



# BENSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Benson Community Education and District Newsletter  
November-December 2022 Volume 30 Issue 2



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**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)

*Benson Community Education*



**Community Education**  
1400 Montana Avenue  
Benson, MN 56215  
320-843-4545 (ph)  
320-843-2262 (f)

## School Phone Alert System

Benson Schools phone alert system is used for weather related and special informational announcements from the school district.

It is *important* that you keep the school office informed of any changes or additions to contact phone numbers to help keep your family informed.

This can be done by calling 843-2710 or on the JMC Online Parent Portal located on the school's website:

[www.benson.k12.mn.us](http://www.benson.k12.mn.us)

"Parent Portal"



## Accepting Open Enrollment Students!

Benson Public Schools is taking open enrollment applications for the 2022-2023 school year.

### 4 Star Rated Preschool

A morning 3 year old class  
Full day 4 year old classes are FREE!

### On-Site Child Care

6 weeks through 6th grade

### Grades K-5 classes average below 20 students!

### College & Elective Classes

55 college credits offered  
Save over \$30,000 in college tuition

### Career & Technical Education

Build a house, fishhouse and other steel products  
CNC, CAD and 3D printing projects

*"Exceptional Opportunities for Every Student's Success"*

## SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED!

Applicants who have a bachelor's degree, but not in education, can apply for a Two-Year Short Call Sub License. Training will be provided.



## SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS NEEDED!

Training will be provided.

Call 320-843-2710

### Northside Elementary (Gr. K-5)

1st Bell: 8:05 a.m.  
2nd Bell: 8:10 a.m.  
Ending Bell: 2:55 p.m.

### Benson High School (Gr. 6-12)

1st Bell: 7:57 a.m.  
1st Period: 8:00 - 8:45 a.m.  
2nd Period: 8:48 - 9:33 a.m.  
Connect/2nd Chance: 9:33 - 9:45 a.m.  
3rd Period: 9:48 - 10:33 a.m.  
4th Period: 10:36 - 11:21 a.m.  
Lunch (6-12): 11:21 - 11:49 a.m.  
5th Period: 11:52 - 12:37 p.m.  
6th Period: 12:40 - 1:25 p.m.  
7th Period: 1:28 - 2:13 p.m.  
8th Period: 2:16 - 3:01 p.m.

## BELL SCHEDULES



### District #777 Board Of Education

Brian Samuelson, Chair  
Gary Williams, Vice-Chair  
Bill McGeary, Treasurer  
Mary KW Langan, Clerk  
Jim Berens, Director  
Paul Carruth, Director  
Eric Peterson, Director

### District Staff

Dennis Laumeyer, Superintendent  
Mike Knutson, 6-12 Principal  
Brennan Kent, PreK-5 Principal  
Matthew Ebnet, Activities Director  
Connie Evenson, Food Service Director  
Al Pagel, Transportation Supervisor



### Community Education Advisory Council

Matthew Anderson	Erin Honebrink
Sarah Jaeger	Amanda Ness
Laurie O'Leary	Lucas Olson
Laura Ostlie	Sonja Schwiderski
Kerry Wilcox	Joy Zehringer
Paul Carruth, School Board	Eric Peterson, School Board
Leah Olson, youth rep	Lily Ostlie, youth rep

### Community Education Staff

Shelly Vergin, Community Education Director  
Aryn Lindahl, Secretary  
Chrysees Forbord, Early Childhood Coordinator  
Carissa McDonald, Discovery Kids Director





## ***What Do Teacher's Teach?***

*By Dennis Laumeyer, Superintendent*

These questions get asked from time to time, what do teachers teach? How do teachers know what content to teach? These are great questions.

The Minnesota Department of Education, through statewide committees comprised of teachers, parents, businesses, advocates, and others, develops standards in all content areas. The standards start in Kindergarten and run through grade 12. The final draft of standards is ultimately approved by the MN State Legislature. These standards (broken down into benchmarks) start with foundational skills in math, reading, science, social studies, Physical Education, etc., and build on skills as students move through their school years.

For example, teachers in first grade have standards that they need to teach in reading, science, math, and social studies. Teachers in the grade level start with the basic skills and build on the skills as students work through first grade.

There are many standards at each grade level and department and teachers do not have time within a school year to teach and assess every standard and benchmark. During in-service days, workshop days, and during PLC's (Professional Learning Communities), teachers work together to determine essential standards for grade levels and departments. This is also known as horizontal alignment of standards. This is important so that the same content is taught within each grade level – students are taught and assessed on the same content, no matter the teacher.

It is also important that standards are aligned vertically. During the December early out, teachers will be meeting in departments PK-grade 12. They will be sharing grade level essential standards by grade level. This process will identify if there are gaps in standards (skills) and/or overlaps in skills as students move through grade levels.

These processes require hard work and take a tremendous amount of time, but are important to providing a high quality and consistent education for each student. Teachers collaborate closely to ensure that students have a clear and consistent learning path based upon the state standards.

It is important to note that standards for each content area are revised every five – seven years.

Starting in 3rd grade students take the MN Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) tests in reading and math. Starting in 5th grade students take the science MCA test. The MCA tests are based upon the state standards. MCA tests are taken in April and May and results are released by the MN Department of Education in August.

Educators dig into the MCA results to help determine how the standards are being taught and assessed.

Benson Schools also uses a local assessment called AIMSweb in grades K-5 throughout the school year to identify on-going student achievement. The results of the AIMSweb assessments provide immediate and more accurate results to target instruction and interventions.

What is taught in Minnesota Public Schools is required by the state standards and benchmarks approved by the legislature. How the standards are taught is determined by teachers – which is the art of teaching. Teachers at Benson Schools work hard and work collaboratively to make sure there is alignment within grade levels and throughout PK-12th grade to give each student a high-quality education.



## Get out and Vote!

While much of the media attention during this election cycle has been on senate and house candidates, keep in mind that school board members are also on the ballot. School board leadership matters and your vote can shape every aspect of our children's educational journeys.

Whether or not you have school-age children, the impact of school boards is felt throughout your communities—including in municipal budgets and property taxes. So many important decisions are made at the local level that affect our daily lives, and you have the power to influence those decisions.

School board members are the unsung heroes in communities throughout the country. They establish the vision and goals for the public schools in their district, and they set standards for the performance of schools and superintendents.

School board members are elected by people in their community to represent their values, views, and desires for the public schools in their district. As selected leaders in their community, they consistently communicate with the public to keep community members abreast of challenges, ideas, and progress.

School board members are tasked with an important responsibility: educating nearly 50 million children – almost nine out of every 10 students – who receive their education in public schools. Board members are more than policy-makers and administrators; they are advocates for students and their parents and entrusted to engineer a better future.

