



# Benson Polytechnic High School



Let your skills soar at Benson. Benson Polytechnic High School is Portland's premier four-year career-technical education focus high school, building on a history that spans nearly 100 years. Benson offers the academic rigor and the practical training that prepares students for college and the highly skilled, highly paid 21st-century work force.

The 9-acre campus is situated in Portland's inner east side commercial area. Master planning for the full modernization of Benson begins this school year in anticipation of a bond measure to modernize Benson, Lincoln and Madison high schools going to voters in Fall 2016. The modernization of this landmark building would bring 21st century facilities to Benson's premier career-technical and college preparatory program.

Highly qualified instructors combine professional technical knowledge with the academic foundation essential for mastery. Students start out exploring their interests and, by graduation, are licensed in an industry specialty and/or have earned college credits. As Benson alumni are proud to say, a Benson Polytechnic diploma is the ticket to success.

**New in 2015-2016**

- Master Planning for Benson's Modernization
- AVID college-prep
- Tech Algebra
- Computer Engineering
- Benson Wellness Center
- Dance Team

## College and Career Readiness

Benson's academies offer a rigorous course of study, skill building and internships or apprenticeships in three high-demand careers areas, each with a range of majors.

### Communications Technology Academy

- Photography/Video Technology
- Web Design/Video for the Web
- Radio Broadcasting KBPS (student-run public radio station)

### Health Science Academy

- Medical Assistant/Professions
- Nursing/Certified Nursing Assistant
- Dental Assistant

### Industrial and Engineering Academy

- Automotive Technology
- Building Construction Technology (including building a house)
- Electrical Technology
- Manufacturing Technology
- Architectural/Engineering Technology
- Tech Geometry

## Well-paid future

Yearly Metro-area salaries in Benson specialty fields:

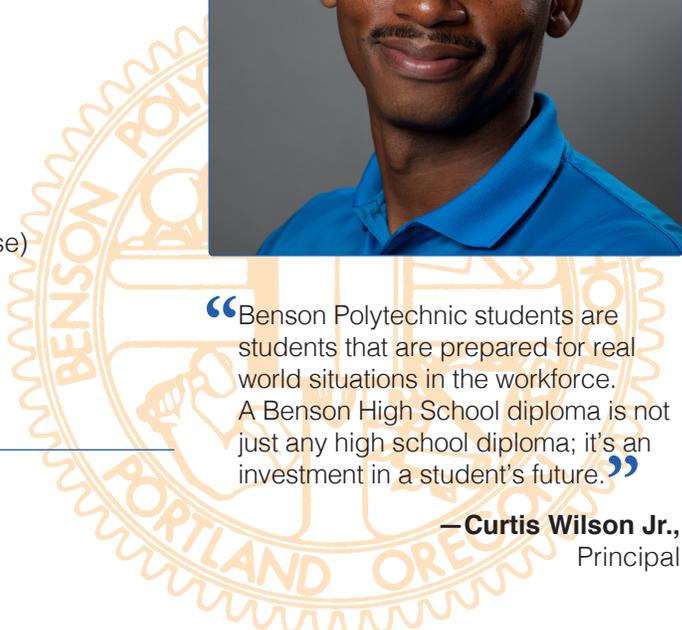
- Medical/Dental Assistant: \$35,000 to \$44,000
- Graphic Designers: \$52,000
- Auto Mechanic: \$42,000
- Electrician: \$75,000

Source: Oregon Employment Department



“Benson Polytechnic students are students that are prepared for real world situations in the workforce. A Benson High School diploma is not just any high school diploma; it's an investment in a student's future.”

— Curtis Wilson Jr.,  
Principal





## Our partners

More than 50 community and business partners make a difference in the lives and technical education of our students. They include:

- Portland Community College
- Mackenzie
- Benson Industries
- Hoffman Construction
- Boeing
- Daimler (Freightliner)
- Kaiser
- Precision Cast Parts
- Blount International, Inc.
- Tice Industries, Inc.
- Small Parts Manufacturing
- PGE
- Elemental Technologies
- Portland Parks & Recreations
- Mt. Hood Community College
- Franz Bakery
- PSI (Professional Service Industries)
- Heery
- NW Engineering Services
- iHeart Media
- NBA/Blazer Broadcasting
- KPAM Radio
- Willamette Dental
- PSU, Architecture
- Tesla Electric Car Company

## Our goals

The Benson staff believes that students should:

- Apply academic concepts to real-world situations.
- Build relationships to enhance their learning.
- Integrate technical and academic content in their studies.
- Explore career and technical fields, then choose a major.
- Experience learning in the classroom and in the workplace.
- Serve as volunteers, using their career and technical skills.
- Graduate with advanced career and college skills.

## Our students

Benson students are:

- **Diverse** – Benson is among the most diverse high school in the Northwest, with equal numbers of white, Latino, African-American, and Asian American students. Benson fosters an environment of mutual respect and understanding that prepare students to excel in global society. The annual Diversity Assembly is a showcase of student talent and a highlight of the school year.
- **Involved** – Benson offers a wide variety of co-curricular activities including athletics: Football, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Soccer, Dance Team, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Track and Field, and Golf. Leadership organizations: National Honor Society, Skills USA, and Health Occupations Students of America or HOSA. Student clubs: Robotics, Diversity, Key, Mecha, Black Student Union, competitive vocational clubs and more. The Homebuilding program, where students build a single-family home, is Benson's commitment to the community.
- **College- and career-focused** – Students can earn college credit in 34 Dual-credit classes through PCC and MHCC. More than two-thirds of Benson students enter a two-year or four-year college or university immediately upon graduating. Another 15 percent attend career/technical trade schools, while some enter the work force or pursue other options.

“Benson is a school full of opportunities. For me, Benson has opened my mind up to more careers than I expected. I used to always want to be just in the health care profession, but now I don't know what I want to be because Benson has helped me discover talents that I didn't know I had.”

— **Kim Le,**  
Class of 2017

“Majoring in Architecture at Benson helped to solidify my choice to pursue a career in architectural design, but more importantly, I learned what it meant to have a good work ethic, to be a good team player, and what it takes to get the job done right. Now that I am back teaching at Benson after several years working in architecture firms, I am passing that knowledge on to the next generation.”

— **Tammy Hite,**  
Architecture and Drafting teacher and  
Benson alumna



### Benson High School

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