



BIENSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Benson Community Education and District Newsletter
Fall 2022
Volume 30 Issue 1



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

School Handbooks & Bell Schedules	page 2	Community Education Registration	page 12
School Board Members.	page 2	Football & Gymnastics & Volleyball Camps.	page 13
Welcome by Mr. Laumeyer	page 3	Driver's Education & Tae Kwon Do	page 13
Mr. Kent, School Store, Yearbook	page 4	Defensive Driving & First Aid/CPR.	page 14
Open House & School Pictures	page 5	3D Printing Class & Trips/Tours	page 14
Subs & Bus Drivers Needed	page 5	Instant Piano and Guitar Class	page 15
Staff List	page 6	4-H Connections	page 15
Mr. Knutson & Get Connected	page 7	Performing Arts Events	page 16
Strategic Plan & Music Department.	page 8	Jazz - n - Pizzazz Dance.	page 17
Mr. Pagel's Transportation & Student Council	page 9	Adult Basic Education.	page 17
Mrs. Evenson & Lunch Information	page 10	ECFE & Preschool	page 18
Mr. Ebnet & Activities & Athletics	page 11	Discovery Kids	page 19
Homecoming	page 11	School Calendar	page 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)

Benson Community Education



Community Education
1400 Montana Ave
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

"Parent Portal"

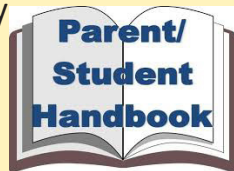


School Handbooks are available online!

1. Visit the school's website at: www.benson.k12.mn.us
2. For High School, select "High School" at the top gold bar. To the right, is a maroon "Student Handbook" oval.
3. For Northside, select "Northside Elementary" at the top gold bar. To the bottom of the screen, is a gold "Student/Parent Handbook" oval.

Copies can be made by request to the school office

High School: 843-2710
Northside: 842-2717



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"

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	Sara Lundquist
Amanda Ness	Laurie O'Leary
Lucas Olson	Laura Ostlie
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





Excited for the 2022-2023 School Year

By Dennis Laumeyer, Superintendent

With many new exciting things happening at Benson Schools, we cannot wait for the 2022-2023 school year to begin.

To begin with, we are excited to have two new administrators join the Benson Schools Team. Both are BHS graduates and are passionate about our school and communities.

Brennan Kent is the new Northside Elementary Principal. Brennan previously served as a high school principal, assistant special education director, and special education teacher. Brennan brings many years of experience to the position.

Matt Ebnet is the new Benson Schools Activities Director. Matt earned a degree in Sports Management from the University of MN, Twin Cities. Matt has experience in program promotion, engaging student-athletes, coaches/advisors, parents, and community members. Matt has great ideas to increase fan experience and to support and growing BHS programs.

Both Brennan and Matt have hit the ground running.

Secondly, over the course of last year, the Benson School Board worked hard to update the District Strategic Plan. Through much discussion and valuable input from district residents, the board developed a plan around priorities that emerged from the survey responses. The focus continues to be “Exceptional Opportunities for Every Student’s Success”. To meet the mission, vision, and belief statements, 2022-2023 school year goal areas will be focused on:

1. offering additional Social, Emotional Learning Opportunities and supports for students;
2. providing increased Engagement and Communication for the school community and beyond;
3. providing more year-round learning opportunities in both academics and activities;
4. grow Individualized and Personalized opportunities.

These goals will lead to even better academic opportunities and student growth. We are excited to see the Strategic Plan come to life throughout this school year and directly benefit students.

Third, a safe and welcoming learning environment for every student is a top priority at Benson Schools. Our new state-of-the-art facilities are designed with controlled access at each building so people are not able to get beyond the office when students are in classes. While this is not always the most convenient for parents, it provides a high level of safety and security for students and staff. In addition, strong connections are made with students to get to know them, their interests, families, etc. These relationships build connections to schools.

In addition, school administrators have been meeting with local law enforcement and other agencies over the summer to strengthen crisis prevention and response plans. The meetings have been tremendously productive in building comprehensive plans for student and staff safety and security. Parents can send their students to school with confidence that their children are in a safe learning environment.

Fourth, the District launched a new website this summer. The website is updated, refreshed, and will be much easier to navigate and find information. Two main things that people wanted was an easy to read activity calendar and a prominent button to click to view events, both are easy to find on the home page. Please take time to check out the new website. While you are there take a moment to “Like” the Benson School Facebook page.

Finally, the pandemic has subsided and we are anxious to have a “normal” start to the school year for the first time in several years. While the school nurses will continue to monitor situations as they always do, we are excited that students have one less thing to think about as they begin a new school year. Above are just a few of the great things that are happening at Benson Schools. We cannot be more excited to start the 2022-2023 school year and all of the tremendous things that are happening in our schools. It is going to be a terrific school year!

Ink Cartridge Recycling

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





Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year

By Brennan Kent, PreK-5 Principal

The Northside staff and I hope everyone is having a great summer, and we look forward to seeing our students back in school for the 22-23 school year. At Northside, we will continue to focus on educating the entire child, providing a safe environment for students to grow intellectually and socially.