## Sample Ballot

for Independent School District No. 777

- James Berens
- Paul Carruth
- Ron Hanson
- Brian Samuelson
- Melissa Wrobleski



**BHS WIFI CAFE**

**BHS**  
**GAME CLUB**  
*Spare Your Time for Fun*

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN**

Every Wednesday after school  
3:00-4:00 PM in the Wifi Cafe

*Games to Play*  
**BOARD GAMES, CARD GAMES, VIDEO GAMES (WITH MONTHLY TOURNAMENTS)**

Led by: *Mallory Felt, BHS School Social Worker*  
More information: email [mafelt@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:mafelt@benson.k12.mn.us)

## Science

7th grade Life Science Class taught by Lorie Floura has been designing experiments to demonstrate that isopods respond to stimuli as part of their study on the characteristics of living organisms.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Friday, November 18th:**

Teacher Workshop, students out at 12:32 (NS) and 12:37 (HS)

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday November 23-25:**

Thanksgiving Holiday, No School

**Friday, December 9th:**

Teacher Workshop, students out at 12:32 (NS) and 12:37 (HS)

**December 22 - January 2nd**

Holiday, No School

## **NO: Smoking Smokeless Tobacco E-Cigarettes**

**on school property or in any school buildings.**

**Benson Public Schools is also  
Latex-Free.**

**Latex balloons are prohibited in our schools!**

**Benson Public Schools does not carry secondary  
insurance for its students or athletes.**

**If you have any questions, please contact  
Benson Public Schools at 320-843-2710.**

## SENIOR PORTRAIT GUIDELINES:

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](mailto:yearbook@benson.k12.mn.us)

## *Customized Fire Pits for Sale*

Braves Custom Steel has created these unique fire pits they are now selling to the public. The fire pits are 10 gauge steel and come standard with the wildlife scene shown in the picture. Limited custom ordering is an option by emailing Doug Manzke at [dmanzke@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:dmanzke@benson.k12.mn.us).

These fire pits are made by the metals class taught by Mr. Manzke and will be custom made at the time of order. Please allow 3 weeks from the time of order to pick up. You will be notified when they are ready to allow you to make pick up arrangements.

Cost of the fire pit is \$275. You can order online (under Ink-Spot General Sales) here:

<https://benson.revtrak.net/rw-ink-spot/>



## The 6-12 Grade YEAR-BOOK is on sale NOW!



### 2 easy ways to order...

- 1 online at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com)
- 2 pick up an order form from Mr. Strand and return with a check

## **Ink Cartridge Recycling**

The Benson BPA chapter will NOT be accepting used ink cartridges until further notice.



5



## The 2022-2023 School Year is off to a GREAT start!

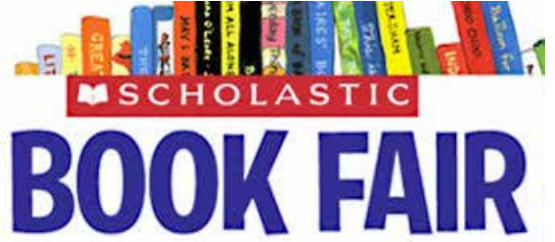
By Brennan Kent, PreK-5 Principal

The Northside staff and I hope that everyone is having a great start to the 22-23 school year. We are off to a strong start as students have already earned two school-wide rewards through our PBIS programs, implemented our new after-school enrichment program, and all individual classroom activities running efficiently. At Northside, we will continue to focus on educating the entire child and providing a safe environment for students to grow intellectually and socially.



## Petting Zoo

The Benson FFA students provided a Petting Zoo for the Northside Elementary students. The students loved seeing all of the different farm animals and the face painting.



Monday, November 7th

3:30-7:30 p.m.

&

Thursday, November 10th

3:30-7:30 p.m.

Northside Elementary Gym

All proceeds benefit our school and students!

Come to  
**THE FAIR**

Choose books  
**YOU LOVE**



## Breakfast with Braves

Northside students and the special adults in their lives are invited to attend.

The Book Fair will be set up for those that can't make it during conferences.

Title I staff will be there to meet and greet you!

Hope to see you there!

**Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

Serving from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  
Northside Cafeteria

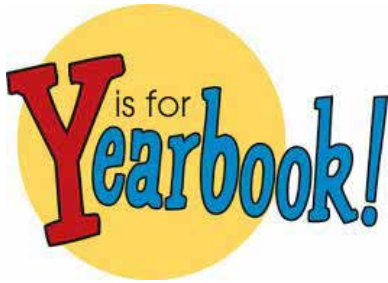


## S.T.E.M.

The 2nd and 4th graders worked together on a S.T.E.M. project to build Pumpkin Catapults. Then they spent time launching candy pumpkins and candy corn.



The Prek-5th Grade YEAR-BOOK is on sale NOW!



Cost is \$12  
order forms will be sent home with students the week of November 1st

Northside Elementary is excited to offer the students of Northside Elementary School an **After School Enrichment Program** on Thursdays & Fridays. Different grades will be invited to participate in the program throughout the year. Listed below is a schedule:

Oct., Nov., Dec. – Grades 4 & 5 (currently running)  
Jan., Feb., March – Grades 2 & 3  
April & May – Grades K & 1

There will be no make-up days. The program will run from 2:55-3:55 p.m. each Thursday and Friday. Letters will be sent to families prior to their session, so they can register. A small snack will be provided to students.

Transportation will not be provided for this program, it will be your responsibility to pick up your child by 4:00 p.m. All students will be dismissed out the west end doors of Northside Elementary. There is no cost for this program. Some areas covered include exploring flight, making ice cream, making slime, 3D printing, and others. Class sizes and days will be adjusted depending on enrollment.

If you have questions about this program, please call the Northside Elementary office at 320-842-2717.

The 4th and 5th grade students who enrolled in the enrichment program at Northside have been learning about what makes planes fly. They have experimented with their gliders and paper airplanes. They will soon visit the Benson Airport.



PBIS got a reboot this year at Northside Elementary. The whole school joined in a celebration of having a large jar filled with positive behaviors. The students enjoyed a freeze pop for their efforts.



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support will be implemented again this year at Northside Elementary.

PBIS lessons here, PBIS lessons there, PBIS lessons everywhere!

This week students are learning procedures and expectations in all areas of campus.

Have a Brave at home?  
**Be Brave! Be Safe!  
Be Responsible! - The Brave's Way!**



Northside Elementary students visited the Benson Fire Hall during Fire Prevention Week.





**Winter Weather Reminders**  
By Al Pagel, Transportation Supervisor

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall we have been having. It is hard to think we can be having winter weather in a few short weeks, so I would like to remind everyone:

1. Please have your child dress for the weather conditions.
2. With winter roads, please be ready 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. If you are not sure what time that is, please call the garage at 320-842-8035.
3. There are times we will have to make the call for buses on plowed roads only. That means the bus will only travel on plowed roads.
4. Reminder that any student who is having another student (s) ride a bus route (such as a birthday party or sleepover) need to have prior approval. You may call or email for approval. We are working hard to ensure that we have an accurate rider list for every route, every activity, every day.

You can call the garage at 320-842-8035, or email at [apagel@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:apagel@benson.k12.mn.us) with any changes for riding (for example, not riding in the morning), additional kids, or if you have any questions or concerns. I check the answering machine throughout the day, so please leave a message if I do not answer and I will return your message as soon as I am back to the garage.

Are you looking to make extra income? I am looking for additional drivers to join our team. I am looking for both bus drivers, and van drivers. The school will pay for all trainings and other requirements. There can be flexibility in driving schedules, and you get to work with a fun team.

**BUS GARAGE OPEN HOUSE**  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH  
5:00-6:30PM  
184 HWY 9 NE, BENSON, MN 56215

**WE'RE HIRING DRIVERS!**

- Class B Drivers Training
- Paid Training Provided
- No Experience Required
- Must be 18 years of age
- Valid Class C Drivers License
- Must pass Background Check
- Must enjoy working with children

\$15-\$28/PER HOUR + SIGN-ON BONUS



Benson Braves football players treated elementary students by reading to them during Homecoming week.

