31st

Some of our activities will be scheduled outdoors. As a result, the schedule may change due to weather. Watch the Benson Public Library Facebook page for all updates or call the Library at 320-842-7981.

May 28th Summer Reading Program begins! Register at the Benson Public Library to receive your first reading log.

Tues. June 3rd Life Size Kerplunk game IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Wed. June 4 th Summer Reading Kick Off event featuring Climb Theater Tortoise Camp; The Hair: Rematch!

Wed. June 11th Table Tennis IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Tues. June 17th Life Size Word Search/Connect 4 Challenge IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Wed. June 25th Paper Airplane Toss/Human Fuse Ball IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Tues. July 1st Make n Take Travel Tic Tac Toe WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

Tues. July 8th Balloon/Cup & Hula Hoop Challenge IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Tues. July 15th Carnival Games IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Wed. July 16th Llamas (11am-12pm) Park

Tues. July 22nd Donut Game/Box Tire Roll Challenge IN PERSON (11am-12pm)

Tues. July 29th Life Size Jenga/Life Size Hungry Hippos (11am-12pm)

Mon. Aug. 4th Dragon Dude Program 4pm. Followed by the drawing for Summer Reading Prizes

*You do not have to be present to win, but those present will have first choice of prizes



PRAIRIE FIVE RIDES SUMMER YOUTH RATE

Prairie Five Rides will be offering transportation services to Community Education activities for the summer. Summer Rec Registration Forms must be filled out for all kids that will be riding the Prairie Five Rides Bus.

Forms will be available beginning May 12:

- on line at: prairiefive.com (transportation tab)
 - by mail (call 877-757-4337)
 - by email at: rides@prairiefive.org



Ride costs are:

- Unlimited Youth Pass: June 1-August 25; \$40.00
 - Youth Punch Card: 25 rides; \$25.00
- Monthly Pass: Unlimited rides (i.e. June 1-30); \$35.00
 - Single rides: \$2.00 per ride.
- All additional ride requests and cancellations must be made by calling dispatch at 877-757-4337.



Pre-registration is required for all classes. Participants must be registered and fees paid prior to the first class or activity.

4 Easy Ways To Register

- **1. Secured Online Site**: Register online at: https://benson.revtrak.net/
- 2. Mail: Send registration and payment to:
 Benson Community Education
 1400 Montana Avenue
 Benson, MN 56215
- **3. Phone**: Call 843-4545 to register using a credit card. No phone registrations will be complete until payment is received.
- **4. In Person:** Bring payment to the Benson Community Education office located in the Benson High School.

Register early. Many classes depend on minimum enrollment. Classes may be canceled if a minimum enrollment is not met.

Confirmation email will be sent if you have an email address in your profile. No class reminders are mailed out. Once registered, simply show up for the class and enjoy.

Inclement Weather and School Closings may affect your class. If Benson Public Schools classes and activities are canceled, Community Education classes and activities may be canceled as well. Tune in to KSCR 93.5 for notifications or cancellations. You may also call the office at 843-4545 for updated information.

Complete Refunds will be given if the activity is canceled due to insufficient enrollment. Refunds will be issued at Community Education's discretion for cancellations made less than a week before start date, due to special circumstances.

Scholarships may be available for certain classes. Certain "Camps" and Driver's Education are not eligible for scholarships.

Benson Community Education SUMMER Office Hours (June-August): Monday-Thursday 8:00 - 4:00 p.m. Closed on Fridays!

Summer Registration

Please note: There will be **NO** activities/camps/ events on **Thursday, June 19th** for the Juneteenth National Holiday.

Classes with unlimited registrations are open now. Classes will limited availability will open at **4:00 p.m.** on **Monday, May 12.**

- All Summer Recreation and Community Education class registrations are available online with payment options of credit or debit card.
- The Community Ed office will be open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 12 if you need assistance. If you wish to pay with cash or check, you may register in the office.
- Classes you add to your "cart" at home cannot be paid for in the office. If you wish to pay in the office, we must add the classes to your "cart".
- Registrations taken over the phone will be held for 3 days without payment. If payment is not received in 3 days, the registration will be canceled allowing wait list families to take that spot.
- If classes are full when registering, please add yourself to the waiting list. We will do our best to get all wait list students into classes.
- Benson Community Education, School District #777, or the City of Benson is not responsible for providing health or hospital insurance.

Pre-Registration is necessary for all classes.

Use GRADE ENTERING in Fall of 2025.

Fees for classes will not be prorated due to late registration!

** Registering on-line is your permission to have your child participate in the Summer Recreation Program and any Community Education activity. There will not be a separate permission form. This permission includes: Any participant who chooses to take part in any program or activity sponsored, solely or jointly, does so at their own risk. We are not responsible for providing health or hospital insurance. You are giving permission for your child to participate in the activity registered for. You further release the school, the City of Benson, the Activity Director, and Community Education personnel from any liability in the event of an accident.