- The school day at Northside runs from 8:10 a.m.-2:55 p.m.
- We ask that students do not arrive until after 7:45 a.m.
 - Once dropped off, students may grab breakfast and head outside to the playground.
- Every Kindergarten through 3rd Grade student will be provided with an iPad to use throughout the school day
- Every 4th and 5th Grade student will be provided with a Chromebook.
- Open House: August 24th 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- Pictures will be taken at open house with order forms available on-site.
- Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) will have a registration table for fall classes at the main entrance.

We are very excited to welcome our students back for the start of the 22-23 school year, and look forward to watching them learn and grow throughout another successful school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bkent@benson.k12.mn.us or call the Northside office at (320) 842-2717.

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

Braves, etc... The School Store

Open 12:40-1:25 on school days
Room 133 of BHS



- Adult and Youth Sizes
- Shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Hoodies
- Mittens
- Winter Hats
- Stadium Chairs

Now accepting
credit/debit cards!

Check out the school store on the school website to see pictures and sizes of items offered.

Contact Mrs. Razink at 843-2710 ext. 2339 or krazink@benson.k12.mn.us with questions.

The Fall and Winter District Newsletters will be digital versions.

If you don't have a student enrolled in the district and want to ensure you get a copy, please reach out to us!

communityed@benson.k12.mn.us
or 320-843-4545

The YEARBOOK is on sale NOW!



2 easy ways to order...

1 online at jostensyearbooks.com

2 pick up an order form from Mr. Strand and return with a check

Anyone who purchased a 2021-2022 yearbook should stop in Mrs. Razink's room during Open House on Wednesday, August 24th to pick up the spring insert.



DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, August 24th
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Take advantage of this opportunity to:

- see your classroom(s)
- meet staff
- pay on your meal account
- find your lockers
- bring your school supplies
- have your school picture taken



SCHOOL PICTURES

will be taken
on Wednesday, August 24th

Grades Pre-K through 5
Northside Elementary
Gym or Cafeteria

CHEESE!



Grades 6-11
High School
WIFI Cafe

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

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!

School starts August 29th!



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

If you have any questions, please contact Benson Public Schools.

2022-2023 School Year Public Notification - ISD #777

AHERA Notice

As a result of federal legislation (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act- AHERA), each primary and secondary school in the nation is required to complete a stringent inspection for asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos-containing building materials.

The Benson Public Schools has a goal to be in full compliance with this law and is following the spirit, as well as, the letter of the law. As a matter of policy, the district shall continue to maintain a safe and healthful environment for our community's youth and employees.

Records are on file and available by calling 320-843-2710.

Pesticide General Notice

A Minnesota state law went into effect in the year 2000 that requires schools to inform school staff, students and parents if they apply certain pesticides on school property.

If there are any questions regarding the Benson Public Schools Pest Management program or you would like more information on the pesticide application schedule, please feel free to call the school at 320-843-2710.

**For full notices,
please visit:**

www.benson.k12.mn.us

Indoor Air Quality Notice

Benson Public Schools is proud to be taking a leadership role in providing a safe, comfortable and productive environment for our students and staff so that we achieve our core mission—educating students.

Our school will follow the EPA guidance to improve our indoor air quality by preventing as many IAQ problems as possible, and by quickly responding to any IAQ problems that may arise. Good air quality requires an ongoing commitment by everyone in our school, because each of us make daily decisions and perform activities that affect the quality of the air we breathe.



ISD #777 Staff for 2022-2023 School Year

Board of Education

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

Administration, Support and District Staff

Dennis Laumeyer	Superintendent,
	Health & Safety Director
	Heartland Girls Ranch Administrator
Michael Knutson	6-12 Principal
Brennan Kent	PreK-5 Principal
Matthew Ebnet	Activities Director
Jason Strand	DAC / Counselor
Katie Foley	Director of Finance
Mackenzie Dokkebakken	Accountant
Colleen Oehlberg	Superintendent's Secretary
TBD	District Secretary
Mary Kent	PreK-5 Secretary
Brenda Nelson	District SEAT Secretary
Aryn Lindahl	Activities Secretary
	Community Education Secretary
Melanie Simmonds	Northside Secretary
Dawn Heike	Heartland Ranch Secretary
Joce Marran	6-12 Secretary
Stacy Kurkosky	Ed-Fi (MARSS) Secretary
Julie Loen	Head School Nurse
Amanda Carruth	Assistant School Nurse
Jean Hanson	Social Worker
Mallory Felt	Social Worker
Harrison Smith	School Psychologist,
	Restorative Justice
Jody Kessler-Gross	Occupational Therapist
Lisa Kurtzbein	Restorative Justice, SEAT
Paula Wilson	School Liaison Officer
Rob Lee	Technology Coordinator
Kristy Johnson	Asst. Technology Coor.
Michele Samuelson	Asst. Technology Coor.

