



**Monday February 26th 2018**

**ACT Exam**

The ACT Exam will be taking place at Benson Tech Tuesday morning February 27th. If you have a student taking this exam please be sure that your student receives plenty of rest the night before and has a hearty breakfast the day of the exam.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FORECASTING / SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES NEXT YEAR**

Students will begin the forecasting process in February. Students will be working closely with counselors to determine the courses necessary for their post-secondary success and graduation. Please see the attached link for the Course Guide.

This year students will forecast for their classes online in Synergy StudentVue. The school prioritizes staffing and the school schedule on this data, therefore changes are not allowed once the forecasting window closes. Online windows to forecast will be open for approximately one week/grade level. The windows are as follow for current classes:

Current freshmen -February 14-21

Current Sophomores - February 28- March 6

Current Juniors - February 12-19

**Please note that next year 9th-11th graders will be required to take a full load of courses according to Oregon Administrative Rule 581-022-1620.**

***Tonya Mjelde/Vice Principal  
Benson Polytechnic High School  
(503) 916-5100 x77126***

**Attention Seniors:**

It's time to order Stoles for Graduation! Stoles are \$20 and can be purchased in the Bookkeeper's Office from Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> through **Thursday, March 22nd** at 3:30 PM. If you'd like to see what the stoles look like, there are samples in the Bookkeeper's Office!

***Lamika Jerry***

***VP Secretary***

**A Message from Caroline Bleckmann (Benson Wellness Center)**

The Tooth Taxi is coming to Benson from March 5th to 8th. This is an opportunity to get FREE dental work during school hours. Services include x-rays, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings and extractions done on a state of the art dental mobile home that will be parked in the back parking lot of the school. If you are interested please get a permission form in the main office, the student health center, or in Ms. Jamison's room, 236. Please turn the forms in by February 20<sup>th</sup> 2018.

**Career News Information from Miranda Ryan (Benson's Career Coordinator)**

Please be sure to read the attached Career Newsletter flyer from Ms. Ryan.

**Athletics:**

**Girls Basketball**

**OSAA Basketball Playoffs**

**Tuesday Feb. 27th**

**Benson Tech vs West Albany**

**Game Time 6pm**

**Flex Days**

Tutorial: Thursday March 1st

2:23pm-3:15pm

Flex Day: Friday March 2nd

2:23-3:15pm

**Benson's Website**

Please be sure to visit our website at [www.bensonhs.net](http://www.bensonhs.net) and check out our yearly calendar to stay up to date on all things happening here at Benson Tech.

## **Need Practice for Important Tests? Go to Learning Express...**

Is your student taking the ACT, PSAT, or SAT this year? The Benson Library has **Learning Express**, courtesy of the Oregon State Library, that gives students access to online practice tests and strategies on how to solve test problems. Please see the instructions on how to access **Learning Express** from home. If you are using PPS internet, no login or password is needed, but from home networks, please use

**Login: port, Password: oslis**

[Learning Express Instructions](#)---Please start on step 3. (Julie Morris)

## **Outdoor School**

“Are you interested in being a Student Leader for Outdoor School? Improve your leadership skills by coming to the Outdoor School Student Leader workshop on the weekend of April 6th. Sign up on the MESD Outdoor School website or through a paper sign up card in the counseling center. Contact Abigail Kindall or Thyme Masters for assistance.”

Thanks,

Abigail

## **Beyond Benson Program**

Parents of Juniors: Applications are now available in counseling for the Beyond Benson program. Beyond Benson matches Benson juniors with a community mentor who helps students with post high school preparation. Typically, the mentors work privately with each student to provide individual assistance such as: applying for scholarships, researching colleges and completing college applications, and preparing for interviews. Criteria for the program are the following:

Qualifications: Have a 3.0 cumulative GPA and at least a C in core classes.

Meetings: Meet with your mentor at least twice a month through the end of your senior year

Contact your mentor in advance if you have to miss a meeting

NOTE: if you have three unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the program

Attend small group meetings on post-high school topics

Follow through: Complete agreed upon assignments

Communicate with your mentor via email and/or text in a timely manner.

Applications are due on Thursday, March 2 to counseling. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Henry, counselor, at [amyhenry@pps.net](mailto:amyhenry@pps.net)

**Amy Henry**

**Benson Tech Counselor**

## **A Message from Benson's Athletic Director Scott Archer**

### **Spring Sport Parent Night**

We will have our spring sport parent night this Thursday, at 6PM in the auditorium.

