



Benson Public schools

Benson Community Education and District Newsletter
Back to School 2023 Volume 31 Issue 1



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

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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 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 320-843-2710 or on the JMC Online Parent Portal located on the school's website:

www.benson.k12.mn.us

"Parent Portal"

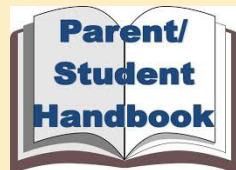


School Handbooks are available online!

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: 320-843-2710
Northside: 320-842-2717



Accepting Open Enrollment Students!

Benson Public Schools is taking open enrollment applications for the 2023-2024 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, fish house 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.
3rd Period: 9:36 - 10:21 a.m.
4th Period: 10:24 - 11:09 a.m.
Lunch (6-8): 11:09 - 11:37 a.m.
5th Period (9-12): 11:12 - 12:09 p.m.
Lunch (9-12): 12:09 - 12:37 p.m.
5th Period (6-8): 11:40-12:37 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
Jessica Harris, 6-12 Principal
Brennan Kent, PreK-5 Principal
Jill Lipp, 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
Leah Olson, youth rep	Lily Ostlie, youth rep
Paul Carruth, School Board	

Community Education Staff

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





Excited for the 2023-2024 School Year

By Dennis Laumeyer, Superintendent

Welcome back to the start of a brand-new academic year! I hope you had a wonderful and exciting summer break. As we open our doors to the eager faces of our students for the 2023-2024 school year, I couldn't be more excited to embark on this educational journey together. The dedicated and caring team of teachers and staff have been diligently preparing for an enriching and safe learning experience for your children. At the same time, our custodial and maintenance professionals have been working hard all summer on the interior and exterior of the buildings so they are clean, shiny, and prepared for another terrific year for students.

Once again this year, Benson Schools remains committed to fostering an environment where each student can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. I believe that open communication and active involvement from parents play a crucial role in a child's success at school. Whether it's through parent-teacher conferences, school events, or simply reaching out to teachers to help in the classroom or at events, I encourage you to be an active participant in your child's education.

At Benson Schools, we embrace diversity and celebrate how each student is unique. Our curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire students, encouraging them to explore their passions and reach their full potential. As partners in your child's education, we look forward to working hand in hand with you to create a positive and supportive learning community. Together, let's make this school year another memorable and transformative experience for your child.

Welcome back parents and guardians! Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We are eager to support and encourage your child's growth and achievement this academic year. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Wishes on a successful and fulfilling year ahead!

SCHOOL PICTURES

Wednesday, August 23rd from 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.



Grades Pre-K through 5: NS Gym or Cafeteria

Grades 6-11: High School WIFI Cafe

Order forms will be available at pictures for cash or check. No change will be given so have exact amount if paying with cash.

You will also have the ability to order online prior to picture date by visiting creekviewimages.inter-state.com/FlyerEntry

Online Codes are needed. Be sure to use correct code or your child will be in the wrong yearbook.

High School (6-12): 80953R

Northside (prek-5): 80954N

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED!

Applicants who have a high school diploma or GED, can apply for a 3-Year Short Call Sub License. Training will be provided.



SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS NEEDED!

Training will be provided.

Call 320-843-2710

Get Connected with Benson Public Schools!

- Monitor-News
- KSCR Radio (fm 93.5)

Websites

www.benson.k12.mn.us

<https:// Benson.revtrak.net/> for all registrations and PAC Events

Instagram

[braves_athletics_activities_](#)

Facebook Pages

BensonPublicSchools777
 BensonActivities777
 BensonCommunityEducation
 DiscoveryKidsChildcareCenter
 benson schoolreadiness
 Benson Football
 BensonBravesVB
 BKMS Cross Country
 Benson Braves Wrestling
 Benson-KMS Area Gymnastics
 Benson Boys Basketball
 Benson Girls Basketball

Facebook Pages

Benson Baseball Association
 bensonsoftball
 BensonKMSTrackField
 Benson Braves Golf

Twitter Pages

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





Welcome Back to School

By Brennan Kent, NS Elementary 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 2023-2024 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 - 2:55
- 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 23rd from 4:00 - 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 2023-2024 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.

1st day of school for grades 1-12 is Monday, August 28th

1st day of school for Kindergarten is Wednesday, August 30th

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.

DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, August 23rd
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

Take advantage of this opportunity to:

- see your classroom(s)
- meet staff
- find your lockers
- purchase locks (Activities Office)
- purchase Athletic Pass (Activities Office)
- have your school picture taken



Braves, etc. School Store will be open.

No School Supply Lists for the 2023-2024 School Year

It is our wish that you and your family have had a wonderful summer full of experiences and some adventures. As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we are excited to announce that Benson Schools will be providing all necessary school supplies for our students, there will not be a school supply list this year!

We believe that equipping our students with the tools they need for academic success is crucial, and we are committed to ensuring that each student has access to the required materials. We know that soon “Back to School Supply” displays will start to pop up in stores, so we want to make this announcement early so families can plan.

At Benson Schools, we understand that the cost of education can be a burden for some families, especially with all of the costs that go along with the beginning of school. With nearly 45% of families at Northside qualifying for free and reduced priced lunches, purchasing school supplies is a hardship.