Community Education

Shelly Vergin	Director
Aryn Lindahl	Secretary
Carissa McDonald	Discovery Kids Director
Chrysees Forbord	ECFE Coordinator,
	Child Educator, Census,
	Pre-School Screening
Amanda Essig	ECFE Parent Educator

Maintenance/Custodial/Grounds

Jason McVina	Supervisor
Karl (Hoss) Manska	Maintenance Assistant
Greg Corneliusen	Irene Falcon
Jon Gades	Todd Pillatzki
Janet Espinoza Pavia	Chad Pillatzki
Kevin Thompson	Brian Turner

Benson Area Learning Center

Jonas Grossman	ALC Director,
	Special Education

Pre-Kindergarten-5th Grade Personnel

Jocile Nagler	3 year old SR, 4 year old VPK
Chrysees Forbord	4 year old VPK
Amanda Klucas	4 year old VPK
Kendall Larson	4 year old VPK
Courtney Cook	Kindergarten
Jenna Olson	Kindergarten
Lindsay Smith	Kindergarten
Ann Hippe	Grade 1
Julie McNeill	Grade 1
Traci Pahl	Grade 1
Julie Carroll	Grade 2
Roger Ebnet	Grade 2
Deb Ose	Grade 2
Kathy Ahrndt	Grade 3
Anne Duncan	Grade 3
Chad Carroll	Grade 4
Laura Hulterstrum	Grade 4
Mitch Maurer	Grade 4
Adam Jensen	Grade 5
Kim Ulland	Grade 5
Ainsley Anderson	Grade 5
Shelly Mikkelsen	Music
Adam Foslien	Physical Ed, DAPE
Elizabeth Fennell	Special Education
Jill Lonneman	Special Education
Jill McGeary	Special Education
Clint Schiller	Special Education
Kara Ebnet	Early Reading Teacher, ELL
Emilee Evink	Early Childhood Special Ed.

6th Grade-12th Grade Personnel

Brady Dokkebakken	Grade 6
Tim Kletscher	Grade 6
Jeanne Anderson	Agriculture
Carson Thorson	Art
Aimee Thalberg	Business Education
Kendra Razink	Business Education
Michelle Goossen	English
Mary Alice Hoffman	English
Doug Manzke	Industrial Tech.,
	Work Experience Coordinator
Scott Thompson	Industrial Tech.
Tom Foley	Math
Mark Grussing	Math
Laura Mitteness	Math
J. Brock Duncan	Music, Instrument
Madison Wilson	Music, Vocal
Michael Felt	Physical Ed
Shannon Schmidt	Phy Ed, Health, DAPE
Lorie Floura	Science
Matt Larson	Science
John Reardon	Social Studies
Steve Ricard	Social Studies
Barb Schwarz	Social Studies
Renee Helgenset	Spanish
Crystal Erickson	Special Education
Jeff Guest	Special Education
Joyce Walstad	Special Education
Stephanie Smith	Special Education

Heartland Ranch School

Dawn Heike	Heartland Ranch Secretary
Lynn Lundebræk	Special Education
TaiAnna Moe	General Education

Instructional Assistants

Coleton Anderson	Christopher Ebnet
Josh Manzke	Barb Ruppert

Library Aides

Donna Enderson	PreK-5
Karen Peterson	6-12

Paraprofessionals/Aides/Assistants

Amber Christenson	Cathy Connelly
Angela Dokken	Tim Essig
Diane Jaeger	Jacqueline Johnson
Tina Knutson	Melissa Landmark
Lynn Larson	Connie Lee
Nettie Lindemann	Jason Madden
Nicole Norby	Angie Overlie
Pam Neuhaus	Rebecca Noukki
Victoria Petersen	Ruth Ann Reiman
Melissa Schmitz	Karen Staton
Shari Swanburg	Amber Wrobleksi
Melissa Ziegler	

Food Services

Connie Evenson	Director, Manager
Brenda Shea	Head Cook
Courtney Benson	Asst. Head Cook
Shellie Abrego	Lavonne Goulet
Karen Nelson	Tanya Rudnick
Maree Slaughter	Josh Stewart
Joseph Timberlake	Marie Tucker

Bus & Van Drivers

Al Pagel, Supervisor	
Doug Cook	Twyla Dirksen
Charles Jobgen	Kim Kill
Chuck Koenigs	Gerald Kurkosky
Bruce Landmark	Arlon Lee
Jeanne Martz	Angie Overlie
Shari Swanberg	

Discovery Kids

Carissa McDonald	Director
Amanda Essig	Floater
Christi Mogler	Infant Teacher
Angie Tolifson	Toddler Teacher
Angie Martin	Toddler Teacher
Ariel Garvey	3 year old Preschool
Kendall Larson	4 year old Preschool
Kaylee Johnson	School Age Teacher
Talissa Higdon	School Age Teacher

Assistant Teachers:

Ethan Goulet	Alyssa Knodel
Kelsey Petersen	Skylar Saue
Cathy Wente	

Aides:

Dana Freese	Alison Nash
Eavan Parmer	Vanessa Trinkle





Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year

By Mike Knutson, 6-12 Principal

It has been a great summer, and it is time to once again start thinking about school. I have listed some of the important dates and information below for the upcoming school year.