Football

Youth Football Camp; Gr. 1-6 (Fall '25)

Whether your football player is an experienced player or just trying football for the first time, this camp is for them!

By working with our football coaches and varsity players, participants will learn the game and how to maximize their potential as football players!



Monday-Thursday (4 sessions)
July 14 - 18
Grades 1-4: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Grades 5-6: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Lorenz Field - JH FB Fields
Cost \$30; includes t-shirt
Instructor: Brady Dokkebakken

*Tackle football for 5th and 6th graders will be coming back this fall. This camp will be to introduce tackle football. A fall league will take place with more information coming at a later date.

JH/Varsity Football Camps; Gr. 7-12 (Fall '25)

Get a jump start on the football season with our summer football camp. Take this opportunity to work on skills, techniques and physical attributes that will improve your football playing ability.

Monday - Thursday

Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12
4 sessions 8 sessions
July 7 - 11 July 21-24 & July 28-July 31
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Cost \$30 Cost \$50

includes t-shirt Lorenz Field - JH FB Fields Instructor: Brady Dokkebakken

Offense/Defense Position Camps; Gr. 9-12

Camp information will be posted at a later date and will be shared with varsity players.





Speed & Strength

Football Speed & Strength; Gr. 8-12 (Fall '25)

Football Speed & Strength is designed to optimize athletic performance by focusing on building explosive power, agility, and strength. Tailored specifically for football, athletes will work on improving their overall strength, speed, quickness, explosiveness, mobility and injury prevention. Participants will get out exactly what they put in!



June 2 - July 31 Mondays-Thursdays *will not meet July 1-4* 6:30 - 8:00 a.m. Cost: \$80

Shirts included for consistent participants
Aux Gym & Weight Room
Instructor: Brady Dokkebakken

Youth Speed & Strength (Fall '25)

Are you ready to take your athletic skills to the next level? Join our 6th and 7th Grade Speed and Strength Training Program and become the fastest, strongest version of yourself! What You'll Get: Fun, high-energy workouts designed for Middle School Athletes; Build SPEED with drills to improve running form, quickness, and agility; Increase STRENGTH through bodyweight exercises and safe lifting techniques.

June 3, 5, 10, 12, 16, 18, 24, 26 July 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$60

Shirts included for consistent participants

Aux Gym & Weight Room Instructor: Adam Jensen



Gymnastics

Tiny Tumblers: Beginner Coed; Gr. K-1 ('25-'26)

Participants will work on gymnastics skills on the bars, beam, floor and vault, increasing strength, balance, flexibility and coordination will also be emphasized

Mondays: June 2-30 (5 sessions)

OR

Wednesdays: June 4-July 2 (5 sessions) 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. \$50: Class limit of 18

Twisters: Beginner Coed; Gr. 2-6 ('25-'26)

Emphasis will be placed on mastering a kick over and then learning front and back walkovers. In addition, participants will work on gymnastics skills on the bars, beam, vault and floor. Increasing strength, flexibility, and coordination will also be emphasized.

Mondays: June 2-30 (10 sessions)
AND
Wednesdays June 4-July 2
Time 11:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.
\$90; Class limit of 18

Flippers: Intermediate Level; Gr. 2-6 ('25-'26)

This class is designed for the gymnast who can do back walkovers or kick over from bridge position with NO assistance. The class will emphasize learning back handsprings with proper body shape along with skills on the bars, beam, floor and vault. Increasing strength, balance, flexibility, and conditioning will also be emphasized.

Mondays: June 2-30 (10 sessions)
AND
Wednesdays: June 4-July 2
10:00-11:00a.m.
\$90; Class limit of 18

Gymnastics Camp Reminders:

- * All camps held in the Benson Activities Center.
- * Please send your child in stretchy clothes that do not have snaps, buttons, or zippers.
- *Please have long hair tied up in a ponytail or braid.

*Parent/Guardians should drop off and pick up participants at the main door of the BAC. A viewing day will be held on the last day of camp for participants to show off their skills.



It is beneficial for all participants if gymnasts are placed in classes that fit their ability. If you are unsure of what class would be most appropriate for your child, please contact Kathy Ahrndt at kahrndt@benson.k12.mn.us

Aerials: Advanced Level; Gr. 2-6 ('25-'26)

This class is designed for gymnasts who can do round-off, back handsprings with little or no assistance. Skills and combinations required for competitive gymnastics will be emphasized on the bars, beam, floor, vault. Increasing strength, balance, flexibility, and conditioning will also be emphasized.