**THE CONFIDENCE CODE FOR GIRLS**

JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS GROUP

Taking risks, messing up, & becoming your amazingly imperfect, TOTALLY POWERFUL SELF!

EVERY MONDAY  
3:00-4:00  
MALLORY'S OFFICE: ROOM 453

BOOK CLUB THE CONFIDENCE CODE - FOR GIRLS

Group Leader  
**Mallory Felt**  
School Social Worker

Questions? Email [malfelt@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:malfelt@benson.k12.mn.us)



# C.T.E.



Benson High School is proud to offer many Career & Technology Education (C.T.E.) opportunities for it's students.

Two of these classes are Trades and Metals.



The trades class has been busy building sheds (in place of the trades house). They have also been laying concrete for shed placement at the ball fields.

If you're interested in a shed, please email Scott Thompson at [sthompson@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:sthompson@benson.k12.mn.us)



In metals class, the students are honing their welding skills. They are working on the custom fire pits being sold through Braves Custom Steel. They are also welding trailers and fish house frames. If you have a project for the students, email Doug Manzke at [dmanzke@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:dmanzke@benson.k12.mn.us).

**BENSON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Gay Straight Alliance

# GSA

This is a non-judgmental, safe, and nurturing space where students can share their experiences, learn about resources in their school and off campus, connect with others like them, and build peer support

**OUR FOCUS:**

- PEER CONNECTIONS
- EDUCATION
- COPING SKILLS
- SUPPORT SYSTEM
- HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**Group time:**  
Every Tuesday  
3:00-4:00 PM  
Room 453

Led by Mallory Felt, MSW, LICSW,  
High School Social Worker

Open to Students  
grades 7-12

## STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

HOSTED BY BHS GSA

DEC 1 | 5 PM - 7 PM

BENSON HIGH SCHOOL

CONTACT GSA ADVISOR MALLORY FELT  
FOR MORE INFORMATION E: [MAFELT@BENSON.K12.MN.US](mailto:MAFELT@BENSON.K12.MN.US)

The Benson Braves Wrestling Team has their sights set on a final four appearance this season. Head Coach Scott Thompson is very positive about the potential of this year's team, led by the following seniors:

Thomas Dineen, Teeagan Hogrefe, AJ Klassen, Preston McGee, Tyler Stewart, Alex Whitcup, Jaiden Zimmerman  
There are several returning underclassmen who will contribute to the team as well. Nick Bolduc, Darin Hippe, Max Nygaard, Gavin Olson and Jack Storlien are just a few of the wrestlers with some varsity experience.

Thomas Dineen leads the team with career wins and has his sights set not only on becoming the school's first three-time state champion, but having the record for most wins, which is currently held by former 2-time state champion wrestler Ryan Thompson. Thomas has committed to SDSU and plans to wrestle for the Jackrabbits and Head Coach and 2-time Gopher NCAA Champion Damien Hahn.

"The favorite at the beginning of the season will be Minneota, but after that a number of teams, including: BBE, KMS, ACGC, Benson, Minnewaska, and Paynesville for post season Final Four honors." said Head Wrestling Coach Scott Thompson. (article submitted by Wrestling)



## Touch Pro Interactive Video Archive of Benson High School

By Mike Knutson, 6-12 Principal

Benson High School has a new Interactive Video Screen called the Touch Pro. The Touch Pro is a history of the Benson High School yearbooks that have been digitized thanks to the hard work of Cindy Reiman.

People are able to search the history of BHS Activities & Athletics by interacting with the touch screen. You can also browse through the former classes and faculty of BHS. The Touch pro is located by the BHS Activities Entrance. Please check out this new addition to Benson High School!



Mr. Ebnet's Second graders made bird feeders to hang at Ambush Park.

They also were able to enjoy the fall day exploring the park.



## Get Connected with Benson Public Schools!

- Monthly article in Monitor-News
- KSCR Radio (fm 93.5)
- District Newsletter

### Website

[www.benson.k12.mn.us](http://www.benson.k12.mn.us)

<https://www.vancoevents.com/us/eventlist/bensonpublicschools>



### Facebook Pages

Find us, Like us at facebook.com/  
BensonPublicSchools777  
BensonCommunityEducation  
BensonChoir  
Discovery-Kids  
bensonschoolreadiness  
Benson-Baseball-Association  
Benson-Braves-Wrestling  
Benson-KMS-Area-Gymnastics  
bensonsoftball  
Benson-Braves-Volleyball  
Benson Braves Golf

### Twitter Pages

Follow Us at  
(district) @BensonBraves777  
(activities) @BensonBraves  
(BPA) @BensonMN\_BPA  
(FFA) @Benson\_FFA  
(football) @BensonFootball  
(tennis) @BKMS\_tennis  
(volleyball) @BravesVball  
(superintendent) @Dlau5



# BRAVES GOT TALENT

FEBRUARY 11TH  
7:00 PM IN THE PAC

DO YOU HAVE A TALENT YOU ARE READY TO SHARE?

AUDITIONS:  
February 1st  
3:00-5:00 PM  
in the PAC



OPEN TO ALL MUSICIANS, SINGERS, DANCERS, RAPPERS ACTORS, COMEDIANS, MAGICIANS, AND MORE!

1ST, 2ND, & 3RD PLACE PRIZES



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MALLORY @ MAFELT@BENSON.K12.MN.US OR JASMINE BLUE @ JASMINE.BLUE@WCENTERS.ORG



The Marching Band had a very busy summer traveling to Fergus Falls, Albertville, Milaca, Rochester and Lake City. Of course, they also marched in Benson for the annual Memorial Day, Flag Day and Kid Day parades.

The Rochester and Lake City Parade route also brought a fun day to Valleyfair!



## BHS BAND LOOKING FOR INSTRUMENT DONATIONS

Do you have an old band instrument collecting dust in the closet? The Benson band asks you to consider donating it to the school.

Old instruments will be used to help students who cannot afford to purchase one of their own.

The band also uses old instruments for parts to repair other instruments. The band will take any instrument in any condition.

Donations are also tax deductible. If you have questions, please call Brock Duncan at 843-2710 or email: [bduncan@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:bduncan@benson.k12.mn.us)

## MUSIC BOOSTERS GET INVOLVED!

This group helps support our school musicians. Meetings are held the 1st Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. in the BHS Band Room.

### 2022-2023 Music Department Calendar

8th Grade Band Festival . . . . .	October 29* All Day
Indoor Marching Band Concert . . . . .	November 1 * 7:30 p.m.
Holiday Jazz Concert . . . . .	November 28 * 7:30 p.m.
6-8 Grade Band Concert . . . . .	December 5 * 5:30 p.m.
9-12 Grade Band Concert . . . . .	December 5 * 7:30 p.m.
7-12 Grade Choir Concert . . . . .	December 12 * 7:30 p.m.
9-12 Grade Band Concert. . . . .	March 7 * 7:30 p.m.
1-3 Grade Concert . . . . .	March 10 * 1:30 p.m.
Large Group Contest (in KMS) . . . . .	March 13 * 3:00 p.m.
9-12 Grade Choir Concert. . . . .	March 20 * 7:30 p.m.
Solo & Ensemble Contest. . . . .	April 1 * All Day
Jazz n' Stuff Concert . . . . .	April 1 * 7:00 p.m.
4-5 Grade Concert . . . . .	May 4 * 1:30 p.m.
6 Grade Music & Band Concert. . . . .	May 5 * 1:30 p.m.
7-8 Grade Choir & Band Concert . . . . .	May 8 * 5:00 p.m.
9-12 Grade Choir & Band Concert . . . . .	May 9 * 7:00 p.m.

# ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

## CONGRATULATIONS!



### 2022-2023 FEES

#### Athletic Participation Fees

Per student/per sport  
Applies to all sports

Grades 7/8 - \$55  
Grades 9-12 - \$75\*

\*Students in grades 9-12 will receive a **FREE Student Athletic Pass** with the payment of their first \$75 Athletic Participation Fee.

**Band Instrument Rental:** \$70.00 per year

There is a **\$400.00 Family Max** for the above fees.

#### Co-Curricular Fees

Per student/per program

Co-Curricular Fees apply to:

Knowledge Bowl, Speech, Robotics,  
FFA, BPA and Summer Marching  
Band

Grades 7/8- \$35  
Grades 9-12 - \$45

#### **One Act Play:**

\$20 (9-12); \$15 (7-8)

## Benson Braves Head Coaches

### Winter Sports

Wrestling - Scott Thompson

Gymnastics - Kathy Ahrndt

Boys Hockey - Jeremiah Day

Girls Hockey - Coleton Anderson

Boys Basketball - Mike Felt

Girls Basketball - Renee Helgenset

## GO BRAVES

#### Athletic Gate Fees

\$4.00 Students

\$6.00 Adults

\$5.00 Senior Citizens (60+)

#### Concert Gate Fees

\$3.00 Students

\$5.00 Adults

\$4.00 Senior Citizens (60+)

#### Athletic All Season Passes

\$45.00 Students (K-12)

\$65.00 Adults

\$55.00 Seniors (age 60+)

\$155.00 Family Pass

Athletic Passes, good for all regular season athletic events, are available for purchase online or in the Activities / Community Ed office 8:00-4:00 Monday-Friday.

### PARENTS, STUDENTS REMINDED OF DISTRICT POLICIES AT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

District #777 would like to remind parents and students of the policies which govern all athletic events hosted by District #777. In an effort to better control the structure of events the following policies will apply to all events for the sports seasons this year.

- Any students leaving the building during an event will have to pay regular admission prices to return. Athletic passes will not be accepted for the second entry into an event on any given night.
- All school grounds/facilities in use by the district are tobacco free.
- ALL Elementary students in attendance at events need to be under the DIRECT SUPERVISION of their parent/guardian at all times.
- Athletic Passes must be in possession to be honored.
- To reduce the risk of injury it is requested that everyone takes responsibility for placing your trash in the receptacles provided in an effort to keep our bleachers as clean and safe as possible. Please take a minute at the completion of each event and set a good example...please clean up the trash around your area of the bleachers.

We appreciate the Good Sportsmanship our fans have displayed in the past and we know that you will continue this high level of respect for officials, coaches, athletes and fans. Again, thank you for your strong support of the activities programs at Benson High School, we look forward to seeing you at this year's events.

# BRAVES, ETC

See below the items found in the school store! The store is open from 12:40-1:25 p.m. school days. You may also contact Mrs. Razink at [bravesetc@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:bravesetc@benson.k12.mn.us) or 320-843-2710 ext. 2339. All items can be picked up and paid for in the School Store.



**BLUE 84 1/4 ZIP**

Super Comfy and soft!  
Sizes 5-XXL  
\$35.00



**COMING SOON**

Adult Crewneck in Maroon and Vegas Gold  
Design TBD



**COMING SOON**

Youth Performance Hoodie  
Design TBD



Adult Long Sleeve  
Sizes L-3XL  
\$18.00



Adult Tee  
Sizes S-4XL  
\$15.00



Youth long sleeve Dri-fit  
Sizes S-XL  
\$15.00



Youth Tees  
Size S, M, XL  
\$12.00



Adult Triblend Hooded Tshirt  
Sizes S, M, L  
\$25.00



Adult BB Crew  
Sizes M, XXL  
\$22.00



Adult Game Day Crew  
Sizes S, L, XXL  
\$22.00



Adult Augusta B Hoodie  
Size S, M  
\$28.00



Adult Augusta Benson Hoodie  
Size, M  
\$28.00

# BRAVES, ETC

See below the items found in the school store! The store is open from 12:40-1:25 p.m. school days. You may also contact Mrs. Razink at [bravesetc@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:bravesetc@benson.k12.mn.us) or 320-843-2710 ext. 2339. All items can be picked up and paid for in the School Store.



Adult MN Hoodie  
Sizes S, M  
\$28.00



Kids Gray BB Hoodie  
Sizes XS  
\$15.00



Kids Maroon BB Hoodie  
Sizes XS, S  
\$15.00



Kids Game Day Tee  
Sizes L  
\$12.00



Little Brave Sideline  
Sizes T2, T3, T4 &  
18 mo onesie  
\$12.00



Kids MN Hoodie  
Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL  
\$18.00



Adult Game Day Tee  
Sizes S, XL  
\$15.00



Home Grown Tees  
Sizes S, M, L  
Sale Price: \$5.00



Braves Pom Hat  
\$15.00



Key Chains  
\$5.00 (4.68+tax)



Benson Earband  
\$7.00



Benson Mittens  
\$10



Braves Scarf  
\$12.00



Braves Pura Vida Bracelet  
\$5.00 (4.68+tax)



Tumblers  
\$16.00 (14.97 +tax)

The Braves, Etc. School Store can also be viewed online:  
[benson.k12.mn.us](http://benson.k12.mn.us) Select "Braves, Etc. School Store"



## New Fruit Friday

By Connie Evenson, Food Service Director

Food service received a grant from SHIP to do a "New Fruit Friday" for Northside Elementary.

The Students are getting to try some fruits that normally would be too expensive for the kitchen to afford. We have already done Papaya and it was fun to see the kids trying it for the first time. Many of them said they really liked it!

This upcoming week we are hoping to get our star fruit in and golden berries are the following week. We are trying to introduce new fruits to the kids at a young age and have them realize that trying new things can be fun and tasty.



