



# Staff Analysis and Report to the Board

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**Board Meeting/Work Session Date: October 30, 2018**

**Executive Leadership Lead: Yvonne Curtis**

**Departments: College and Career Readiness and Office of School Performance**

**Staff Leads: Joe LaFontaine, Aurora Terry, Korinna Wolfe, Jeanne Yerkovich**

<b>SUBJECT: District CTE and Benson Programming Follow Up</b>
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**I. BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this staff analysis and report is to provide the Board information that was requested at the CTE work session on September 25, 2018. The report will cover overall context and related factors, including: scope of Multiple Pathways programming, Benson specifications/ programmatic configuration options, overall PPS CTE pathways to inform Benson options, the Benson modernization timeline and overall high-level staff recommendations.

**II. RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES**

The documents that provide context related to Benson High School, Alliance High School, and Multiple Pathways to Graduation (MPG) include:

- High School System Design Implementation Update from December 12, 2012
- Board Resolution 5160 from November 3, 2015
- Ed Options Review Report from February 2017

**III. ANALYSIS OF SITUATION**

Alliance HS and MPG currently housed at Benson have an enrollment of about 200 students during the day. These include Reconnection Services & Center School, Teen Parent Program, Alliance High School, Virtual Scholars and the Clinton DART School. The MPG programs that use the facility after hours are Evening & Summer Scholars. Other programs currently housed at Benson are a Pioneer High School classroom and Portland International Scholars Academy (PISA). This array of programs has unique space needs and provides important supports to underserved students in PPS that have needed alternative settings to succeed in school and demonstrate positive outcomes.

**IV. FISCAL IMPACT**

The intent is to keep the current Benson master plan as is, which is flexible in nature, and incorporate MPG programs currently housed at Benson into the plan. This will have a minimal fiscal impact and keep the Benson master plan and design on track for current completion timeline.

**V. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

The district has received both formal and informal feedback from the Alliance and MPG community advocating that Benson is the best choice for locating their programs. Reasons offered are its central location and the prospect of having access to a broader array of envisioned CTE programming on the campus.

## **VI. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION/EVALUATION**

Since Board Resolution 5160 in November 2015, no formal plans have been pushed forward for a permanent location for Alliance and the MPG programs currently housed at Benson. Two upcoming related meetings are:

- November 6, 2018: Board Work Session on Benson Modernization Project
- December 11, 2018: Board Meeting to Finalize Master and Site Plan for Benson

## **VII. BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS**

Three different options are proposed for consideration for Benson and CTE. They include:

- A. Keep Benson as a focus option high school in its current configuration.
- B. Hybrid Model: In addition to Benson continuing as a focus option high school, students in grades 11-12 from other high schools could attend on a half-day schedule at Benson.
- C. District Wide Hub: Students in grades 9-12 from other high schools could take one or more CTE classes at Benson.

Analysis is that changing Benson from its current configuration to one of the CTE options B or C has cost implications and logistical challenges for busing, scheduling, and staffing.

## **VIII. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Implement a Benson Modernization Plan that develops a campus for a total of 1,700 students that houses: 1) Benson Polytechnic HS as a focus option comprehensive high school with enhanced CTE programming -up to 1,450 students and 2) continue to co-locate Multiple Pathways Programs, including Alliance, at the Benson campus -up to 250 daytime students. Sufficient flexible classroom and office support space should be incorporated into the Benson Modernization plan. In addition:

- Benson DAG committee should integrate MPG stakeholders to inform the overall dedicated and shared space design.
- Enhanced CTE programming options on the Benson campus should be open and accessible to Multiple Pathways (Alliance and Portland Evening & Summer Scholars) students.

## **IX. I have reviewed this staff report and concur with the recommendation to the Board.**



**Guadalupe Guerrero**  
Superintendent  
Portland Public Schools

October 25, 2018

Date

## **ATTACHMENTS**

(List all supporting documentation, including resolution, etc.)

- A. Board Resolution 5160Ed Options Review Report and PowerPoint
- B. Staff Report on MPG Space Needs
- C. MPG Overview Slides
- D. District CTE and Programming Follow Up PowerPoint Presentation

### **PPS District Priorities FY 2018-19**

1. *Set a clear Vision and Strategic Plan*
2. *Create equitable opportunities and outcomes for all students*
3. *Build management and accountability systems and structures*
4. *Allocate budget, funding and resources focused on improving outcomes for students*