Tuesdays: June 3-July 1 (10 sessions)

AND

Thursdays: June 5-July 3

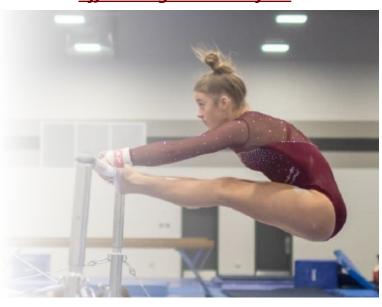
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
\$100; Class limit of 18

High School Workouts: Grades 7-12 ('25-'26)

This class is designed for incoming and current Benson-KMS area team members in grades 7-12. This class is designed for gymnasts who are planning on competing next season for the Junior Varsity and Varsity High School team. Skills and combinations for routines will be emphasized along with strength and conditioning.

Tuesdays & Thursdays
June 3-July 3
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
\$75; Open Gyms will be added in July free of charge

<u>Preschool class opportunities will be</u> offered again in the fall.



Basketball



Benson Basketball Camp

Boys & Girls Grades 1-6 (Fall '25) Tuesday - Friday May 27 - 30 (4 sessions)

Players will receive individual and group instruction on basketball fundamentals, and they will have the opportunity to compete in individual and team contests.

The overall goal is to provide a unique and positive experience for each camper, while giving each individual an excellent opportunity to improve their basketball skills.

Boys Camp 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. SH + East Gym; \$25 includes t-shirt Girls Camp 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. SH + East Gym; \$25 includes t-shirt

Braves Basketball Hour Club

Boys & Girls Grades 1-6 (Fall '25)

Spend time this summer working on your basketball shooting and skills. Add up the hours you spend in the gym or practicing at home, have it verified by a parent or guardian and qualify for prizes!

Tracking sheets will be sent out on May 28. Program will end on September 2. An awards program will be held at the end of the program - Date TBD.

FREE but registration is required

Jensen's Skills Camp

Get in the gym with Coach Adam this June and work on improving your basketball skills!

This program is designed for boys and girls who are dedicated to improving their basketball skills and knowledge of the game. We will be focusing on enhancing all skills pertaining to basketball as well as teaching team strategies.

Girls

June 5, 12, 18, 26; July 10, 17, 24 Grades 4-6 (Fall of '25) 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. East Gym; \$35 **Boys**

June 3, 10, 16, 24; July 8, 15, 22, 29 Grades 5-8 (Fall of '25) 10:00- 11:00 a.m. East Gym; \$40

Varsity Skills and Practice Girls Grades 9-12 (Fall '25)

"There comes a time when WINTER asks you what you did in the SUMMER."

June 3 - July 31 (gyms closed June 23-July 6) Tuesdays and Thursdays Girls: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

SH Gym
Free but registration is required

7-8 Grade Girls Skills Camp

Join Coach Renee and the varsity team to work on the fundamentals of basketball. Drills will be implemented in a manner that will allow each individual to improve upon their current level of play.

Grades 7-8 (Fall '25)
Tuesdays in June 2-23
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.
SH Gym; \$25

Boys Basketball Skills Grades 2-4 (Fall '25)

Skill sessions working on dribbling, shooting, passing, and game play with Coach Felt. Emphasis on technique and skill work.

Tuesdays in June + July June 3, 10, 17, 24 and July 15, 22, 29 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Main Gym; \$35

Boys Basketball Open Gym

Join Coach Felt for open gym during June and July!

Grades 6-12 (Fall '25) June 4, 9, 11, 16, 23; July 7, 9, 21, 23, 28, 30 6:00 - 7:30pm - Main Gym

FREE; NO registration is required

Preschool Basketball

This will be <u>parent driven</u> and open to boys and girls who are 4-6 years old and not age eligible for the basketball camp. Preschool sized basketballs and lowered hoops will be provided. Please do not drop preschooler off - this is meant to be a family affair for some quality family time together.

Tuesdays: June 3-24 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. East Gym; \$10.00 Instructor: Eric Payne

Golf

Little Linkers Golf; Grades 2-4 (Fall of '25)

Suited for beginners with little to no experience. Participants will learn the basics of golf through a variety of stations. We will focus on grip, stance, swing, safety, course etiquette, and rules of the game. Contests will conclude each session.

> Mondays: July 7, 9, 21, 23 (4 sessions) **Boys and Girls** 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

\$50; Family max of \$90; t-shirt included Priority is given to Benson students. Out of district families can check with Community Ed the week prior for availabilty.

Junior Golf League; Grades 5-8 (Fall of '25)

Suited for golfers with some experience/knowledge of the game. Participants will be paired with a group of 3-4 along with a coach to play 5 modified holes and record their scores. Weekly and final prizes will be awarded.