### Lunch Information

To find out more information, go to our school website: [www.benson.k12.mn.us](http://www.benson.k12.mn.us) "Lunch Menus" in gray bar at bottom of home screen

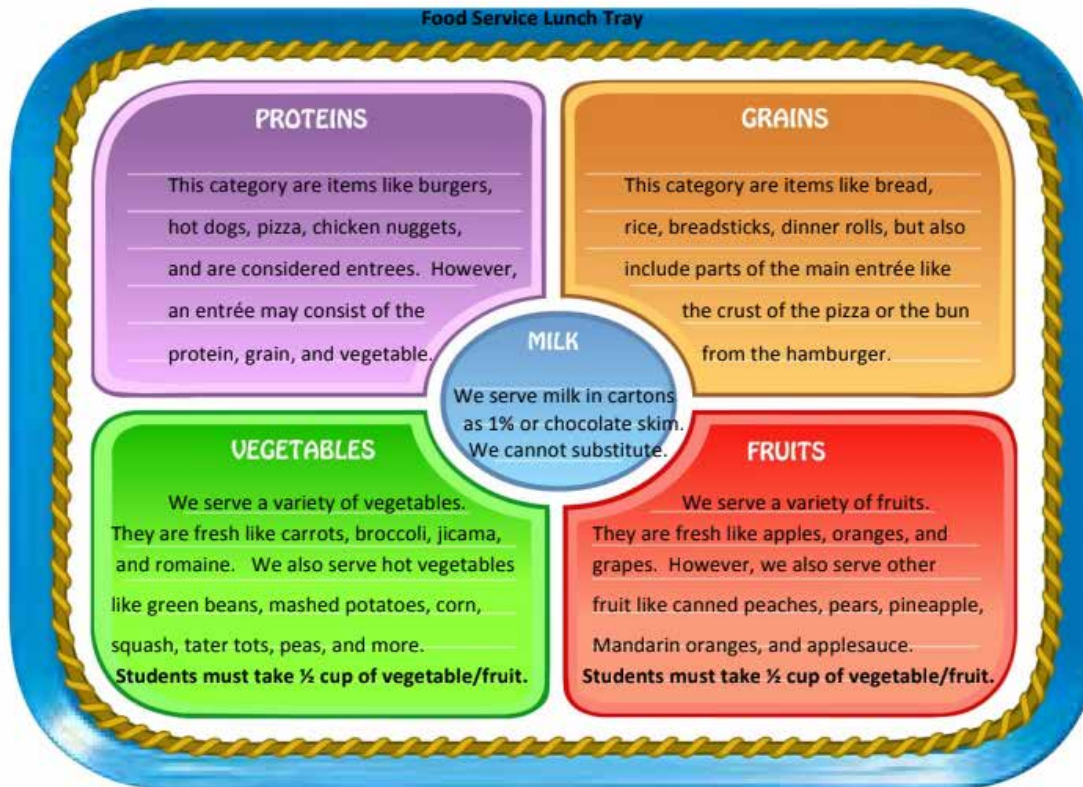
There you will find links to:

- Menus
- Free/Reduced Applications
- Elementary Birthday Treats
- more!

If sending payment to school for your child's lunch account, please make checks payable to: *Benson Public Schools*.

Please add a note if child's last name is different than the last name on the check.

Lunch payments can also be made online with a credit/debit card through the parent portal.



- Students must take 3 out of the 5 categories (Protein or Meat/Meat Alternative; Grain; Vegetable; Fruit; and Milk) but can take all 5.
- They must have a ½ cup fruit or vegetable on their tray.
- Items like pizza count as two categories – Meat/Meat Alternative and Grain.

### Procedures for Over Due Accounts Policy

Parents receive statements one of two ways:

- Via Email. If there is an email set up with the lunch account, low balance notices will be sent weekly to the email linked to the lunch account.
- Via Mail. If there is no email set up with the lunch account, physical low balance notices will be sent weekly.

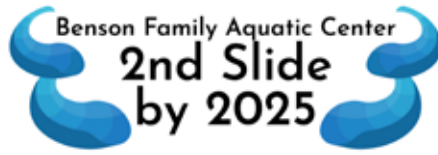
Process for low balance notices:

1. Emails or physical notices will be sent on all accounts that are expected to go negative within 8 days.
2. When accounts reach a zero balance, parents will be notified via phone call that their students can no longer charge ala carte to their accounts until their account has a positive balance and payment on the account needs to be made within two weeks.
3. If no response or payment is made, a final notice will be mailed to the parents with the effective date of three school days to bring their account to a positive balance.
4. If payment is still not received, they will be turned over to collections.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## 2nd Slide by 2025 Campaign Kick-off

The 2nd Slide by 2025 Committee is kicking off its campaign to update the Benson Family Aquatic Center by adding a second flume slide. In 2004 when the pool was built, the equipment for two flume slides was installed, but only one slide was completed. After eighteen years, our goal is to raise funds to complete the installation of the 2nd slide. The cost for the second slide is approximately \$150,000 and our time-line is as follows:



1. Raise half the funds (\$75,000) by the summer of 2023.
2. Raise the remaining balance by the summer of 2024.
3. Install the second slide in the fall of 2024.
4. Enjoy the second slide on opening day 2025!

Our swimming pool is a huge asset that brings in hundreds of families to the area and will continue to serve our community for generations to come. Swimming promotes family time, exercise, mastering life-saving and lifelong skills, and recreational fun.

Donations can be payable to the City of Benson, and mailed to:  
City of Benson  
1410 Kansas Avenue  
Benson, MN 56215

THANK YOU for your support! Please reach out to a committee member with any questions. Members include: Amanda Carruth, Emily Foslien, Elizabeth Koehl, Julie Loen, and Shelly Mikkelson.

## Help Keep Benson Moving Forward

The Benson Baseball Association is accepting donations to help fund a new concession stand with a handicap accessible bathroom by Chief's Field. The old concession stand never had running water.

The area around the grandstand will also be updated with cement to give it a fresh new look.

Checks can be made payable to "Benson Baseball Association" and mailed to:

Benson Baseball  
645 Oregon Ave  
Benson, MN 56215



## T.E.A.M. Promise Seeks Mentors To Work With Area Youth

T.E.A.M. Promise is a mentoring program that is currently a collaboration between Trinity Lutheran Church, Swift County Human Services and Benson Public Schools funded in part by the Robert Sonsteng Memorial Advised Endowment Fund and the Benson Area Community Foundation which are affiliates of the Southwest Initiative Foundation.

T.E.A.M. Promise began in February, 2019 as a way to build positive relationships among adult mentors and youth in our community. Mentors and students meet each Monday afternoon that school is in session during the months of October through April. Students are bussed to Trinity Lutheran Church where mentors from many different organizations and churches are there waiting to eat a quick snack and spend the next hour talking, playing or helping with homework.

Students are given life skills by taking turns helping to prepare a meal in the kitchen and setting the table. Each Monday concludes with a family style meal in which the young people, mentors and the children's families share a meal together visiting and building connections. Any extra food left over at the end of the meal is sent home with the families. Mentors arrive at 2:45 and finish around 5:15.

Many area churches and organizations are already represented by wonderful volunteer mentors that have touched the lives of children through T.E.A.M. Promise. They are currently looking to expand the number of mentors in this program. Their goal is to have at least one volunteer from each area church/organization each week to help make this a venture that is truly a community-wide outreach to lift up and support at-risk youth in our community.



**BE A MENTOR TOUCH A LIFE**

Funded in part by a grant from the Robert Sonsteng Memorial Fund  
and the Benson Area Community Foundation  
affiliates of the Southwest Initiative

Please email us at [teampromisementoring@gmail.com](mailto:teampromisementoring@gmail.com) with any questions or to volunteer to be a mentor. No special skills are required. Screenings are required of potential mentors. T.E.A.M. Promise board members include Holly Grussing, Jean Hanson, Julie McNeill and Lorri Pederson.



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  
Office Hours:**

**Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## New Program Ideas Wanted

Community Ed is always looking for adults to share their talents, skills, expertise, hobbies and career experiences with students of all ages! A teaching degree is not necessary.



Classes are flexible because they are built around the needs of the people involved. Call Shelly at 843-4545 if you would like to teach a class or if you have an innovative idea for a class or activity.

We welcome your ideas!!