We are pleased to inform you that this year, we will be providing all essential school supplies, including notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons, folders, and other items necessary for your child’s education.

However, we know that backpacks and tennis shoes are a personal preference. Therefore, families will still need to purchase a backpack and tennis shoes for their child.

Over the years, our communities have been very generous in donating school supplies to Benson Schools. We will continue to gladly and gratefully accept donations of schools supplies at each school office. Your generosity will directly benefit students at Benson Schools.

We firmly believe that every child deserves an equal opportunity to learn and thrive academically, regardless of financial circumstances. By providing the necessary school supplies and offering assistance to those in need, we aim to continue an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all of our students.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to your child’s education. Together, we make a positive difference in lives of our wonderful students.

**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!

Braves, etc... The School Store

Open 2:16-3:01 on school days
Room 133 of BHS

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

Now accepting
credit/debit cards!

The School Store will also be open during Open House on Wednesday, August 23rd!

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

Contact Mrs. Razink at 320-843-2710 ext. 2339 or krazink@benson.k12.mn.us with questions.

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

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 2022-2023 yearbook should stop in Mrs. Razink's room during Open House on Wednesday, August 23rd to pick up the spring insert.

2023-2024 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.

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.

**For full notices,
please visit:
www.benson.k12.mn.us**



ISD #777 Staff for 2023-2024 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
 Jessica Harris 6-12 Principal
 Brennan Kent PreK-5 Principal
 Jill Lipp Activities Director
 Jason Strand DAC / Counselor
 Katie Foley Director of Finance
 Mackenzie Dokkebakken Accountant
 Alex Amundson HR/Payroll Coordinator
 Colleen Oehlberg Superintendent's Secretary
 Brennan Hagen-Kent 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 School Nurse
 Amanda Carruth 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 Coord.
 Michele Samuelson Asst. Technology Coord.

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 McVinoa Supervisor
 Karl (Hoss) Manska Maintenance Assistant
 Irene Falcon Maritza Flores
 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
 Ainsely Anderson Grade 2
 Brittany Carruth Grade 2
 Deb Ose Grade 2
 Kathy Ahrndt Grade 3
 Anne Duncan Grade 3
 Elizabeth Martinez Grade 3
 Stacey Anders Grade 4
 Laura Hulterstrum Grade 4
 Mitch Maurer Grade 4
 Adam Jensen Grade 5
 Kim Ulland Grade 5
 Shelly Mikkelson Music
 Andrew Naseth Music
 Adam Foslien Physical Ed, DAPE
 Elizabeth Fennell Special Education
 Jill Lonnenman Special Education
 Jill McGeary Special Education
 Clint Schiller Special Education
 Kara Nissen Early Reading Teacher, ELL
 Kristi Hengtgen Early Childhood Special Ed.

6th Grade-12th Grade Personnel

Brady Dokkebakken Grade 6
 Tim Kletscher Grade 6
 Jenna Smith Agriculture
 Carson Thorson Art
 TBD Business Education
 Kendra Razink Business Education
 Lauren Cannon English
 Michelle Goossen English
 Doug Manzke Industrial Tech.,
 Work Experience Coordinator
 Scott Thompson Industrial Tech.
 Chad Carroll Math
 Tom Foley Math
 Mark Grussing Math
 J. Brock Duncan Music, Instrument
 Andrew Naseth 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 Helgensen Spanish
 Crystal Erickson Special Education
 Jeff Guest Special Education
 Mike Knutson Special Education
 Stephanie Smith Special Education
 Matthew Anderson Full Time Substitute

Heartland Ranch School

Dawn Heike Heartland Ranch Secretary
 Grace Lee General Education
 Lynn Lundebrek Special Education
 TaiAnna Moe General Education

Instructional Assistants

Coleton Anderson Josh Manzke
 Barb Ruppert

Library Aides

Donna Enderson PreK-5
 Karen Peterson 6-12

Paraprofessionals/Aides/Assistants

Melinda Chamberlain Amber Christenson
 Cathy Connelly Angela Dokken
 Tim Essig Brittany Flannigan
 Laurie Hanson Chrstine Ivy
 Diane Jaeger Jacqueline Johnson
 Lindsey Klimk Tina Knutson
 Lynn Larson Connie Lee
 Nettie Lindemann Cally Miller
 Brooke Norby Nicole Norby
 Rebecca Noukki Angie Overlie
 Victoria Petersen Ruth Ann Reiman
 Stephen Schesvold Melissa Schmitz
 Karen Staton Shari Swanburg
 Amber Wroblewski Melissa Ziegler

Food Services

Connie Evenson Director
 Brenda Shea Head Cook, HS
 Shellie Abrego Asst. Head Cook, HS
 Courtney Gilbert-Evenson Supervisor, NS
 Rachael Sietsema Asst. Head Cook, NS
 Dawn Fernholz Lavonne Goulet
 Karen Nelson Tanya Rudnick
 Maree Slaughter Samantha Staton
 Josh Stewart Marie Tucker

Bus & Van Drivers

Al Pagel Supervisor
 Doug Cook Wayne Jaeger
 Charles Jobgen Kim Kill
 Chuck Koenigs Gerald Kurkosky
 Arlon Lee Jeanne Martz
 Angie Overlie Brenda Peterson
 Shari Swanberg Larry Unruh