> Mondays: July 7, 9, 21, 23 (4 sessions) **Boys and Girls** 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

\$50; Family max of \$90; t-shirt included Priority is given to Benson students. Out of district families can check with Community Ed the week prior for availabilty.



Volleyball

On the Attack Camp

Grades 9-12 (Fall of '24)

John Yunker is back! He provides an energetic atmosphere to advance your volleyball skills.

July 21 2:00pm-6:00pm + July 22 8:00am-12:00pm SH Gym; \$100 - Registration required

HS Summer Open Gym (Fall of '25)

Come in and keep building your skills through the summer!

> **Thursdays & Sundays** June 2-26 & July 6-31

Grades 1-6: 3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Grades 7-8: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Grades 9-12: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. SH Gym; FREE * Registration required

Future Champions Volleyball Camp (Fall of '25)

Come on in to learn and develop volleyball skills!

Grades 1-6 July 14, 15, and 16 4:00pm-7:00pm SH Gym; \$30 * Registration required

Rising Stars Volleyball Camp (Fall of '25)

Come on in to advance your volleyball skills!

Grades 7-8

July 21 3:00pm-7:00pm + July 22 3:00pm-7:00pm SH Gym; \$30 * Registration required

Wrestling

Braves Wrestling Camp; Gr. K-3 (Fall '25)

This camp will help teach the fundamentals of wrestling and introduce new wrestlers to the sport that want to give it a try. Experienced youth will be able to sharpen their skills as well as learn new ones.

Camp will be run by the Benson Wrestling coaching staff as well as the Benson Wrestling Captains.

> Monday - Wednesday June 16-18 9:00 - 10:00am

> > Aux Gym; FREE

includes a t-shirt if you attend 2 of the 3 practices

Braves Wrestling Open Mat; Gr. 4-12 (Fall '25)

Join the Benson Braves Wrestling coaching staff and other technicians from around the state to develop high level skills all summer long.

> Sundays June 15, 22, 29 + July 13, 20, 27 (will not meet July 6th) 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Aux Gym; FREE but must register

"Summer work makes winter champions."



Softball /Baseball

Morning Softball

Use grade in the Fall of 2025 when registering June 9 - 20 (10 sessions)

The emphasis of this camp will be on fundamentals of softball and good sportsmanship. Bring your own glove, but mark it. Each player will receive a t-shirt, courtesy of business sponsors. Benson's head softball coach, Brennan Hagen-Kent and varsity softball players will run the camp.

<u>Softball</u>

Monday - Friday

Grades 1-2 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Grades 3-4

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Grades 5-6

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Northside Rec Area ** \$40



Jr & Sr High Summer Softball and Baseball

Girls: 14U or 18U fast-pitch teams are participating in a Legion Softball League this summer, please contact Coach Hagen-Kent. 14U games will be held on Sundays, and 18U on Wednesdays.

Boys: boys in current grades 7-12 interested playing summer ball are to let Coach Foley know.

Elementary Travel Softball and Baseball Current Grades 3-6

Information was emailed in April to all eligible students.

Games are June - mid July

Fee: \$50 for travel ball; \$70 for travel and morning ball (softball)

Registrations MAY still be accepted. Call Benson Community Education at 320-843-4545.



UMPS NEEDED!

We are in need of umps for:

- elementary softball games
- elementary baseball games

Call Community Ed at 320-843-4545



Track & Field

Track & Field; Gr. 3-6 (Fall '25)

Practices will develop the skills of track and field. Everything from running to high jump, relays to long jump and other field events.

Athletes do not need track cleats but will need tennis shoes and athletic shorts to participate.

> June 2nd - 30th Mondays (5 Sessions) Track Meet to be held June 30th 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Benson High School Track** \$25 - - Includes a t-shirt

Instructors: Chad Carroll & Samantha VanHeuveln

lennis

Jon Koenigs Tennis Camp; Gr. 5-12 (Fall '25) **Boys and Girls**

Jon Koenigs is a former Benson graduate and current Head Tennis Professional at PublicIndoorTennis.com in the Minneapolis metro area. Jon is USPTA High Performance Certified and has a PTR 1 Certification. Jon is proud to come back to Benson and put on this tennis camp. "This camp is about renewing relationships with the kids, having fun, and learning the sport of a lifetime. There will be water balloons too." All campers will receive video analysis of their serve.

Monday-Wednesday: June 23-25 (3 sessions) Grades 9-12: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. * Cost: \$125 Grades 5-8: 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. * Cost: \$95

Jon will also be at the courts from 5 p.m. until sundown for any campers who would like to work with the ball machine these 3 days.