## Please pick your child up ON TIME from all activities!

Our supervisors, instructors and volunteers 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.

### TO ALL PARTICIPANTS

- If you choose to take part in any program or activity sponsored solely or jointly by Community Education, you do so at your own risk. Benson Area Community Education or School District #777 is not responsible for providing health or hospital insurance.

### PRE-REGISTRATION

- Pre-registration is necessary for many 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.

### REFUNDS

- 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.

# Girls Strength

## 6th Grade Girls

This program is provided exclusively to 6th grade girls! The goal is to introduce the weightroom facilities at BHS and help girls feel more comfortable with the equipment.

**Mondays** ; 12 sessions

November 14th - December 19th

January 9th-February 13th

**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Cost: \$15**

Instructor: Mackenzie Dokkebakken

# Softball

## Softball Clinic: Grades 1-6

This clinic is designed for girls who are dedicated to improving their softball skills and knowledge of the game.

The focus is on fundamental skills.

Bring your own gloves, but mark them.

**Sundays** (3 sessions)

**3:30-4:30 p.m.** in the SH Gym

**Cost: \$20;** Includes T-Shirt

**Grades 5-6:** Nov 27, Dec.4 & Dec. 11

**Grades 3-4:** January 8, 15, 22

**Grades 1-2:** January 29, February 5, 12

Instructor: Head Softball Coach Mackenzie Dokkebakken

# Wrestling

## Youth Wrestling: Prek-Grade 6

The goals of the youth program are to have fun, develop one's potential, understand and practice good sportsmanship, develop self-esteem and self-respect through goal setting and hard work, enjoy the personal challenges that wrestling provides, proudly represent Benson Schools on and off the mat.

Wrestlers will have the chance to wrestle at both individual and team tournaments. Transportation will be on your own.

Practices will begin **December 12th**

Program runs through March 11th

Practices will be held:

**Prek-Grade 2:** Mon. 5:00-5:45 p.m.

**Grades 3-6:** Mon. 5:50-7:00 p.m. & Thurs. 5:00-6:15 p.m.

**Cost: \$50.00**

Coaches: Scott Thompson and Ryan Thompson with help of many volunteer coaches

# Basketball

## Saturday Rec; Boys and Girls Grades 1-4

Join us for:

- Individual shooting instruction, defensive fundamentals
- ball handing, games, contests, fun!

**6 Saturdays:** 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/17, 1/14, 1/21

Cost: \$30; includes a t-shirt

**Boys: 8:30-9:30 a.m.**

**Girls: 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

Benson High School

## Travel Basketball, Boys Grades 1-6

Players will practice 1-2 nights a week. Practices could be held week nights or weekends. Boys will participate in scrimmages and tournaments (transportation on own).

Cost: \$60

Registration deadline was October 23 to receive a sweatshirt

## Travel Basketball, Girls Grades 3-6

Players will practice 1-2 nights a week. Practices could be held week nights or weekends. Girls will participate in scrimmages and tournaments (transportation on own).

Cost: \$60

Registration deadline is October 31

## **SUNDAY OPEN GYM**

Begins: November 20

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Benson High School Gyms



Come check us out and challenge your friends to a little one-on-one or two-on-two game of basketball!

Please **carry in** your basketball/tennis shoes.



Last year, we had many wonderful businesses and individuals that sponsored Open Gym to keep it free. If you'd like to sponsor a week of Open Gym for \$60, please contact Community Education at 843-4545!

**YOUTH SPORTS ISN'T JUST ABOUT SPORT. IT'S ABOUT KEEPING THE FUN IN THE GAME AND TEACHING YOUR ALTHETES LESSONS THEY CAN TAKE WITH THEM IN LIFE.**

-COACH JOHN BURNS

## Defensive Driving

MN Safety Council: Defensive driving classes are offered to people 55 years of age and over to review and discuss courteous driving and the rules of the road. You receive 10% off your auto insurance for three years.



Check with your insurance company to see if you need the 8 hour class or can jump right into this 4 hour refresher course.

We had to cancel our October class and working on scheduling a November class. Please call us at 843-4545 if you are in need of this course.

## Adult Co-Ed Volleyball League

It's time to start asking your friends, colleagues, neighbors to play volleyball! Get your exercise in *and* have fun!

The league will start in December and run through March. Play will be on Wednesday evenings at the Benson High School. Teams must consist of men AND women who are at least 18 years old and out of high school.



Cost per team will be \$90.

**Call Community Ed at 843-4545 for more info.**

## Pickleball Open Gym

Join the Pickleball craze and come play on Wednesday nights at Benson High School. Dec. 7th - March 29th.



Come as a single or with a partner! Play starts at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights in the East Gym. It's a non-competitive and fun way to get your exercise in!

Paddles and ball will be provided, or you can bring your own. Haven't played before? No problem! We will teach you!

Cost: \$2 per time, buy a punch ticket for \$10 or get a season pass for \$20.00. **Call Community Ed at 843-4545 for more info.**

## First Aid & CPR & AED



CPR AND FIRST AID CLASSES

We have partnered with the Swift County Benson Hospital for Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid. This is a classroom, video-based, instructor led course.

Upon successful completion students will receive an **American Heart Association** course completion card, valid for 2 years.

Classes are scheduled as the need arises. If you need training, please call us at 843-4545.

celebrate your birthday with a  
**Gymnastics Party!**  
with BKMS coaching staff in the gymnastics gym

**Parties Include:**

- \* 60 minutes of gymnastics, foam pit, Tumble Trak & an obstacle course. All led by one of our gymnastics instructors
- \* 30 minutes of a party area to use for cake, dinner, gift opening, etc.
- \* No set up or clean up on your part

**Cost:**

- \* \$20 deposit paid to Benson Public Schools at time of booking
- \* \$8 per guest paid to Benson Area Gymnastics Association

Enjoy a fun-filled 1 1/2 hour birthday party with the entire gym all to yourself! Kids will enjoy every second of it! The BKMS staff will do all the work and clean up. Contact Kathy Ahrndt for more information and to set up a date/time to celebrate. kahrndt@benson.k12.mn.us



straight out of Nashville: **John King**

This Georgia native climbed steadily toward the top of country music by penning Randy Houser's chart-topping "We Went" and Hootie's "Rollin"; all while being a road warrior playing an average of 150 shows a year. John just released his debut album "Always Gonna Be You".

**Saturday | January 21, 2023**  
**7:00 p.m.**

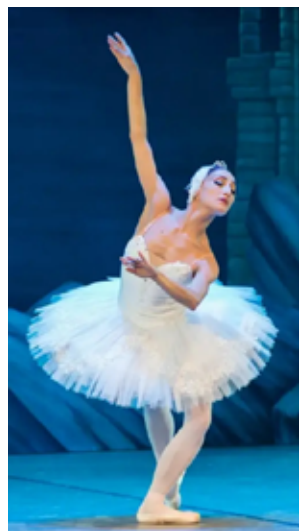
**Benson High School Performing Arts Center**  
**Benson, MN**

\$20 Adult / \$10 Student advanced tickets can be purchased:  
\*online until 6 p.m. on Saturday:

[www.vancoevents.com/BMLE](http://www.vancoevents.com/BMLE)

\*by phone until 4 p.m. on Friday by calling Benson Community Ed at 320-843-4545

Tickets at the door will be \$25 adult/\$15 student



The Continental Ballet  
Presents

## The Nutcracker

**Sunday**  
**December 18th**  
**4:00 p.m.**

Especially designed for families, this story tells the timeless tale of Clara's voyage to the Land of the Sugarplum Fairy with her magical Godfather Drosselmeyer.