Student Schedules:

- All 6-12 students should have their schedules for the coming school year online. You can view them by logging into Student Portal or Parent Portal on the Benson Schools website: www.benson.k12.mn.us.
- Many students have already changed their first semester schedule. However, if you still need to change your schedule, you can make these changes with Jason Strand starting August 17th. Changes must be made by 3:00 p.m. August 26th.
- Families new to the school district can stop by the BHS 6-12 Office and register for classes Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. beginning Monday, August 8th.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, August 23rd and Wednesday, August 24th – Staff reports for in-service.
- Wednesday, August 24th – Open House 4:00 – 7:30 p.m.
 - o School Pictures – West side of library
 - o Chromebook sign up/checkout – East side of library
 - o Lunch sign up – BHS Cafeteria
- Wednesday, August 24th – 6th Grade Orientation Meeting – 6:30 p.m. in PAC
- Monday, August 29th – FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- Friday, September 2nd – No School – LABOR DAY WEEKEND
- Monday, September 5th – No School – LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Things to Remember:

- BHS is a 1 to 1 technology school
 1. We have Chromebooks to sign out. You can complete your forms online or pick them up in the BHS Office. The insurance cost is \$40 per device or \$20 per device if you qualify for free/reduced lunch.
 2. Students are expected to either sign out a school device or bring their own device (laptop, Chromebook, tablet or iPad). These devices need to be brought to school fully charged daily.
 3. Student phones are not considered a device on which to complete school work.
- Doors are locked during the school day (8:00 a.m. – 3:01 p.m.) with access to the BHS Office or Community Ed. Office by checking in through a video system by the main entrance.
- Buses drop students off and pick students up on the north side of BHS. Parent drop off is at the main entrance on the south side of BHS.

I am looking forward to working with the students, parents, staff and community to make the 2022-2023 school year a great educational experience. If you have any questions concerning the upcoming school year, please feel free to call me at 320-843-2710.

Get Connected with Benson Public Schools!

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

Website

www.benson.k12.mn.us
<https://www.vancoevents.com/us/eventlist/bensonpublicschools>



Facebook Pages

Find us, Like us at [facebook.com/BensonPublicSchools777](https://www.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



Strategic Plan Guides School Planning

During the 2022-2023 school year the Benson School Board engaged in the important and hard work of updating the Benson School strategic plan. The strategic plan serves as a road map to follow for where to direct time, resources, and energy to continue to elevate Benson Schools. The strategic plan is a basis for budgeting, policy, and other decisions.

How did the school board identify priorities for the strategic plan?

A survey was mailed to all parents and households in the district. In addition, ads were placed in the Monitor-News and on the Benson School Facebook page to notify people to complete the survey. There was a good number of surveys completed and the data from the surveys helped lead to areas of priority.

The mission: “**Exceptional Opportunities for Every Student’s Success**” continues as that clearly defines what is done at Benson Schools.

Once the Vision, Mission, and Belief statements were completed by the school board, then administrators used the strategic plan, board discussion, and survey results to focus in on specific strategic goal areas. The goal areas identified include:

- Area #1: Bullying & Social Emotional Learning. During, and now coming out of the pandemic, there is an increase in mental health and social needs. Parents are also reporting more child specific needs. The District will address this area to provide additional supports.
- Area #2: Parent, Family, and Community Engagement and Communication. Survey results showed there are gaps between knowledge of the public and actual programs at Benson Schools. The District will work on communication strategies to fill in the gaps.
- Area #3: Year-Round Learning. Survey data showed a desire for more year-round learning opportunities both in academics and activities. This includes after school and summer opportunities. Enrichment opportunities was a common theme as well.
- Area #4: Individualized/Personalized Instruction. The District has been focused on this area for the past few years. With the technology available, there are additional ways to learn. In addition, this area includes pathways for students to explore their interests through a wide array of electives, college courses, internships, etc.

Thank you to everyone who took time to complete the survey and provide valuable feedback. We are excited to begin implementing the strategic plan and the difference it will make for students, parents, community members, and staff. We are excited for the many new strategies that will elevate learning for all Benson School Students. We cannot wait to have students back and begin the 2022-2023 school year and continue our important mission of providing “Exceptional Opportunities for Every Student’s Success”.

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

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.

2021-2022 Music Department Calendar

Indoor Marching Band Concert	October 17 * 7:30 p.m.
8th Grade Band Festival	October 29 * All Day
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.



Welcome Back!

By Al Pagel, Transportation Supervisor

I hope everyone has had a great summer. Some summers seem to go faster than others and for myself, this summer went fast. We are getting buses ready for the return of students for the school year.

This year the bussing procedures should be the same as last year. The drivers are working on getting times and schedules figured out before school starts.

The unloading at the High School will be the same as previous years with buses on the north side of the school. The buses will arrive at the High School first between 7:35-7:45 and then proceed to Northside for drop off. The students, like last year, will not have to transfer buses to get to Northside. After school, all buses will start at Northside. Kids riding across town after school from Northside to Subway will ride bus #5.

We will allow extra riders to ride with other student's home (such as birthday parties or sleepovers). We hope that this policy can continue throughout the year. If the policy needs to change, we will notify families.

A reminder to parents, if your student(s) is not going to ride please call the bus garage or email me. This allows us to notify the driver that your child is not riding.

As always if there are any questions on times, locations for pickup, or concerns feel free to reach out to me by calling the bus garage at 842-8035 or email me at apagel@benson.k12.mn.us.