Team Tennis Open Court; Gr. 7-12 (Fall '25) **Bovs and Girls**

7th-8th Grade: This program is strongly recommended for any players wishing to join the junior high tennis program in the fall or spring. Focus will be placed on the fundamentals of groundstrokes and serving. Players will spend time with drills and fun games to develop their skills and prepare them for JH/JV play.

9th-12th Grade: This program is strongly recommended for any players wishing to play in the fall or spring seasons. Players will improve their skills and prepare for the season through drills and match play.

> Monday & Wednesday: June 11-July 30 will not meet the week of July 4th Grades 7-8: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Grades 9-12: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

BHS Tennis Courts; \$20 Instructor: Gracie Lenz

Registration information for ALL programs

Pre-registration is necessary for nearly all of our activities and classes at least 3 days prior to the start of the class or activity. Registration is complete only after the fee has been received in the Community Education office.

A full refund will be made if you contact the Community Education Office prior to the registration deadline or first day of class. Fees are not refundable any time after.

Please pick your child up ON TIME from all activities!

Our supervisor's, instructor's and volunteer's time is important and they can't leave until all kids have been picked up. Tardiness may result in a discontinuation of your child's ability to participate in activities.

Cross Country

Cross Country

Benson Cross Country runners are invited to run Mondays in July, starting at Ambush Park at 7 a.m. On those same days, KMS runners are invited to meet at Pillsbury Park to run June 16th - 19th at 7:00 a.m. each morning



Elementary Tennis; Gr. 3-6 (Fall '25) **Boys and Girls**

For ALL students wishing to learn the game of tennis! Beginners and intermediate players are encouraged to come to learn the fundamentals of holding a racquet, groundstrokes, serving, and scoring. Racquets will be provided for those who need one. Focus will be on having fun on the courts and introducing the game of a lifetime.

> Monday-Thursday: June 9 - 12 (4 sessions) Grades 3-4: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Grades 5-6: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **BHS Tennis Courts; \$30** Instructor: Gracie Lenz & BKMS Plavers



2025 Benson Children's Theater "The Tortoise and the Hare" June 23-27



SAVE THE DATE!

More information to come!!

Yoga, Sound, Music

Ages 3-4

Wednesdays: July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13

3:00-3:45 p.m.

NS Elementary Music Room

This class includes singing, rhythm instruments, yoga, stories, and coloring. Characters from the Music for Little Mozarts curriculum will teach about different types of sounds.

Instructor<mark>: Jill</mark> Fugleberg
Limited to 6 kids

Rhythm and Yoga

Ages 5-6

Wednesdays: July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13

4:00-4:45 p.m.

ECFE Classrooms

This class includes singing, rhythm instruments, yoga, stories and coloring. Characters from the Music for Little Mozart's curriculum will teach about rhythm concepts and patterns

\$40.00

Instructor: Jill Fugleberg
Limited to 6 kids

Drivers Education

This class fulfills the mandatory 30 hours of classroom instruction. Classroom work can be done prior to being 15 years of age, but students must be 15 years of age to take the permit test.

After passing the permit, arrangements for Behind the Wheel (requirement is six hours) will be made. Students must have their permit for a full 6 months before taking their license test according to state law.

Next class will be held October-November.

June 2-16 (9 sessions) 10:00 a.m.-12:30 pm Benson HS Roger Lindahl; \$350

*minimum deposit of \$150 due at registration

2025 Kids Fishing Clinic

Boys and girls are invited to join TJ Essig along with Professional Bass Fisherman Trey Fails for a morning of fishing fun! Topics may include fish ID, knot tying, helpful tips and question and answer session with Trey.

Bait is provided but students are encouraged to bring their own gear if they have it. Please limit it to 1 rod & reel and a small tackle box. Parents/Grandparents are welcome to attend as chaperones as well!

Drawings for prizes including fishing gear and the grand prize of a 1 day all-inclusive guided fishing trip for up to 4 on the Lake of the Woods with TJ Huerd.

Grades 4+; Starbuck Marina
Friday, June 6* 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
(bus leaves at 8:30 and returns about noon)
\$20

Check out the upcoming events at the Performing Arts Center! Ticket information coming soon!

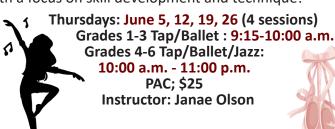




Jump & Jive with Janae (Fall '25)

Boys and Girls

Janae Olson will be teaching a summer dance skills camp, with a focus on skill development and technique!





Swift County 4-H Presents.... Summer Adventures!

Swift County 4-H is partnering with Benson Community Education to offer fun and engaging enrichment opportunities where youth can explore new topics, connect with peers, and experience the excitement of 4-H!

These adventures are open to all youth going into grades 1-8. Older youth and teens are invited to attend as 4-H helpers!