**Benson High School Performing Arts Center**  
**Benson, MN**

\$20 Adult / \$10 Student advanced tickets can be purchased:  
\*online until 3 p.m. on Sunday: [www.vancoevents.com/BHCK](http://www.vancoevents.com/BHCK)

\*by phone until 4 p.m. on Friday by calling Benson Community Ed at 320-843-4545

Tickets at the door will be \$25 adult/\$15 student

## Driver's 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.



### Driver Training

The fall class is currently in session. The next class will be held in June of 2023. Call Community Education for more information at 320-843-4545.

Instructor: Roger Lindahl; \$310

## Tae Kwon Do

The feature of Tae Kwon Do is its distinctive and intense kicking, combined with quick hand movements and fluid body motions. With regular practice, it enhances physical fitness, flexibility, and cardiovascular-respiratory endurance. The martial art aims to strengthen both the physical and mental well-being. With its balance of hard work and discipline, along with the rewards of personal achievement, it develops confident, well-balanced individuals.



### Tuesdays and Thursdays

September 6th through May 25th  
5:30-6:30 p.m. OR 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Northside Elementary

Class max: 12 students

\$35 a month

Instructor: Master Marc Nokleby

## Snowmobile Safety

This class is for boys and girls who are 11 years of age and older who plan to operate snowmobiles. The snowmobile safety certificate enables you to operate a snowmobile along highways and on public property.

Benson offers the online course option. Students must complete the online portion of the class (approx. \$30), then attend the classroom review and performance course on the date listed below.

A parent must attend the beginning portion of the class with their child. Students will be driving a snowmobile so must dress appropriately.

Register on-line with Community Ed for the classroom review. There will be a link to the online portion.

**Saturday, December 3**

**8:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Benson High School**

**Fee: \$7.00**



## Swift County 4-H presents 4-H Connections

Swift County 4-H is partnering with Benson Community Education to host enrichment opportunities for youth to learn about a new topic, build connections with others, and experience 4-H! Register with Benson Community Education (under Youth Enrichment). Scholarships available upon request.

### Thankful for Feelings

A great month to celebrate the things we are thankful for and learn how to express feelings of gratitude and thanks with a craft.



**Tuesday, November 8th**

Grades K-8

older youth and teens are invited to be helpers!

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

Benson High School Library

\$10

### Holiday Cheer!

Spreading holiday cheer through holiday wreath and hot cocoa making.

**Tuesday, December 13th**

Grades K-8

older youth and teens are invited to be helpers!

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

Benson High School Library

\$10



### Snowy Science

All things science, all things snow



**Tuesday, January 10th**

Grades K-8

older youth and teens are invited to be helpers!

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

Benson High School Library

\$10

This spot could have been yours!

We are looking for people just like you who would like to offer a class with us!

"Time spent with children is never time wasted."

Let us help you make an impact!

email: [communityed@benson.k12.mn.us](mailto:communityed@benson.k12.mn.us)

or call 320-843-4545

# Jazz-n-Pizzazz Dance

Jazz-n-Pizzazz dance is a Community Education dance program offering dance classes to students ages 3 years through 12th grade. Students will focus on basic dance steps, terminology while improving their grace, posture and self esteem.

Before you choose to participate in our dance program, please strongly consider these items:

Preschool and boys classes will be 12 weeks starting the week of **January 30th, 2023**

All other classes will be 15 weeks starting the week of **January 9th, 2023**

Attendance is very important. If your child misses a practice, it will affect the performance of the whole group. Please make every effort to have your child at practice. Dancers having **2** unexcused or **3** excused absences will result in dismissal from the program.

Respect for other dancers and instructors is vital in this program. If a dancer is misbehaving or being disrespectful, they will be asked to sit out or a parent will be called to pick them up.

Parents are asked to drop off and pick up on time. Instructors will not wait for late students, please try to arrive 5 minutes before the start of class. Most teachers teach back to back and will not be able to wait with your dancer for you to arrive to pick them up.

Parents are not allowed in the Performing Arts Center during dance classes. They may wait in the lunchroom during classes. This allows the dancer to focus on their teacher and not on whether you are watching them.

Students with cell phones, iPods, etc. will be asked to silence phones and keep them in back packs, dance bags or in a phone basket during class.

Practice clothes should consist of dancewear (leotards, tights, etc.) or leggings. This will help the instructor see the dancer's posture, technique, etc. Hair should be pulled back. Jeans are discouraged.

**Dance Registration opens at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1st  
and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 30th.**

Class fee information is included in class descriptions on the back of this form. You have the option to pay the class in full or make monthly payments.

- Full payments can be made online with a credit card or in the Community Education office with cash or check.
- Monthly payments must be done with a credit card. No cash/check option is available.

**Shoe and costume orders will be done at the Dance Open House on November 30th.** This will be your only chance to order shoes and costumes. All order must be in our office by December 2nd. Orders not received at this time will be charged a shipping charge to special order their shoes and/or costumes.

- Shoes must be paid in full at the time of order.
- Costumes will require a \$25 deposit at the time of order. This is a non refundable deposit. The remaining balance will be due when costumes are picked up.

Dance Recital is scheduled for the weekend of April 21-23, 2023.



**“IT’S A  
beautiful  
DAY TO START  
dancing”**

# Jazz-n-Pizzazz Dance Classes

## Preschool: 3 & 4 yr. olds: \$60.00

Must be 3 on or before Sept. 1  
ballet shoes

Tuesdays: **Dew Drops**

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

-or-

Thursdays: **Ladybugs**

4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Inst: Adeline DeToy

## 2nd Grade: \$92.00

tap and ballet

Tuesdays: **Dancin' Queens**

4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Inst: Aryn Lindahl

-or-

Thursdays: **Lollipops**

3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

Inst: Adeline DeToy

## 11th/12th Grade: \$105.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Sundays: **Outrageous**

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Inst: Brianna Knudson

## Preschool: 4 & 5 yr. olds: \$60.00

Must be 4 on or before Sept. 1  
ballet shoes

Thursdays: **Jitterbugs**

4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Inst: Janae Olson

-or-

Mondays: **Rugrats**

5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

## Boys Class: \$60.00

4 years old +  
tennis shoes

Tuesdays: **Dynamite**

6:45 - 7:15 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

## Kindergarten: \$92.00

tap and ballet

Thursdays: **Buttercups**

5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

Inst: Janae Olson

-or-

Tuesdays: **Twinkle Toes**

4:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Inst: Paige Cain/Dani Reuss

## 3rd Grade: \$92.00

tap and ballet

Tuesdays: **Gemstones**

3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

Inst: Liz Fennell

-or-

Mondays: **Sparkles**

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Inst: Gracie Ness

## 4th Grade: \$92.00

tap and ballet

Mondays: **Shining Stars**

3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

Inst: Gracie Ness

## 5th Grade: \$105.00

tap, ballet and jazz

Mondays: **Glamour Girls**

4:45 - 5:45 p.m.