Discovery Kids

Carissa McDonald Director
 Amanda Essig Floater, Curriculum Coord.
 Christi Mogler Floater
 Ariel Garvey Infant
 Angie Tolifson Toddler 1
 Emma Mott Toddler 2
 Kaylee Johnson 3 year old Preschool
 Talissa Higdon 4 year old Preschool
 Angie Martin School Age

Assistant Teachers:

Ethan Goulet Nicole Peterson
 Skylar Saue Cathy Wentz





Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year

By Jessica Harris, 6-12 Principal

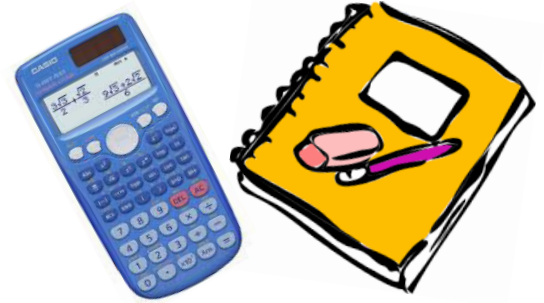
It has been a great summer, and I am excited to join Benson Schools as the new 6-12 Principal. I have listed some important dates and information below for the upcoming school year.

Student Schedules:

- All 6-12 students should have their schedules for the coming school year viewable 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 16th. Changes must be made by 3:00 p.m. on August 25th.
- Families new to the school district can stop by the BHS 6-12 Office Monday-Friday from 7:30 - 3:30, and register for classes beginning Monday, August 7th.

Important Dates:

- Open House Wednesday, August 23rd, 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.
 - 6:00 p.m. - 6th Grade Parent/Student Orientation, BHS PAC
 - 7:00 p.m. - 9th Grade Parent/Student Orientation, BHS PAC
 - School Pictures - West Side of Library (WiFi Cafe)
 - Chromebook sign-up/checkout - East side of Library
- Monday, August 28th, first day of school
- September 1st-4th no School, Labor Day Weekend



Things to Remember:

- BHS is a 1 to 1 technology school
 - We have Chromebooks to sign out. Forms can be downloaded online or picked up in the BHS Office. I strongly encourage families to purchase Chromebook insurance, as repairs to devices can be costly. Insurance is \$45 per device or \$20 per device for students who demonstrate a need. Without insurance, repairs will be at the expense of the parent/guardian.
 - Students are expected to have a device to complete school work. Devices need to be brought to school fully charged daily.
- In an effort to reclaim the learning environment, cell phones will be put away for the duration of the school day. Cell phones will be permitted for all students before school, at lunch, and after school. Please call the office if you need to send a message to your child throughout the school day.
 - Grades 6-8 will keep their cell phones turned off and in their locker. School locks can be purchased in the Activities Office for \$6.
 - Grades 9-12 will turn off their phones, or place them in airplane mode and place them in the designated holder at the front of the classroom during class time.
- For the health and safety of our students, backpacks will remain in lockers throughout the school day. Students may bring their backpacks to and from school and place them in their lockers upon arrival.
- Doors are locked during the school day (8:00 a.m. - 3:01 p.m.) with access to the BHS Office or Activities/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 students, parents, staff, and the community to make the 2023-2024 school year a great educational experience. If you have any questions concerning the upcoming school year, please call me at 320-843-2710.

The Fall and Winter District Newsletters will be digital versions. They are posted on our website, on our Facebook page and emailed to all parents through the school email system (JMC).

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

Lock Sales

Need a lock for your locker or phy-ed locker? They are \$6 and can be purchased:

- * online with credit card
 - Athletics & Activities
 - Activities
 - Lock Sales

* in the Activities Office with cash/check



student COUNCIL

7th Grade

Brooks Groinus
Emmie Grussing
Blakely Koenig
Sydney Moe
Aubrey Nagler
Sophia Nagler
Tess Nygaard
Cora Svingen

8th Grade

Tara Beyer
Logan Hight
Payton Hill
My Lay
Ella Lysen
Taylor McGee
Chase Miller
Madisyn Razink
Ella Sanders
Kade Schilling

9th Grade

Halle Bolduc
Mariah Goossen
Kaida Helgenset
Darin Hippe
Andrew Nissen
Jada O'Leary
Irelyn Schwendemann
Carly Tolifson
Arion Whitcup

10th grade

Dallas Carey
Keala Carroll
Julia Claussen
Anabelle DeToy
Taylor Helmberger
Franklin Knutson
Sophia Krusemark
Denai McFadden
Grace Nagler
Madison Osterbauer
Gavin Olson

Helstrom Sanchez
Ava Williams
Paige Wroblewski

11th Grade

Alex Claussen
Noah Goossen
Sophie Hilleren
Molly Jones
Elle Kletscher
Mya McGeary
Gwen Wilcox

12th Grade

Adeline DeToy
Kaylin Grube
Jack Helgenset
Presley Nygaard
Leah Olson
Lilly Ostlie
Logan Schauer
Jordan Schmidt

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.