All adventures will be held in the Benson High School WiFi Cafe. Adventures are **FREE** but **pre-registration** is **required** as spots are limited to 20.

Tuesday, July 8-10th 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Putt It Together-Mini Golf Challeng Get ready to tinker, test and create! In this 3-day program, participants will design and build a Rube Goldberg-style machine to complete one ultimate task: hit a golf ball and sink a hole in one! (limit 12 participants)

Wednesday, July 16 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Pet Care 101 Learn the basics of responsible pet care through fun, hands-on activities! Participants will explore what animals need to stay happy and healthy, practice being a veterinatarian, and create DIY pet toys and treats to take home.

Tuesday, July 22 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Project Passport Day- Sample 4-H and discover interests by rotating through 3-5 hands-on stations featuring activities like sewing, photography, foods, animal science and more!

COUNTY FAIR OPPORTUNITY When you register to participate in these Summer Adventures, we consider you a 4-Her! That means you can exhibit the projects you make on these days at the Swift County Fair, contact us at mnext-swift@umn.edu to learn more and find out how!



Intro to Sports

Preschool aged boys and girls are invited to Into to Sports! Kids participating would be introduced to several different sports, including tennis, basketball, baseball/softball, football and track! Sessions would last for 30 minutes, and participants would then rotate to a different sport. Various parents would be the instructors, and parent participation would be required.

Bringing a tennis racquet and baseball glove is encouraged but not required—equipment will be provided

Mondays: Tennis 5:00-5:30 p.m., basketball 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays: tee ball: 5:00-5:30 p.m., football/track 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Mondays and Wednesdays June 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18

Mondays - meet at BHS tennis courts, Wednesdays meet at Northside Recreation (ball fields); \$10



Adult Basic Bilucation \
and
English Banguage

SUMMER HOURS

JUNE: TUESDAYS, EXCEPT

THE 17TH. 5-8PM

JULY: TESTING ONLY BY

APPOINTMENT

AUGUST: CLASSES

RESTARTING THE 19TH.

WWW.MRVEDABE.COM CONTACT 320-269-9297



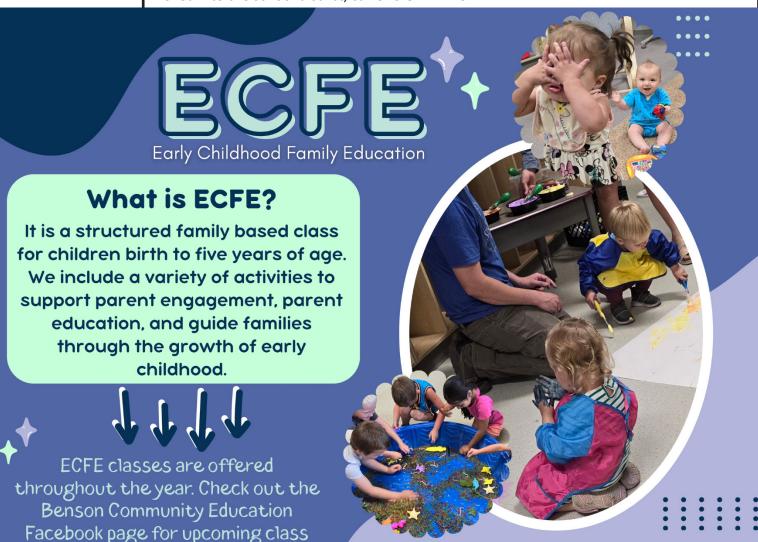
SCHOOL

Early Childhood



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENSUS

BE COUNTED! It is very important that all residents of ISD #777, even babies, be included on the school census. If you or someone you know recently had an addition to the family, or have moved into the school district, call 320-842-2723.



Preschool Options for Fall 2025

It's time to start thinking about plans for your preschooler for the fall!

information!

Registration is open here: benson.revtrak.net/RW-Community-Education/

4 Year-Old Preschool (VPK)

Full day class options for children who will be 4 on or before September 1st and completely potty trained. Pre-registration is open. Classes will be created based on parent interest. Parents will be notified in May/June of their class placement.

*3 days a week: M/W/F is \$10 per month OR T/Th/F; \$25 per month

(price variation due to number of days in the classroom for 2025-2026 school year)

*5 day a week: M-F; \$230 per month. Pathway scholarships are available for families that qualify.

3 Year-Old School Readiness

Half day program for children who will be 3 on or before September 1st and are <u>fully potty-trained</u>. Classes are 2 days a week: T/Th at \$145 a month. Pathway scholarships are available for families that qualify.

Discovery Kids

WHAT IS DISCOVERY KIDS?

Discovery Kids is an early learning child care center offered through Benson Public Schools. We accept children 6 weeks through 12 years of age. Our mission is to provide childcare where children can learn and grow physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially.