We need everyone's cooperation to keep on top of things via emails, newsletters, newspaper or the radio. This allows us to keep everyone safe.



STUDENT COUNCIL

7th Grade

Tara Beyer
Mason Holen
Ava Holmgren
Eli Jones
Ella Lysen
Carson Petrak
Kade Schilling
Joey Wilcox

8th Grade

Halle Bolduc
Mariah Goossen
Kaida Helgensen
Darin Hippe
Andrew Nissen
Jada O'Leary
Myila Pillatzki
Addison Schauer
Carly Tolifson
Arion Whitcup

9th Grade

Dallas Carey
Keala Carroll
Anabelle DeToy
Harold Habben
Taylor Helmberger
Franklin Knutson
Sophia Krusemark
Grace Nagler
Madison Osterbauer
Gavin Olson
Helstrom Sanchez
Ava Williams

10th grade

Noah Goossen
Sophie Hilleren
Molly Jones
Elle Kletscher
Mya McGearry
Gwen Wilcox

SPEAK OUT

BE HEARD

MAKE A CHANGE

11th Grade

Hailee Ellingson
Jack Helgensen
Presley Nygaard
Leah Olson
Lilly Ostlie
Logan Schauer

12th Grade

Thomas Dineen
Azura Goodall
Jonathan Illstrup
Hunter LeClair
Shukri Mohamed
Kaitlyn Sondag
Ryan Tolifson



Junior High Student Council meet on Wednesdays as needed during lunch. Meetings are open to all junior high students.

Senior High Student Council meet on Tuesdays as needed during lunch. Meetings are open to all 9-12 students.

Reminder to ALL Parents:

Please go to Parent Portal and complete the Registration for 2022-2023. This includes all forms:

- MN Ancestry
- Digital Equity
- Meal Application

This applies to all Northside and High School Students.

Have questions? Please contact Mary Kent at Northside at 842-2717 or Stacy Kurkosky at the High School at 843-2710.

Lock Sales

Need a lock for your locker or phy-ed locker? They can be purchased:

- online under:
Athletics & Activities
Activities
Lock Sales
- in the Activities/Community Ed Office.

Cost is \$6.





Welcome Back

By Connie Evenson, Food Service Director

Meals are back to paid this year as the USDA did not continue the free meals program for the 2022-2023 school year. Please make sure you fill out the free/reduced meal application form to see if you qualify for the upcoming year. Remember if you did not fill out the application last year there is no carry over for the month of September and you will be on paid status the first day of school. Even if you think you will not qualify please fill it out and try. We would like everyone to get help who qualifies!

The food service staff are gearing up for a normal year of serving meals. We are excited to have a "normal" year once again. We will be using the Biometric system once again for breakfast and lunch for grades K-12. If you have Kindergarten or new students please try to make time during open house to have your child's finger scanned.

Second Chance Breakfast will be available for grades 6-12. The high school students who will be eating both breakfast and lunch will have Grab & Go options, our regular lines, and a line 3 option with ala carte choices too.

There will be a few other changes and reminders for this fall...

- Milk and Snack break will be paid either annually or twice per year. Watch for the information sheet!
- We will be updating our online payment system by the end of September. This will make it easier for families and it will be in "real time".
- Please fill out the Student Allowed Charging form if you want any changes. The family balance must be positive for a student to charge anything.
- If your child has a Special Diet that has changed or is new, please fill out the forms found on the school website under: District, Food Service.



Lunch Prices

Northside: PreK-5

Breakfast:	\$TBD
Lunch:	\$TBD

Milk Break:

Semester:	\$40
Year:	\$80

Snack Break:

Semester:	\$50
Year:	\$100

High School: 6-12

Breakfast:	\$TBD
Lunch:	\$TBD

Adult:

Breakfast:	\$2.75
Lunch:	\$4.75

Ala Carte is priced separately.

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.

Lunch Information

To find out more information, go to our school website:

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
- 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.





ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

I'm excited to be back in Benson as the Activities Director. I graduated from Benson High School in 2019 and the University of Minnesota in 2022.

I look forward to working with all of the coaches and advisors, as well as parents and athletes.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at mebnnet@benson.k12.mn.us.

Go Braves!

Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) requires all 7th-12th grade athletes playing school sports have a sports physical every 3 years. This physical must be done prior to the 1st day of practice. Concussion baseline must be done every 2 years. Benson Schools requires all athletes to be registered prior to 1st day of practice. This can be done online or in the Community Ed Office.

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.*

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)

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

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 Community Ed office 8:00-4:00 Monday-Friday.

Band Instrument Rental:

\$70.00 per year

Homecoming 2022

Homecoming 2022 will take place the week of September 26th.

The Homecoming Coronation will be Monday, September 26th at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

Girls Tennis will host YME on Tuesday, Sept. 27th; Volleyball will host Melrose on Thursday, Sept. 29th and Football will host KMS on Friday, Sept. 30th.

The Homecoming theme and activities will be decided on by Student Council when school starts and will be shared with staff and students at that time.