SPEAK OUT BE HEARD MAKE A CHANGE

WE MUST BECOME THE CHANGE WE WANT TO SEE

2023-2024 Music Department Calendar

Indoor Marching Band Concert October 16 * 7:30 p.m.
8th Grade Band Festival October 28 * All Day
Holiday Jazz Concert November 27 * 7:30 p.m.
6-8 Grade Band Concert December 4 * 5:30 p.m.
9-12 Grade Band Concert December 4 * 7:30 p.m.
7-12 Grade Choir Concert December 11 * 7:30 p.m.
7-12 Grade Band Concert March 5 * 7:30 p.m.
1-3 Grade Concert March 8 * 1:30 p.m.
Large Group Contest (in KMS) March 11 * 3:00 p.m.
9-12 Grade Choir Concert March 18 * 7:30 p.m.
Solo & Ensemble Contest April 6 * All Day
Jazz n' Stuff Concert April 6 * 7:00 p.m.
4-5 Grade Music Program May 2 * 1:30 p.m.
6th Grade Music & Band Concert May 3 * 1:30 p.m.
Junior High Choir & Band Concert May 6 * 5:00 p.m.
Senior High Choir & Band Concert & Awards . . May 6 * 7:00 p.m.

BHS Athletics Spectator Policies

The following policies will be enforced in order to ensure a safe and respectful environment.

- The use of appropriate language is expected at all times. Profanity, negative chants, booing, trash talking, name calling, personal attacks, or other acts of disrespect are unacceptable.
- Respect the game/contest. Under no condition shall anyone other than the members of the official squad enter the playing surface.
- Show respect for officials, opposing players, coaches, and spectators.
- No signs should block the view of other spectators. No flags are allowed in the competition area.
- Spectators without shirts or that are wearing shirts that are vulgar, obscene, or demeaning will be removed from the venue.
- Artificial noisemakers (megaphones, cowbells, sirens, whistles, thunder sticks, and other similar items) are not allowed.
- All cheers, comments, and actions shall be in direct support of one's team. No cheers, comments or actions shall be directed at one's opponent or at contest officials. Some examples of inappropriate conduct or actions that are not permitted are: disrespecting players by name, number or position; negative cheers or chants; throwing items on the floor, etc.
- Respect the American Flag and the National Anthem.
- Children in grades 5 and below must come to the game with a supervising adult.
- All spectators must remain in the main gym unless going to concessions or the bathroom. During football games and track meets, spectators may also stand along the fence area to view the game. During football games and track meets, grades 5 and under students inside the fence area are to be supervised by a parent or adult. There will not be school staff supervising outside the fence area.

Benson Public Schools reserves the right to amend this list at any time to ensure the safety of our athletes, guests and employees.

THANK YOU for supporting our student athletes and fine arts participants and for providing a positive environment in which educational activities are conducted.

CONSEQUENCES

- First Offense: Verbal warning; possible removal from event venue.
- Second Offense: Removal from event venue and possible suspension from attending the next 1-5 home events.
- Third Offense: Removal from event venue and possible suspension from attending home events for the rest of the school year.
- Severe Clause: In the case of severe poor sportsmanship or failure to follow the event supervisor's directions, immediate removal from the event venue may be necessary. An indefinite suspension from attending future home events will occur. A conference involving the concerned parties will determine whether and when attendance privileges will be reinstated.



Welcome Back!

By Al Pagel, Transportation Supervisor

I hope everyone has had a great summer. We are getting buses ready for the return of students for the school year. This year the bussing procedures will 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 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 320-842-8035 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.

News from the School Nurses

Immunizations

Minnesota State Law requires immunizations at the start of Kindergarten, 7th Grade, and 12th Grade. Please make sure your child is up to date on immunizations before the start of the school year or complete the exemption form if your child will not be receiving the immunizations. Benson Public Schools Handbook requires immunizations be completed or exemption form to be completed within 30 days of the start of the school year for your child to remain in school.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/imzform.pdf>

Kindergarten required immunizations: 3 Hepatitis B, 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella

7th Grade required immunizations: Tdap and Meningococcal

12th Grade required immunization: 2nd Meningococcal



When to stay home from school.

It is sometimes difficult to know when to send your child to school. The main reasons for keeping your child home are if they are too sick to be comfortable in school and/or to prevent the spread of illness to others. Please report any illness or symptoms your child is experiencing to your child's office or school nurse. This information is helpful to monitor trends of illnesses at school.

- **Fever:** Temperature of 100 degrees or higher. The child should not return to school until fever free without use of fever-reducing medication (Tylenol or Ibuprofen) for 24 hours.
- **Vomiting and Diarrhea:** The child should be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Rash:** If a child has a rash that may be related to a disease or unknown cause, a healthcare provider should check the child before returning to school.
- **Pink-Eye:** The child can be at school unless the child has a fever or is not healthy enough to participate in routine activities. Antibiotics or a note from a health care provider are not required.
- **Strep Throat:** The child may return to school 12 hours after starting medication and 24 hours fever free without the use of fever reducing medications (Tylenol or Ibuprofen).
- **Influenza:** Stay at home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications (Tylenol or Ibuprofen) and the child is well enough to participate in normal activities.
- **COVID:** The child must remain home for 5 days after symptoms started. If symptoms are improved or gone, may return to school on day 6 with a mask. Must wear a mask through day 10. Must remain home if still having symptoms days 6 through 10.
- **Head Lice:** The child may be at school, but treatment is required at home.