Location: Early Childhood Center, Northside Elementary

Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Hours may be adjusted based on demand

Financial Assistance available through:

- Swift County Human Service (child care assistance)
- Parent Aware (Pathway)
- Teaching Strategies Curriculum and Assessment that encourages cognitive, language, social, and emotional development
- Secured building
- Daily activities and schedule
- Open every week day with extended hours
- Incorporating our learning with the use of Smartboard
- Daily outings and gym time



We are a 4-star rated program with the MN Department of Education!

How do we sign up?

Parent Handbooks & Registration Forms are available on-line at

www.benson.k12.mn.us/discovery-kids

You may also contact Discovery Kids at 320-842-2723 for paperwork.

A \$20 registration fee is due at initial registration time.

Your child must be registered before attending Discovery Kids.



We provide transportation to and from Summer Rec activities!



Full Time - Part Time - Summer Monday-Friday varied shifts available from 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. benefits include: vacation time, sick time, PERA (state) retirement, \$500 towards insurance (Teachers & Assistant Teachers)

No nights and no weekends!



For more information or to apply: Carissa McDonald 320-842-2723 discoverykids@benson.k12.mn.us

Teacher (must have college credits): \$16.84/hour Assistant Teacher (must have college credits): \$15.79/hour Aide (must be 18 years or older): \$14.42/hour Aide (high school): \$11.00/hour

Benson Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer.

School Age and Preschool Summer Program Provides:

- snacks served twice daily
- close to summer rec activities
- field trips & outings to the parks
- experienced, excellent staff

- flexible scheduling
- gym time
- outdoor play
- learning time at the Library
- daily activities
- pool time
- indoor play
- crafts





JOIN US AT THE POOL THIS SUMMER!!

AM Lap Swim

Gives you the opportunity to plan a regular program of physical fitness.

June 2-August 15 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

\$3.00 per day; pool passes honored

AM Aqua Aerobics

Emphasizes muscle tonement through various exercises in the water.

June 2-August 15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Instructor: Emily Habben

Noon Swimnastics

Emphasizes muscle tonement through various exercises in the water. June 2-August 14

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Fee structure for Aqua Aerobics and Swimnastics: Pool passes are NOT honored. You can pay \$3 a time, purchase a 15 punch card for \$40 or pay \$60 for the full class fee.

Family Night Swim

Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday

The pool will be open for Family Swim on Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Families must consist of at least two people. Students 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult to be eligible for admission. Admission is half price of daily admission.

Aquatic Center Rentals

Cost: \$138.94 / hour (tax inc.)

The pool is available for any group, Festival Parade) and July 4. special gathering, etc. from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. We invite you to make use of our facility for social or recreational events. For rentals, contact the manager on duty at the outdoor swimming pool 320-843-2075. Call between 1-6 p.m.

Party Room for Rent

Cost: \$30.00/hour (max 2 hours)

Great for birthday parties, meetings, athletic team functions, etc. For rental information and booking, please contact the manager on duty at the outdoor swimming pool 320-843-2075 between 1-6 p.m. No outside food is allowed to be brought in.

Pass Forms

with cash/check at the Benson City Office and the pool.

In order to promote strong, independent swimmers, Personal Flotation Devices ARE NOT allowed during Open Swim. They are allowed during Family Swim.

No outside food or beverages allowed in the pool area.

We are a SMOKE FREE facility!

The opening date on the pool will be weather permitting. Watch the City of Benson website and facebook pages for updates.

Private Swim Lessons

These lessons are 1-on-1 instruction. Registration for private swimming lessons can be done online.

Private swim lessons are offered on a very limited space basis and are not guaranteed. We will do our best to honor all private requests. If we cannot get your child's lesson in, we will cancel and refund your money.

To be sure your child receives swimming lessons this summer, please try to schedule your child in a regular-scheduled class.

Thank you for your understanding.

Fee: \$70 for 5 half hour sessions

The pool will close at 5:00 p.m. on the following dates: June 13 (Benson Band

> A.M. Fitness Swim (M, W, F) 6:30-7:30 a.m.

Swim Lessons (M-F; 3 Sessions) 9:00-12:45 p.m.

Swimnastics Class (M, T, Th) 12:00-12:45 p.m.