Benson Braves Head Coaches Advisors

Fall Sports

Volleyball - Ainsley Anderson
Football - Adam Foslien
Girl's Tennis - Coleton Anderson
XC - Samantha VanHeuveln

Winter Sports

Wrestling - Scott Thompson
Gymnastics - Kathy Ahrndt
Boys Hockey - Jeremiah Day
Girls Hockey - Coleton Anderson
Boys Basketball - Adam Jensen
Girls Basketball - TBD

Spring Sports

Softball - TBD
Baseball - Tom Foley
Boys Track & Field - Chad Carroll
Girls Track & Field-Samantha VanHeuveln
Boy's Golf - Adam Jensen
Girls Golf - Mike Felt
Boys Tennis - Coleton Anderson
Clay Target - Andy Abner

Advisors

Band - Brock Duncan
Choir - Madison Wilson
FFA - Jeanne Anderson
BPA - Kendra Razink
Speech - TBD
1-Act Play - TBD
Robotics - TBD

TAILGATES 7:00 GAME TIMES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
vs. Kimball Area
TBD

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
vs. Browerville-Eagle Valley
FFA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
vs KMS (Homecoming)
Prom Afterbash

Wednesday, OCTOBER 19
vs. ACGC
TBD



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.**

THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes out to the local businesses and organizations who sponsored our summer baseball and softball programs for 2022!

*1st Security Bank
All About Kids Daycare
Benson Fire Department
Bright Start Child Care
Dairy Queen
DoMats
Hughes Real Estate & Auction*



*Track Bar & Grill
Whistle Stop
In Memory of Kevin Hansen
Loen Electric
Riverwood Bank
Sojourn Counseling
Super Valu
Tolifson Olson Construction
Zosel's True Value*



Also, a big hats off and thanks to the volunteers and paid staff, coaches, instructors and ump's who helped the summer programs, classes, leagues and camps. Your help was greatly appreciated!

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.

Youth Football

Fall Football Camp (Grades 1-3)

Learn the basics of the great game of football! Learning proper technique at this age is very important, but we make each practice fun!

Mondays: September 12, 19, 26, October 3
5:30 - 6:15 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00



Flag Football League (Grades 4-6)

This 4 week flag football league is for boys in Grades 4-6. There will not be a tackle football league.

Players will be split up into different teams based on age and will play a 4 week league. Players will also be given the chance to play at halftime of a Braves varsity game.



Mondays: September 12, 19, 26, October 3
6:15 - 7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00

Fall Gymnastics

Preschool and Elementary Aged Camps

The Gymnastics coaching staff will once again be running a full fall camp!

It will be a 5 week session running September 12th-October 13th.

Details are still being finalized. Flyers will be emailed as soon as classes are finalized. Also, be sure to watch Community Ed's Facebook page!



Elementary Volleyball

Grades 3-6

The Volleyball coaching staff will once again be running a full fall camp!

Details are still being finalized. Flyers will be emailed as soon as classes are finalized. Also, be sure to watch Community Ed's Facebook page!



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

A fall class may be held between fall and winter sports. If you have a child that might be interested in a fall class, please contact Benson Community Ed at 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

Sports



Equipment Drive

As you clean out your closets and garages to get ready for the winter season, think of our youth sports programs for the gently used sporting equipment your kids have outgrown!

Bats,
Helmets,
Catcher's Gear,
and any other goodies you might find!

We will put them to good use!

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



Defensive Driving

4 hour refresher

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, after completing the eight hour class.

You must repeat the class every three years and can do this with the four hour class.

Our next class will be on **October 24th at 5:30 p.m.** Please call us at 843-4545 if you are in need of the refresher course.



First Aid & CPR



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 that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid, choking, or sudden cardiac arrest emergency.

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

We are working on a fall date. If you need training, please call us at 843-4545 so we can add you to the list!

Trips and Tours

These trips are out of the YME Community Education office. To register, please call Alyssa at 320-564-4081, ext. 111 or email ahoffman@isd2190.org

Minnesota State Fair

Join us for a hassle-free trip! It's Senior Day & Kid's Day, so there will be lots of specials for you to enjoy. Your fee includes chartered coach ride and fair admission.

Monday, Aug. 29th
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Cost: \$45; Max: 54
Deadline: August 14th

Church Basement Ladies - Plowin' Thru

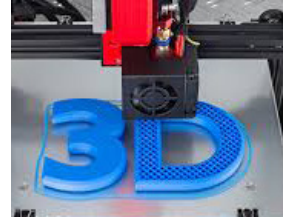
The Church Basement Ladies are at it again. The year is 1975 and all your favorite characters are back! Come along as the ladies don their polyester pantsuits and sing, dance and laugh their way thru this hilarious and touching new musical, PLOWIN' THRU. Your fee includes chartered coach ride, lunch and reserved ticket.

Ames Center - Burnsville
Wednesday, October 5th
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
(Lunch @ 11:30 a.m. - Show @ 1 p.m.)
Cost: \$82; Max: 54
Deadline: September 9th

Intro to 3D Printing Class

Have you seen the 3D printed art at the Benson Farmers Market? Maybe you've heard of 3D printing but weren't sure where or how to begin.