Benson Public School will follow the most current recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health for disease specific guidelines.

www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/residents/health-medical/infectious-diseases/specific-exclusions-schools.pdf

For questions or concerns about health related illnesses or immunizations, please contact a school nurse.

Julie Loen, LSN – 320-842-2054 or Amanda Carruth, LSN – 320-842-2731





Welcome Back

By *Connie Evenson, Food Service Director*

Many new and exciting things are changing this year in the Food Service Department!

The state of Minnesota is paying for all students to eat for free! Please note that we are still asking every family to fill out the free and reduced application, it is still vital that if you do qualify for these two programs that you get signed up for them. Even if you think you will not qualify please fill it out and try. It is very important that everyone who qualifies gets enrolled.

- This new free lunch policy from the state will not cover "just milk" (i.e. school milk with a lunch from home) or ala carte items. It is ONLY for 1 free reimbursable breakfast and 1 free reimbursable lunch per child.
- It also does not cover milk/snack break at Northside.

Northside Elementary received a "Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant" for snack break. This means every day, every child enrolled in Pre-k thru 5th grade will get a fresh fruit or vegetable given to them when their class has snack break. It is not meant to be a large portion, but more of a small snack to get kids trying more fruits and vegetables everyday.

The High School will no longer offer second chance breakfast. We are sorry to see this end, but understand that the mid morning break will no longer happen. Please remind your students to stop in and get breakfast before 8:05 a.m.

A few other reminders for this fall...

- Milk Break and Snack Break can be paid either annually or twice per year. Please remember our online payment system, it makes it easy for families to see their balances 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.

Welcome back! We are looking forward to seeing you!

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 Prices

Northside: PreK-5

Breakfast: \$ free

Lunch: \$ free

"just milk" will be charged ala carte

Milk Break:

Semester: \$40

Year: \$80

Snack Break:

Semester: \$50

Year: \$100

High School: 6-12

Breakfast: \$ free

Lunch: \$ free

"just milk" will be charged ala carte

Adult:

Breakfast: \$3.00

Lunch: \$5.00

Ala Carte is priced separately.

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

By Jill Lipp, Activities Director

Hello! I am super excited to start my new role as the Activities Director here in Benson. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the coaches and advisors this summer and I am so excited to begin the 2023-2024 school year.

I moved to Benson this summer after spending 29 years in the St. Cloud School District. I love all sports and activities and can not wait to watch all of our programs grow and develop.

The official start day for Fall Sports is August 14th and includes Football, Girls Tennis, Boys and Girls Cross Country, and Volleyball. The coaches and athletes have been working hard this summer to prepare for the upcoming seasons.

Please stop by my office anytime with questions or just to say Hi! I look forward to meeting and working with both the members of the community and school. Let's have a great year!

Go Braves!!!

<h1>Homecoming</h1>	<h2>Homecoming 2023 will take place the week of September 18th! More details to follow!</h2>
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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 Activities Office.

2023-2024 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 Activities Office 8:00-4:00 Monday-Friday.

Band Instrument Rental:

\$70.00 per year

Benson Braves Head Coaches and Advisors

Fall Sports

Volleyball - Ainsley Anderson
Football - Brady Dokkebakken
Girl's Tennis - Brock Duncan
XC - Samantha VanHeuveln

Winter Sports

Wrestling - Scott Thompson
Gymnastics - Kathy Ahrndt
Boys Hockey - Jeremiah Day
Girls Hockey - Coleton Anderson
Boys Basketball - Mike Felt
Girls Basketball - Renee Helgensen

Spring Sports

Softball - Mackenzie Dokkebakken
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 - Andrew Naseth
FFA - Jenna Smith
BPA - Kendra Razink
Speech - TBD
NHS - Mallory Felt, Carson Thorson

FOOTBALL TAILGATES

Thursday, August 31
vs. Mahnommen-Waubun
2nd Slide Fundraiser

Friday, September 8
vs. KMS (Youth Night)
FFA

Friday, September 22
vs. LPGE (Homecoming)
Prom Afterbash

Friday, October 13
vs. USA (Senior Night)
Mini Sota Ag. Children's Museum



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 320-843-4545 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.

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. Watch our Facebook page or tune in to KSCR 93.5 for notifications or cancellations. You may also call the office at 320-843-4545 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.

THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes out to the local businesses and organizations who sponsored our summer baseball, softball and summer theater programs for 2023!

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <i>1st Security Bank</i> | |
| <i>All About Kids Daycare</i> | |
| <i>Benson Fire Department</i> | |
| <i>Bluestem Dental</i> | |
| <i>Brinks Beerjoint</i> | |
| <i>Bright Start Child Care</i> | |
| <i>CVEC</i> | |
| <i>Dairy Queen</i> | |
| <i>Girls Ranch</i> | |
| <i>Hughes Real Estate & Auction</i> | <i>In Memory of Kevin Hansen</i> |
| <i>Loen Electric</i> | <i>Larson Associates</i> |
| <i>Nelson Red Angus</i> | <i>McKinney's</i> |
| <i>Sojourn Counseling</i> | <i>Riverwood Bank</i> |
| <i>Stony Ridge Foods</i> | <i>State Bank of Danvers</i> |
| <i>Track Bar & Grill</i> | <i>Super Valu</i> |
| <i>Wallace Auto</i> | <i>Tolifson Olson Construction</i> |
| <i>Zielsdorf Auction</i> | <i>Whistle Stop</i> |
| | <i>Zosel's True Value</i> |



Also, a big hats off and thanks to the volunteers and paid staff, coaches, instructors and umps 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.