Hear from a guest speaker, learn about your student's spring sports program including expectations, coach contact info, and ask questions to the coaching staff.

Before a student can practice, they must be cleared by the athletic office. More info on clearance process, including a link to online registration (FamilyId), at BensonAthletics.com

Before your student-athlete can compete, they must register online, and **have a current physical on file** in the Benson Athletic Office.

You can register your student here:

<https://www.familyid.com/organizations/benson-high-school>

...and then have your student bring in their current physical, if not already on file.

**Scott Archer**

**Athletic Director**

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Information**

The window to register for an Advanced Placement (AP) exam is open from now until March 12. Here is the link to register: <https://aptestservice.com/pps/>

In their AP class, your student received, or will receive soon, an instruction sheet on how to register, and where to go on exam day. Except for the AP Japanese and AP Chinese exams, all AP exams will be hosted at the Oregon Convention Center: 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland, OR 97232.

Students also received the Bulletin for AP Students and Parents from the College Board detailing test administration policies, a student checklist, getting ready for exam day, and the 2018 exam schedule.

Please contact Megan Hill at [mhill2@pps.net](mailto:mhill2@pps.net) if you have any questions.

***Megan Hill/AP Exam Coordinator***

## A Message from the AVID/College Coordinator Sherree Thomas-Coleman

### Upcoming College Visits/Events

03/22 **Junior College Fair Night** (5:30-8:30PM more details soon)

### Financial Aid

For help with the Oregon Promise, OSAC, and/or FAFSA/ORSAA, visit the Counseling Center. Remember you will need your 2016 Tax documents.

**03/01 Final deadline for OSAC applications.** *Don't wait until the last minute!* Your FAFSA/ORSAA must be completed to apply.

### Testing

04/14 Official ACT Test (Registration Deadline March 9<sup>th</sup>) Visit <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>

03/10 Official SAT Test (Registration Deadline February 9<sup>th</sup>) Visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/dates-deadlines>

**Note:** PPS will be administering the ACT examination to all juniors on February 27<sup>th</sup> free of charge. Students will complete registration at Benson.

For *free* test prep resources visit **Benson's Library**, the **Khan Academy** website at <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat> , **Multnomah County Library** website at <https://multcolib.org/resource/learningexpress-library> and/or [Number2.com](http://Number2.com)

## More Information From Sherree Thomas-Coleman

### Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines

*\*Seniors don't miss the opportunity to get money for college. Apply for a scholarship TODAY!*

**OSAC/Oregon Promise Scholarship** online application **Now Open!** <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/scholarships-instructions.aspx>

**The Seneca Scholarship** (Seniors) visit [www.senecasawmill.com](http://www.senecasawmill.com)

**Oregon PSR's Greenfield Peace Writing Scholarship** (Juniors and Seniors). Deadline March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Visit [http://www.oregonpsr.org/2017\\_greenfield\\_peace\\_writing\\_scholarship](http://www.oregonpsr.org/2017_greenfield_peace_writing_scholarship)

**Fastweb:** For cultural, merit, and need-based scholarships visit: <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships>

**Sallie Mae Scholarship** search too includes a variety of scholarship opportunities. Visit <https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/tools/scholarship-search/>

**Athletes:** *BigSun Scholarship* \$500 any sport! Deadline June 19<sup>th</sup>. Visit <http://www.bigsunathletics.com>

**2018 Multnomah Cty Athlete Foundation Lorinzi Scholarship:** Deadline **March 1st**. Apply here <http://bit.ly/2EdKk4l>.

**NW EEO Alyce Marcus Scholarship:** Deadline April 20<sup>th</sup>. Visit [http://www.nweeo.org/scholarship\\_application.php](http://www.nweeo.org/scholarship_application.php) to apply.

**Oregon SW Washington Chapter Scholarship:** Deadline May 15<sup>th</sup>. Visit [https://www.a4le.org/A4LE/Regions/Pacific\\_Northwest/Oregon\\_SW\\_Washington/Scholarships/Pacific\\_Northwest/Oregon/Scholarships.aspx?hkey=66512a86-d343-4bbe-bff2-3b8709fe9791](https://www.a4le.org/A4LE/Regions/Pacific_Northwest/Oregon_SW_Washington/Scholarships/Pacific_Northwest/Oregon/Scholarships.aspx?hkey=66512a86-d343-4bbe-bff2-3b8709fe9791) for details.