Allow me to introduce myself and 3D printing to you! I will bring one of my printers in to demo and we'll talk about free software, initial setup, and how to start a print. I will have sample prints, resources for finding personal use files, and a free small print for each attendee. Everyone is welcome. Ideal age to start is 7.



Please note: the printer will be on and running. The nozzle gets up to 225 Celsius which is 437 degrees Fahrenheit. Instruction will be given not to touch the printer while it is heating or printing.

Instructor: Nita Newman

Saturday, 9/10 and 9/17 (2 sessions)

11:00 a.m.-Noon

\$15.00

BHS Wifi Cafe

Class Limit of 15

Benson's 30th Annual

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday,
October 22, 2022
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Handmade Crafts
Seasonal Items

Holiday Gift Ideas
Many new crafters!

Breakfast and Lunch available

Crafters still accepted!

Benson Community Education
320-843-4545

Benson High School
1400 Montana Ave
Benson, MN

Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People

In just a few hours, you can learn enough secrets of the trade to give you years of musical enjoyment. Learn to play piano the way professionals do-using chords.

Since this class is being held online with ZOOM you will be able to sit at your piano or keyboard at home and take this course with no pressure at all. And since this course includes an online book and online follow up video lessons, you will be able to continue your practice and study on your own.

An optional periodic online question and answer session is also included. A recording of the class is included as well. The course is partly lecture/demonstration and partly hands on instruction.

Topics include:

- How chords work in a song
- How to get more out of sheet music by reading less of it
- How to form the three main types of chords
- How to handle different keys and time signatures
- How to avoid "counting"
- How to simplify over 12,000 complex chords

Monday, Sept. 19 ; 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
\$59 (includes material)
Instructor: Craig Coffman

Instant Guitar for Hopelessly Busy People

Have you ever wanted to learn the guitar but simply find it difficult to find the time? In just a few hours you can learn enough about playing the guitar to give you years of musical enjoyment, and you won't have to take private lessons to do it.

This crash course will teach you some basic chords and get you playing along with your favorite songs right away. Since this class is being held online with ZOOM, you will be able to sit at home with your guitar and take this class without any pressure at all.

And since the class includes an online book and online follow-up video lessons, you will be able to continue your practice and study on your own. An optional periodic online question and answer session is also included. A recording of the class is included as well. Class limited to 15 students. For ages 13+.

Topics include:

- How chords work in a song
- How to form the three main types of chords
- How to tune your guitar
- Basic strumming patterns
- How to buy a good guitar (things to avoid)
- How to play along with simple tunes

Tuesday, Sept. 20 ; 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
\$59 (includes material)
Instructor: Craig Coffman

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.

Get Green

Kicking off our 2022-2023 Connections program by learning about the program and all that is possible in 4-H!

Tuesday, October 11th

Grades K-8

older youth and teens are invited to be helpers!

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Benson High School Library
\$10



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

Performing Arts Center

C. Willi Myles "America's Everyday Comedian"

C. Willi Myles has the gift of connecting people through humor and storytelling to.

After growing up in Alabama, Willi moved to MN to attend college and play football.

With his stories about growing up in the south and acclimating to the cold of Minnesota, Willi tells extremely funny non-offensive stories and jokes and gives a unique spin to life's everyday challenges by applying humor to them.



Purchase your advanced tickets online through this link or QR Code
www.vancoevents.com/BHJB

Sept. 24
Saturday
7:00 p.m.

Benson High School Performing Arts Center
1400 Montana Ave; Benson, MN 56215
320-843-4545



Tickets:
\$20 Advanced;
\$25 at the Door

The Nutcracker Ballet

The Continental Ballet presents The Nutcracker. 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.



Purchase your advanced tickets online through this link or QR Code
www.vancoevents.com/BHCK

Dec. 18
Sunday
4:00 p.m.

Benson High School Performing Arts Center
1400 Montana Ave, Benson, MN 56215
320-843-4545

Advanced Tickets: \$10 student; \$20 adult
Tickets at the Door: \$15 student; \$25 adult



Studio discounts available by contacting us.

Also coming up.....
Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra
Stay tuned for more information!!

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

To support future performances, all donations are greatly appreciated.

Please make checks payable to Benson Public Schools. and write "PAC concert series" in the memo.

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



The Benson Arts Council is always looking for suggestions and ideas for programs / concerts / events to offer in our beautiful Performing Arts Center.

If you have someone you would like to recommend for us, please email us at community@benson.k12.mn.us





Discovery Kids is Hiring!!!



Full Time - Monday-Friday
Benefits include:
PTO, Comp Time and Holiday Pay
\$500 towards insurance (Assistant Teachers)
PERA (state) retirement

Part Time positions will also be considered.



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

Assistant Teacher
 (must have college credits)
 \$16.53 an hour

Aides
 (must be 18 years of age)
 \$14.00 an hour

Benson Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer.
 Minorities and others are encouraged to apply.

ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR WANTED

The Benson Adult Education Program is looking for an energetic and flexible individual to fill the part-time position of the Adult Basic Education (ABE) instructor.

The instructor will work with a wide range of individuals including students studying to earn a GED, who are second language learners, who want to improve their computer skills, and other employable/basic literacy skills.

A Minnesota teaching license is required.