Benson Community Education
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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 - details to follow!



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 - details to follow!

Fall Gymnastics

Preschool and Elementary Aged Camps

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

Camp will be held in September and October.

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!



Tap Camp

Grades K-8

Get a jump start on Jazz-n-Pizzazz dance this year with Emily. This Tap Camp will focus on learning new tap skills and reviewing basic skills.

You will meet for 4 Mondays and end with a mini Halloween theme show on 10/30.



Kind.-1st: 5:00-5:30 p.m. - \$15.00

2nd-3rd: 5:30-6:00 p.m. - \$15.00

4th-5th: 6:00-6:45 p.m. - \$15.00

6th-8th: 6:45-7:30 p.m. - \$15.00

Mondays, October 2nd-23rd
Performing Arts Center

Halloween Show October 30th at 6:00 p.m.

Instructor: Emily Foslien

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 320-843-4545.

Instructor: Roger Lindahl/Mark Grussing; \$325

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 5th through May 23rd
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

Celebrate your birthday with a **Party in the BAC!** hosted by BKMS gymnastics coaching staff

Enjoy a fun-filled 1.5 hour party with the gymnastics gym all to yourself!

Party Includes:

- 60 minutes of gymnastics, foam pit, Tumble Trak and an obstacle course led by one of the gymnastics instructors
- 30 minutes of party area to use for cake, gifts, etc.
- No set up or clean up!

Cost:

- \$20 deposit paid to Benson Schools at time of booking
- \$80 for up to 10 guests & \$8 each additional guest (over 10)

Contact coach Kathy Ahrndt for more information and to set up a date/time to celebrate!
kahrndt@benson.k12.mn.us

Jazz-n-Pizzazz Dance Classes

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 classes will be 10 weeks starting the week of **February 12, 2024**. All other classes will be 15 weeks starting the week of **January 8, 2024**.

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**.

Dance Recitals will be at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 20th and Sunday, April 21st.

5:00 p.m. **September 11th:**
Dance Registration opens

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

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

Must be 3 on or before Sept. 1
ballet shoes

Wednesdays: **Dew Drops**

6:15 - 6:45 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

-or-

Tuesdays: **Ladybugs**

5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Inst: Adeline DeToy

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

Must be 4 on or before Sept. 1
ballet shoes

Tuesdays: **Jitterbugs**

4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Inst: Adeline DeToy

-or-

Mondays: **Rugrats**

5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

Kindergarten: \$97.00

tap and ballet

Wednesdays: **Buttercups**

5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

-or-

Tuesdays: **Twinkle Toes**

5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

Inst: Paige Cain

1st Grade: \$97.00

tap and ballet

Tuesdays: **Gumdrops**

6:15 - 7:00 p.m.

Inst: Danielle Reuss

-or-

Wednesdays: **Dixie Cups**

4:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Inst: Keala Carroll/Anabelle DeToy

2nd Grade: \$97.00

tap and ballet

Monday: **Shining Stars**

6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Inst: Teri Staton

-or-

Thursdays: **Lollipops**

4:30 - 5:15 p.m.

Inst: Janae Olson

3rd Grade: \$92.00

tap and ballet

Tuesdays: **Gemstones**

5:15 - 6:00 p.m.

Inst: Janae Olson

4th Grade: \$97.00

tap and ballet

Mondays: **Enchanted**

3:15 - 4:00 p.m.

Inst: Liz Fennell

5th Grade: \$110.00

tap, ballet and jazz

Mondays: **Glamour Girls**

4:45 - 5:45 p.m.

Inst: Izzy Abner

6th Grade: \$110.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Mondays: **Diamonds**

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Inst: Emily Foslien

7th Grade: \$110.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Mondays: **Blaze**

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Inst: Emily Foslien

8th/9th Grade: \$110.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Sundays: **New Sensation**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Inst: Brianna Knudson

10th/11th/12th Grade: \$110.00

tap, ballet, and jazz

Sundays: **Outrageous**

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Inst: Brianna Knudson

Pointe (9th-12th Grade): \$70.00

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. 5th-12th): \$100.00

Incorporates a variety of kick styles and arm movements.

Jazz shoes will be worn.

Mondays

HK1 (5th-7th grade) 6:00-7:00 p.m.

HK2 (8th-12th grade) 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Inst: Brittany Thompson

Hip Hop (gr. 5th-12th): \$85.00

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

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Inst: Michelle Ibarra

Be sure to check out Emily's Tap Camp on page 13. Get a jump start, firm up those tap moves, and showcase your style!

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. You must repeat the class every three years.

We will be offering two classes this school year:

October 24th at 5:30 p.m.

April 25th at 5:30 p.m.

Please call us at 320-843-4545 if you are in need of the refresher course. Cost of the class is \$25.