Inst: Izzy Abner/Maranda Wieber

## 6th Grade: \$105.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Tuesdays: **Diamonds**

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Inst: Emily Foslien

## 7th/8th Grade: \$105.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Tuesdays: **Blaze**

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Inst: Emily Foslien

## 9th/10th Grade: \$105.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Sundays: **New Sensation**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Inst: Brianna Knudson

## Pointe (9th-12th Grade): \$65.00

Dancers will learn basic ballet movements on Pointe, terminology and stretching.

Pointe shoes required.

Sundays

5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Inst: Brianna Knudson

## High Kick (gr. 5-12): \$95.00

Incorporates a variety of kick styles and arm movements.  
Jazz shoes will be worn.

Mondays

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Inst: Brittany Thompson

## Hip Hop (gr. 6-12): \$80.00

Dancers will learn basic fundamentals of hip hop rhythm & beat driven 8 counts using "new school" and "old school" techniques.

Jazz shoes will be worn.

Thursdays: **Grades 9-12**

5:45 - 6:30 p.m.

Inst: Michelle Ibarra

-or-

Thursdays: **Grades 6-8**

6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Inst: Michelle Ibarra

Important Dates:

5:00 p.m. **November 1st:**  
Dance Registration opens

5:00 p.m. **November 30th:**  
Dance Registration closed

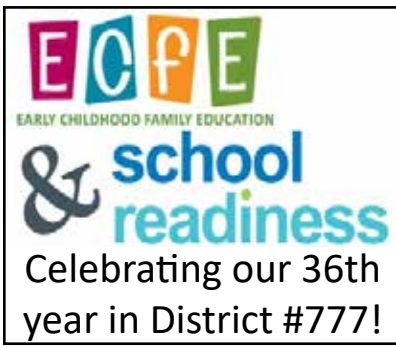
**November 30th:**  
Open House for Costumes & Shoes

**Week of January 9th:**  
k-12 classes start

**Week of January 30th:**  
prek and boys classes start



Dance



## Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)

ECFE is based on the idea that parents provide their child's first and most significant learning environment and parents are children's first and most enduring teachers.

ECFE works to support you as a parent/caregiver and to strengthen and empower families. The goal is to enhance the ability of all parents and other family members to provide the best possible environments for their child's learning and development.

You are your child's first and most important teacher! Our mission is to provide support and information to families and help all children prepare for school success.

## Preschool Options

Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) & School Readiness are public school programs for 3 to 5 year old children and their families.

VPK & School Readiness provide children with various opportunities to participate in early childhood programs that enable them to enter school with the skills and behaviors needed for them to progress and flourish.

We offer these options this year:

The **3 year old School Readiness program** is for those students who will be 3 on or before September 1st and in Kindergarten in the fall of 2024. Student must be fully potty trained.

Our **4 year old VPK program** is designed for those students who will be 4 on or before September 1st and in Kindergarten in the fall of 2023.

Both the 3 and 4 year old programs are designed around social skills, academic skills, play, pre-kindergarten basics, fine and large motor skill development, and many other exciting experiences.

### ECFE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday, December 8th from 6:00-7:00 p.m.  
Northside Elementary, Early Childhood Center



Free for children birth to 5 years and their families.

Parents - here is your opportunity to kick off the holiday season with your children! Join us for cookies, crafts and a visit from Santa.

You will also have the opportunity to register for winter/spring ECFE classes.

Pre-registration is required! Call Community Education at 320-843-4545 or register online here: [benon.revtrak.net/RW-Community-Education/](https://benon.revtrak.net/RW-Community-Education/)



**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, please call Chrysees Forbord at 843-2710. Being on the census will ensure that you receive the ECFE newsletter, School Readiness registration materials, and other important school information.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING** All preschoolers who will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2022 are eligible to be screened. This program provides a comprehensive health and development screening once before the childhood enters Kindergarten. You will receive a letter prior to the screening date.



# 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 6th grade. Our mission is to provide childcare where children can learn and grow physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially.

**Location:** Early Childhood Center, Northside Elementary

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

**Financial Assistance** available through:

- Swift County Human Services (child care assistance)
- Parent Aware (Pathway)

We use "Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum with Assessment Gold" in all of our rooms.

It's a great addition to School Readiness, Voluntary Pre-K and Headstart!

## Why Discovery Kids?

- Educationally enriched curriculum that encourages literacy, language, social, and emotional development
  - Secured Building
  - Daily Activities and Schedule
  - Meals Provided
- Accept County Assistance and Parent Aware Scholarships
- Open every weekday, with exception of holidays
  - We have extended hours
- All staff receive over 30 hours of a training a year in the areas of Early Childhood!



## How do we sign up?

Parent Handbooks and Registration Forms are available on-line at [http://benon.k12.mn.us/community\\_ed\\_/DiscoveryKids](http://benon.k12.mn.us/community_ed_/DiscoveryKids).

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

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

Your child must be registered before attending Discovery Kids.

Phone: 320-842-2723

E-mail: [discoverykids@benon.k12.mn.us](mailto:discoverykids@benon.k12.mn.us)

Find us & Like us on Facebook!



Like us on Facebook!



# SCHOOL CALENDAR

2022 - 2023

Approved 3/14/2022

## BENSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1400 Montana Avenue  
 Benson, MN 56215

Phone (320) 843-2710 Fax (320) 843-2262  
<http://www.benson.k12.mn.us>



- C** K-5 Conferences 11/7 & 11/10 3:30-7:45; 3/9 3:30-7:30  
 6-12 Conferences 10/6 3:30-7:45; 3/9 3:30-7:30
- K** Kindergarten Orientation 8/29 & 8/30
- F** First Day of School
- G** Commencement
- Q/W** Last Day of Quarter/wksp - 12:32 NS, 12:37HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp.
- Q** Quarter Ends: Early Out-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS dismissal; afternoon wksp.
- S/W** Last Day of Semester - 12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp
- V** Holiday/Vacation/No School
- W** Faculty Workshop/No School for students (\*8/24 Open House 4-7:30pm)
- T** Last Day of Trimester Grades K-5 (Nov 28, March 2, May 25)
- T/W** Trimester/wksp - 12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp
- P/M** Full day for students; 6-12 teacher p.m. wksp. 3:30-7:45
- EO** Early Out-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal; afternoon wksp.

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	V	3							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	V	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	C	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	W	W*	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	W	V	V	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	F/K	K	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	Q/W	29
31																											
NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							JANUARY							FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	V	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
6	C	8	9	C	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	EO	10	8	9	10	11	12	S/W	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	T/W	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	W	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	EO	18
20	P/M	22	V	V	V	26	18	19	20	21	V	V	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	V	21	22	23	24	25
27	T	29	30				25	V	V	V	V	V	31	29	30	31					26	27	28				
MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	T	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
5	6	7	8	C	10	11	2	3	4	5	W	V	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	Q/W	18	9	V	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	G	22	23	24	S/W	V/M	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	V	V/M	V/M				25	26	27	28	29	30	
							30																				

Quarter One: 40 days    Quarter Two: 44 days    Quarter Three: 43 days    Quarter Four: 46 days    Workshop: 5 Days    PM/Conf/Open House: 2 days    (180 Days)  
 K-5 Grade Trimesters: Nov. 28 (58 days)    March 2 (58 days)    May 25 (57 days)  
 V/M = Vacation Days but potential snow make up days 5/26, 5/30, 5/31  
 Updated 03-11-22

**“Good Things Are Happening In Our Schools”**