Please send resume and cover letter with references to:

Deanna Johnson
 SW ABE - MRVED Region
 PO Box 487
 Montevideo, MN 56265

For more information, please call 320-269-9297, ext. 116



An Equal Opportunity Employer

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.

Preschool students will participate in ballet.

Kindergarten through 4th grade students will participate in ballet and tap.

5th through 12th grade students will participate in ballet, tap and jazz.

We also offer a boys class for young boys.

High Kick classes are offered for 5th through 12th grade.

Pointe classes are offered for dancers in 9th through 12th grade.

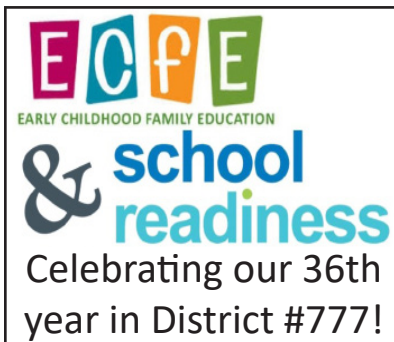


The dance program is receiving a little overhaul this fall! We are still finalizing details, but this is what we know now...

1. Our program will be a 12 week program starting the 1st week of January.
2. The program will still offer the same full classes as we have in the past. We will have a preschool through 12th grade program. Pointe and High Kick will still be offered. We are also looking into a Hip Hop class to offer as well!
3. We are anticipating a fall kick off dance camp experience where we will review techniques and forms. This will help refresh memories of positions, terminology and skills allowing our instructors to get right into learning routines when the classes start in January.
4. The recital is still set to take place in late April. The final date will be determined once the Prom date is set.

Once our camp dates and winter/spring dates are set, a flyer will be emailed out to all district students. Information will also be included in our Fall District Newsletter and posted on our Facebook page.





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.

Two fall ECFE Classes will be offered!

Parents and children come and explore a variety of exciting activities that stimulate creativity. We will gather for circle time to use the parachute, sing songs, and learn finger plays. Parents discuss common topics and share ideas specific to your child's emotional and physical development.

Mondays, 4:30-5:45 p.m. (18 months-4 years)

Mondays, 6:00-7:15 p.m. (18 months-4 years)

Your first opportunity to register and pay for ECFE is at the **Open House** on **Wednesday, August 24th** from **4:00-7:30 p.m.** near the main entrance at Northside Elementary. Registration by phone (843-4545) or online starts Thursday, August 25th.

Watch your mail for our ECFE Newsletter. If you have not received your newsletter by September 9th, please call Chrysees Forbord at 843-2710 or Benson Community Education at 843-4545.

ECFE fees

All are welcome and no one will be denied access due to an inability to pay. A sliding fee scale is accessed for our families based on your income (after taxes).

- Under \$19,999 - scholarships available
- \$20,000-\$49,999 - class fee of \$30
- \$50,000-\$74,999 - class fee of \$40
- \$75,000 and up - class fee of \$50



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.

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.

Cost is \$75.00 a month. Pathway Scholarships are available for families qualifying based on income and services.

The program meets two days a week on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 8:00-10:45 in the Early Childhood Center at Northside Elementary.

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.

We have three options for VPK this year. All classes meet from 7:50-2:50 in the Early Childhood Center at Northside Elementary.

2-Day Class: Tues. & Thurs.; Free

3-Day Class: Mon., Weds., Fri.; Free

5-Day Class: Mon.-Fri.; \$100 a month

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.

**VOLUNTARY PRE-K &
SCHOOL READINESS
OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, August 24th
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

Classrooms are in the Early Childhood Center. This is your chance to meet your teachers!



**RATED 4
STAR!**



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!



Parent
Aware

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

How do we sign up?

Parent Handbooks and Registration Forms are available on-line at 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.



Like us on Facebook!

Phone: 320-842-2723

E-mail: discoverykids@benon.k12.mn.us

Find us & Like us on Facebook!



POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

“Good Things Are Happening In Our Schools”

SCHOOL CALENDAR							2022 - 2023							Approved 3/14/2022													
<p>BENSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 1400 Montana Avenue Benson, MN 56215 Phone (320) 843-2710 Fax (320) 843-2262 http://www.benson.k12.mn.us</p>																											
<p>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</p>																											
<p>K Kindergarten Orientation 8/29 & 8/30</p>																											
<p>F First Day of School</p>																											
<p>G Commencement</p>																											
<p>Q/W Last Day of Quarter/wksp - 12:32 NS, 12:37HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp.</p>																											
<p>Q Quarter Ends: Early Out-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS dismissal; afternoon wksp.</p>																											
<p>S/W Last Day of Semester - 12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp</p>																											
<p>V Holiday/Vacation/No School</p>																											
<p>W Faculty Workshop/No School for students (*8/24 Open House 4-7:30pm)</p>																											
<p>T Last Day of Trimester Grades K-5 (Nov 28, March 2, May 25)</p>																											
<p>T/W Trimester/wksp - 12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp</p>																											
<p>P/M Full day for students; 6-12 teacher p.m. wksp. 3:30-7:45</p>																											
<p>EO Early Out-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal; afternoon wksp.</p>																											
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	15	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