Pelvic Floor 101

Why Kegels Don't Fix Everything

Have you had concerns with urine leaking, have had to quit sports or impact activities? Do you rush to make it to the toilet on time or feel pressure in the pelvic floor with certain activities? Are you trying to get active after having a baby - attend this class on the pelvic floor!

What is normal? What can be done about it? Come find out!

Wednesday, September 13th

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. / Benson High School Library

FREE! * pre-registration appreciated

Presented by: Holly Kolander, PT, DPT, OCS - pre and post partum exercise specialist, trained in men and women's pelvic floor

Benson's 31st Annual CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, October 21, 2023
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Handmade Crafts | Holiday Gift Ideas
Seasonal Items | Many new crafters!

Breakfast and Lunch available
Crafters still accepted!

Benson Community Education
320-843-4545

Benson High School / 1400 Montana Ave / Benson, MN

First Aid & CPR

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.

Next class will be held on **Monday, September 11**

5:30 p.m. at Benson High School

Cost: FA/CPR - \$30; Just FA or CPR - \$20

Instructor: Cindy Carruth

Instant Piano and Guitar for Hopelessly Busy People

In just a few hours, you can learn enough secrets of the trade to give you years of musical enjoyment.

These crash courses are done in the comfort of your home over zoom and include an online book and follow-up video lessons. You will be able to continue your practice and study on your own.

Both classes are open to adults and students ages 13 and older. Instructor is Craig Coffman from *Chords Are Key*.

You can register for these online (under adult/senior) at: benson.revtrak.net/RW-community-education/ or by calling Community Education at **320-843-4545**

Piano 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
- * 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, September 18

6:30-9:00 p.m.

\$59.00

Guitar is a crash course that will teach you some basic chords to get you playing along with your favorite songs right away. 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, September 19

6:30-9:00 p.m.

\$59.00



Learning is "FUN"

Nancy Dokken is back with her Learning is "FUN" series of classes! Registration is open for all class and can be found under "Adult/Senior" in our registration program or by calling our office at 320-843-4545.

All classes will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and will take place in the **Parkview Manor Meeting Room**.

Eating For Your Blood Type: Learning what foods you should eat for a healthier you.

Thursday, September 14th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Having Fun with the Pendulum: Learning the impact the pendulum has with your well being. Pendulum included with your registration.

Thursday, October 5th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Biorhythm: Learn why some days you are more tired, feel like your brain is not working, and your emotions are off the wall. Birthdate is needed when registering.

Thursday, October 12th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Foot and Hand Reflexology: Hands and feet play an important part in our well being. They are always there ready to assist in your health.

Thursday, October 19th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Numerology: Learn how the day you were born determines your personality for the rest of your life. Birthdate is needed when registering.

Thursday, October 26th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Tapping: Learn a new approach to help the body overcome pain, emotional issues, phobias, and more.

Thursday, November 2nd * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Study Your Nails, Tongue, and Face: Traditional Chinese Medicine theory on health issues looking at your face. Bring a mirror.

Thursday, November 9th * 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Class fee is based on the number of classes attending:

1 class - \$15 * 2 classes - \$25 * 3 classes - \$34

4 classes - \$42 * 5 classes - \$50

6 classes - \$58 * 7 classes - \$65

Benson EMS Open House

WHEN: Weds., September 13th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.
WHERE: Ambulance Garage (1010 Utah Ave., Benson)

- Meet the Crew
- Discuss Training & Requirements to hold a position
- Discuss Pay/Extra Income
- Learn More About Helping Your Community



Benson EMS is part of CentraCare Medical Services
We are offering paid on-call positions
We hire 3 levels of staff: EMR, EMT, and Paramedics

Join Us! Refreshments served

Online Technology Classes

These classes are offered by Nicky Welsh from *Social Club Simple* "Helping Adults Utilize Technology to Improve their Lives in a Positive Way".

After registering, each recipient will be sent a zoom link for the course. **You can take part of the "live class" or access the recorded class option if you are unable to attend during the designated time.** Follow-up support is also included from the instructor and students are encouraged to reach out with questions at any time before or after the class has concluded.

You can register for these online (under adult/senior) at: **benzon.revtrak.net/RW-community-education/** or by calling Community Education at **320-843-4545**

Using Snapchat Safely in 2023!

In this workshop we will cover everything adults need to know about one of most popular social media apps in the world. You'll learn the foundation for how Snapchat is used, what the basic features include, how to set up safety features, how to check for profile details, and more.

Thursday, September 14th * 12:00-1:00 p.m.

(or watch recording on your own time) * \$20.00

A Parent's Guide to TikTok

In this fun class, we'll take a look at the fastest growing social media app used by millions each day. Learn how it's used and how parents can also help their kids stay safe while on it. We'll cover everything you need to know as it's paving the future of a new social media.

Tuesday, September 19th * 12:00-1:00 p.m.

(or watch recording on your own time) * \$20.00

Google Sheets for Awesome Beginners

Expand your skills with Google Sheets and use this training for a lifetime! Whether it's for work or for play, this class will teach you comprehensive skills. You will learn to enter, organize, analyze, and visualize your data using Google Sheets!

Tuesday, October 10th * 12:00-1:00 p.m.