Open Swim

1:00-8:00 p.m. (M, W, F, Sat) 1:00-6:00 p.m. (T, Th, Sun)

Family Night Swim 6:00-8:00 p.m. (T, Th, Sun) Half Price Admission

Watch the City of Benson All passes are available for purchase Website for 2025 admission & pass information www.bensonmn.org







Swimming Lessons - \$45				
American Red Cross Classes	Session 1 (June 9-20) Mon-Fri/10 sessions	Session 2 (July 7-18) Mon-Fri/10 sessions	Session. 3 (July 21-Aug 1) Mon-Fri/10 sessions	
Little Swimmer (Parent/Child) *1 week class (\$25.00)		12:15-12:45 Week of July 10 only		
Preschool Week 1 (Ages 3-5) *1st week of session only (\$25.00)	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of June 10 only	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of July 8 only	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of July 22 only	
Preschool Week 2 (Ages 3-5) *2nd week of session only (\$25.00)	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of June 17 only	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of July 15 only	9:45-10:15; 12:15-12:45 Week of July 29 only	
Level 1 (recommended ages 6+) Introduction to Water Skills	9:45-10:25, 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	9:00-9:40, 9:45-10:25 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	9:00-9:40, 9:45-10:25 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	
Level 2 Fundamental Skills	10:30-11:10 11:15-11:55	9:45-10:25, 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	9:45-10:25, 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	
Level 3 Stroke Development	10:30-11:10 11:15-11:55	9:00-9:40, 9:45-10:25, 10:30-11:10	9:00-9:40, 10:30-11:10, 11:15-11:55	
Level 4 Stroke Improvement	9:00-9:40	9:00-9:40 11:15-11:55	9:45-10:25 10:30-11:10	
Level 5 Stroke Refinement	9:00-9:40	10:30-11:10	9:00-9:40	
Level 6 Swimming & Skill Proficiency		9:00-9:40		

To determine where to place a child, read class descriptions. You will have to make the determination yourself. If in doubt, go with the lower level. Each student will be tested the first day of class to determine if he/she is in the correct level. Students may sign up for more than one session after June 23rd.

Little Swimmer

(Ages 6 months to 5 years)

Parent and Child Aquatics targets parents and their children ages 6 months to 5 years. The parents learn how to hold and support their child safely and appropriately while helping to increase their child's comfort level by emphasizing fun in the water. A foundation of basic skills will be built.

Preschool Levels 1 & 2 (Ages 3-5) Skills taught at this level include: water adjustment, breath control, floating, kicking and basic paddle strokes. Parents do not need to enter the water.

Level 1 (Intro to Water Skills)

Participants learn to enter and exit water; blow bubbles through mouth and nose, bobbing, open eyes under water, retrieve submerged objects; tread water; explore arm and hand movements.

Level 2 (Fundamental Skills)

Participants learn to enter/exit water; fully submerge & hold breath; front/back floats; tread water; roll over from front to back; changing direction, finning arm actions.

Level 3 (Stroke Development)

Builds on skills in level 2 by providing additional guided practice in deeper water. Will also learn to jump into deep water; bobbing while moving toward safety; headfirst entries from side-sitting and kneeling positions; survival float, back float; tread water; flutter, scissor and breaststroke; kicks on front; front crawl; simple non-swimming assists.

Level 4 (Stroke Improvement)

Develops student's confidence in the strokes learned in Level 3. Participants learn headfirst entries from side in compact and stride positions, swim under water, feet first surface dive, survival swimming; front crawl and backstroke open turns; tread water; front and back crawl; backstroke, breaststroke, sidestroke and butterfly.

Level 5 (Stroke Refinement)

Participants learn to shallow-angle dive from side and glide into a front stroke; tuck and pike surface dives, submerge completely; front flip turns and backstroke flip turn while swimming; front and back crawl, backstroke, breaststroke, sidestroke and butterfly.

Level 6 (Skill Proficiency)

Objectives are to refine strokes so participants swim with more ease, efficiency, power and smoothness; as well as swim over a great distance.

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POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

To support future performances, all donations are greatly appreciated.

Checks payable to Benson Public Schools.

Please write "PAC concert series" in the memo.

Donations can be mailed to:
Benson Public Schools
Business Office
1400 Montana Avenue
Benson, MN 56215



Pioneerland Band Festival

Friday, June 13, 2025 * * * Benson, MN

Preparations are underway for the annual Pioneerland Band Festival. We believe this is a positive event for our community and realize its success depends on the help of many. The support shown by area businesses over the last 30 years has been critical to meeting the financial needs of the event. We would like to thank them and encourage their continued involvement in the parade.

PIONEERLAND BAND FESTIVAL CONTRIBUTORS

Red * \$1-\$99 **White** * \$100-\$299 **Blue** * \$300 and above



Please consider being a part of this important community event by contributing to its cause. Every little bit counts and is appreciated. THANK YOU!

Contribution Information

Checks payable to <u>Pioneerland Band Festival</u> and mail to: Pioneerland Band Festival, PO Box 133, Benson, MN 56215

Pioneerland Band Festival

Please accept our 2025 tax deductible donation of \$	
Name(s)	We wish to remain anonymous.