**Seniors:** Help finding additional scholarships is simple. Use your CIS account (found in your Google classroom) and/or visit the Counseling Center TODAY!

**Juniors:** Oregon State School of Business may have a scholarship just for you! Visit [https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9FAD6zZT9Eb26JT](https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9FAD6zZT9Eb26JT) for details.

**Teacher Education Scholarship:** Oregon PTA. Deadline March 30<sup>th</sup>. Visit [http://www.oregonpta.org/assets/pages/files/2018-TES\\_Application-Info1.pdf](http://www.oregonpta.org/assets/pages/files/2018-TES_Application-Info1.pdf) for more details.

**Humanist Essay Contest:** Deadline April 16<sup>th</sup>. Visit [scholarship@portlandhumanists.org](mailto:scholarship@portlandhumanists.org) for details.

**Lighthouse Guild Scholarships** for students who are visually impaired. Deadline March 31<sup>st</sup>. Visit <https://www.lighthouseguild.org/programs-services/scholarships/> for details.

**Oregon Tech Foundation Scholarships:** Deadline **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Visit <http://www.oit.edu/college-costs/scholarships/all-students/otf> for more information.

**Oregon Collectors Association Hasson/Newman Memorial Scholarships:** Deadline March 1<sup>st</sup>. Visit [www.orcascholarshipfund.com](http://www.orcascholarshipfund.com) for more information.

**The Sussman Fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Scholarship:** Deadline **March 1st**. Visit <https://www.jewishportland.org/ourcommunity/youth> for details.

**Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum Scholarships:** Two scholarship awards available. Visit <http://www.evergreenmuseum.org/scholarships> for application and deadline information.

**iQ Credit Union Scholarships:** Deadline March 10<sup>th</sup>. Visit <https://iqcu.com/form/scholarship-application> for details.

**Oregon Jaycee Foundation Scholarship:** Deadline April 18<sup>th</sup>. Visit the Counseling Center for applications.

**Abott and Fenner Scholarship:** Deadline June 14<sup>th</sup>. Visit <http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.php> for more information.

Sherree Thomas-Coleman, PhD

Program Coordinator (AVID)

College Counselor

**Benson Polytechnic High School**

Office: 503-916-5100 Ext 77261

## College Tips from Sherree Thomas-Coleman

### AVID Coordinator/College Counselor

#### Tips for Benson's College-Bound Students

**Meet with your high school counselor:** Your guidance and college counselors will have the resources and guidelines that can make the whole college application process a lot easier.

**Review your transcript:** Semester grades will be posted soon. Check transcript carefully for errors. If you happen to find a mistake, politely bring it to the attention of your counselor.

**Go to college presentations:** Don't miss opportunities to meet with college reps on visiting our campus. This is an excellent way to learn more about the schools and to ask questions you may have.

**Make a list of application deadlines and supporting materials needed:** Read through all your applications thoroughly to find out what supporting materials they require and what their deadlines are. Post the list somewhere and/or add set notifications on your electronic device, so you remember what needs to be done.

**Ask for teacher recommendations:** If you are applying to a private college, chances are when you checked the application for other materials you need, you discovered that you would need at least one recommendation from a teacher or community member. *Be sure to ask your recommender well in advance and give them everything they ask for.*

**Get started on applications:** Create an account for the school you will be applying. Make sure you write down your username and password somewhere you won't lose it. Make a point of setting aside time every week to start filling out the general information asked for on the applications.

**Begin thinking about your essays if the application requires an essay:** When applicable, look over prompts and begin jotting down ideas for the essays.

**Complete the FAFSA/ORSAA:** Sign up for FAFSA PIN if you plan to apply for financial aid. You will need your completed 2016 tax documents.

**Sign up for the NCAA Clearinghouse, if you are a student athlete:** You must sign up for the NCAA Clearinghouse and send them your SAT or ACT scores if you plan on playing collegiate sports at a Division I or Division II institution.

**ASK QUESTIONS!** When in doubt, visit the counseling center and get help. Waiting until the last minute can make the process overwhelming.