(or watch recording on your own time) * \$20.00

Heart Screening at Benson High School

Screening America will be in Benson performing heart screening for people ages 11-34. This is a Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention Program. *This does not count as a sports physical.*

Monday, August 21st

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. / Benson High School

Anyone between the ages of 11-34 are eligible to participate. Register with the Benson School District Office by calling 320-843-2710.

A Sioux Falls Pediatric Cardiologist will review the heart screenings and results will be sent out in 3-4 weeks. Go to www.screening-america.com for more information and required forms. Cost is \$89. Sibling discount (half price) after 1st full price is paid. Pay by check, cash, credit card or flex spending card to Screening America.

Performing Arts Center

Benson Arts Council is proud to bring you

JIMMY FORTUNE




Ticket Prices
 Early Bird:
 Adult: \$25
 Student: \$15
 At door: \$30/\$20

Sunday, October 8, 2023
 3:00 pm
 Benson High School
 Performing Arts Center
www.vancoevents.com/BXHIX

The Continental Ballet
 Presents...

Cinderella

**SUNDAY
 OCTOBER 22
 3:00PM**

Tickets on sale now!
 Reserved Seating
 Advanced Price of:
 \$20 adults
 \$10 students

**BENSON SCHOOLS
 PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

1400 Montana Avenue
 Benson, MN 56215
 320-843-4545

www.vancoevents.com/BUAJ

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

Let's hit the Road!

JERSEY BOYS

Saturday, September 30	Chanhassen Dinner Theater	\$100
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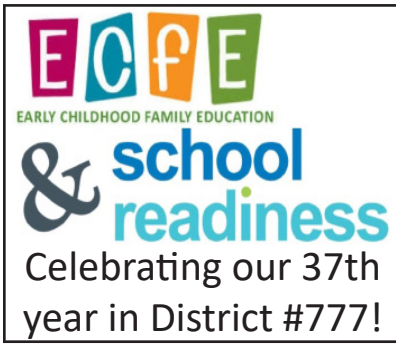
With phenomenal music, memorable characters and great storytelling, Jersey Boys follows the fascinating evolution of four blue-collar kids who became one of the greatest successes in pop-music history. Winner of Best Musical at both the Tony Awards® and Olivier Awards®, Jersey Boys takes you behind the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons to discover the secret of a 40-year friendship as the foursome work their way from the streets of New Jersey to the heights of stardom.

	Price includes ticket, meal and coach bus ride. Show starts at 1:00 p.m. Leave from Benson at approximately 8 a.m. Can pick also pick up in Kerkhoven and Willmar.	
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Register online (under trips/tours) at benzon.revtrak.net/RW-Community-Education/ or call Benson Community Ed at 320-843-4545 to reserve your spot today!

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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, 4:00-5:15 p.m. (18 months-4 years)
Mondays, 5:30-6:45 p.m. (18 months-4 years)

Your first opportunity to register and pay for ECFE is at the **Open House on Wednesday, August 23rd from 4:00-7:30 p.m.** near the main entrance at Northside Elementary. Registration by phone (320-843-4545) or online starts Thursday, August 24th.

There will be an **ECFE Fall Kickoff Community Vehicle Touch Event on Wednesday, August 30th from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** in the Early Childhood Center north parking lot. This event is free!

Watch your mail for our **ECFE Newsletter**. If you have not received your newsletter by August 31st, please call Chrysees Forbord at 320-843-2710 or Benson Community Education at 320-843-4545.

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



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 2025. 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 2024.

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

3-Day Class: Mon., Weds., Fri.; Free
3-Day Class: Tues., Thurs., Fri.; Free
5-Day Class: Mon.-Fri.; \$150 a month (FULL)

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,
& ECFE OPEN HOUSE**

**Wednesday, August 23rd
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

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

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 3 or 4 years old on or before September 1, 2023 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.



**RATED 4
STAR!**



18

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.

Phone: 320-842-2723

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

Find us & Like us on Facebook!



Like us on Facebook!

POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL

“Good Things Are Happening In Our Schools”

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2023 - 2024 Draft

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 11/6 & 11/9 3:30-7:45; 3/7 3:30-7:30
 6-12 Conferences 10/5 3:30-7:45; 3/7 3:30-7:30
- K** Kindergarten Orientation 8/28 & 8/29
- F** First Day of School
- G** Commencement
- Q/W** Quarter Ends: Early Out-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal; afternoon wksp.
- S/W** Last Day of Semester-12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp.
- V** Holiday/Vacation/No School
- V/M** Vacation - but potential snow makeup day
- W** Faculty Workshop/No school for students (*8/23 Open House 4-7:30pm)
- T** Last Day of Trimester Grades K-5 (Nov. 27, Feb. 27, May 21)
- T/W** Trimester/wksp - 12:32 NS, 12:37 HS student dismissal, afternoon wksp.
- PM** 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						
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NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							JANUARY							FEBRUARY							
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MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
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24	25	26	27	W	V	30	28	29	30					26	V	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30						

Quarter One: 40 days Quarter Two: 46 days Quarter Three: 43 days Quarter Four: 44 days Workshop: 5 Days PM/Conf/Open House: 2 days (180 Days)

K-5 Grade Trimesters: Nov. 27 (58 days) Feb. 27 (58 days) May 21 (57 days)
 V/M = Vacation Days but potential snow make up days 5/22-5/24 etc. Updated 3/11/2022