



BENSON HIGH SCHOOL

1400 MONTANA AVENUE, BENSON, MN 56215

The Benson Public School District is committed to innovative learning opportunities to reach the potential of every student through exceptional academics, activities, and staff.

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

We're excited to start sharing monthly newsletters this year! There are so many amazing things happening in our building, and this is one simple way to help keep you up to speed on the great work our students and staff are doing. Of course, we can't fit everything in — but keep reading for some of the major highlights from this quarter!



November Dates to Remember

11/10 - School Board Meeting @ 5:30pm

11/11 - Veteran's Day Program @ 1:00pm

11/14 - No School

11/26 - 11/28
Thanksgiving Break
No School



Homecoming HIGHLIGHTS

Homecoming Week was packed with school spirit and community connections! The football team visited Northside Elementary to read with younger students, and the FFA hosted classroom visits and a Petting Zoo. Students showed their spirit through fun dress-up days and a strong sense of Braves pride all week long.

FALL CONFERENCES

Thank you to all families who attended Fall Conferences on October 9th! We had an amazing turnout — 189 in-person conferences and 74 virtual or phone conferences. We appreciate your partnership in supporting student success.

END OF QUARTER CELEBRATION

We wrapped up Quarter 1 with an End of Quarter Celebration on October 22 to recognize students and staff who went above and beyond during the first quarter. It was a great way to celebrate hard work, positive attitudes, and all the great things happening in our school!



<https://www.benson.k12.mn.us>



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Welding Donation Brings Back BHS Graduates

Our Metals class was excited to welcome back two Benson graduates to the shop this quarter! Brandon Ascherman (BHS Class of 2009) and Landon Williams (BHS Class of 2025) spent time sharing welding tips and career advice with our students.

Brandon is a Production Manager at Westmor Industries, and Landon also works there as a welder. Earlier this year, Landon earned 1st place at the FFA Welding Invitational in Morris, MN and began welding with Westmor Industries shortly after graduation. To top it off, Brandon and Landon brought two welders to donate to Benson High School!

Their success is a great example of the hard work and real-world skills developed in our Metals/Welding program — skills that prepare students for bright futures in agriculture and technical trades.

Thank you, Brandon and Landon, for coming back to share your knowledge, and for inspiring the next generation of Braves welders!

District 777 Referendum

On November 4, 2025, Benson Public Schools will hold a special election to vote on two referendum questions. These proposals are about giving our students the resources they need to thrive; great teachers, strong programs, and modern technology. For more information regarding the upcoming referendum, scan the QR code below.



State Bound!

Our Future Farmers of America (FFA) program has some exciting news to share! Grace Nagler, Tate Kobbermann, Zach Sather, Hallie Kobbermann, and Baylee Staton are headed to state to compete in Varsity Livestock Evaluation. This talented group (pictured above) will represent Benson at the state competition on April 20th and 21st. Congratulations to these students on their hard work and dedication!

Two more state-bound competitors include members of our Benson-KMS girls tennis team. Tara Beyer and Emily McGinty (pictured below) qualified for the Section 3A MSHSL State Tournament, where they competed on October 24th in Minneapolis. Congratulations to Tara and Emma!



CDL Course Opportunity

Tony Nelson from Ridgewater College met with students at Benson High School to share information about Ridgewater's CDL Knowledge and Theory Course. This course is now being offered to Benson students for just \$29! This is a course that is 100% online and prepares students to take the CDL written permit test, helping them take the first step toward a career in commercial driving. If your student is interested or has questions, please have them see Mr. Strand for more details!

Counselor's Corner



This fall has been full of exciting opportunities for our students! All juniors took the ASVAB test on September 17, helping them explore future career paths. Students also attended the College Fair in Morris and participated in college visits to Alexandria Technical College and Ridgewater College. October is Free Application Month for most Minnesota colleges — a great chance for seniors to start applying with waived fees!

Looking ahead, additional opportunities are planned for the spring, including the Benson Schools Career Fair on March 13th, where local businesses, colleges, and all branches of the military will be represented.



New Faces at BHS!

Benson Schools is excited to welcome several new teachers this year — including five Benson High School graduates returning to teach in their hometown! Joshua Manzke joins us as our 7-12 Life Science Teacher, Holly Erickson as our Art Teacher, Jason Madden as a Special Education Teacher, Natasha Mortenson, our part-time Agriculture Teacher, and Emma Ascherman as our Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor. We're also thrilled to welcome Kennedy Stromberg, our Band Director, and Dr. Rebecca Southern, our Biology Teacher.

