Benson High School Profile 2018-19
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Principal
Tom Wagner

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Benson Community
Benson is one of seven Omaha Public High Schools in a city of nearly a half a million people. Its 21 acre campus is located on the highest tract of land in Douglas County. Beginning in 1990, Benson was renovated to include new and up-to-date facilities in all areas of curriculum, activities and athletics. This massive renovation has provided greater opportunity for Benson to lead the way in quality education at a modern, attractive facility. Benson High is dedicated to high student achievement.

Significant Institutional Changes:
2006-2007: BHS instituted the 4x4 block schedule; all 9th grade teaming in English/U.S. History & Biology/Research Seminar
2007-2008: BHS became BHS Magnet Center for Academic Research & Innovation. Introduced AVID into the curriculum
2010-2011: Omaha Public Schools instituted Standards Based Education & Standards Based Grading
2011-2012: BHS changed to “A-B Block” schedule
2014-15: BHS established a Freshman academy with 9th graders teamed in English, math, social studies and magnet classes
2015-2016: BHS established wall-to-wall Career Academies in Business & Entrepreneurship, Construction & Design, and Health Professions with all 10-12 grade students teamed in English, social studies and academy classes
2016-17: BHS adds an AP Cohort to the Academy structure
2017-18: BHS expands Career Academy core class teaming with students teamed in English, social studies, math, science and academy classes
2018-19: BHS establishes the ELL Cohort and renames the Design Academy. OPS adds Personal Finance as a requirement for all graduating seniors.

Student Diversity
American Indian/Alaska Native ..................>1%
Asian ............................................. 20%
Black or African American .................... 36%
Caucasian ....................................... 22%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander .................... >1%
Hispanic/Latino ................................ 16%
Two or more races ................................ 5%
Approximate Student Enrollment .............. 1350

Grading System
BHS uses a Standards Based Education model grade scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Points</th>
<th>Academics</th>
<th>Honors/AP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 3.26 – 4.0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 2.51 – 3.25</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 1.76 – 2.50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D = 1.01 – 1.75</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = less than 1.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Rank
Class rank is computed at the end of each semester, based on the student’s overall grade point average. GPA is figured by dividing the total number of grade points by the number of credits attempted.

Graduation Requirements (1 semester = 1 credit)
English ...................................................... 8
Social Studies .......................................... 7
Mathematics ............................................. 6
Science ................................................... 6
Physical Education or JROTC ..................... 4
Human Growth and Development ................ 1
Personal Finance ...................................... 1
Electives ................................................. 17
Total Credits (minimum) ......................... 49

Curriculum
Benson High School is a comprehensive high school that provides 40 Honors and 16 AP courses to meet the interests and needs of all students.

Art – Honors Art 7/8, Honors Pottery 5/6, AP Studio Art 2-3, AP Studio Art 3-4
English – Honors Drama 3/4, 5/6; Honors English 1/2 & 3/4; Honors Advanced Newspaper Production 1/2, 3/4, 5/6; Honors Journalism, Honors Yearbook 1/2, 3/4, 5/6; AP English Lang & Comp, AP English Lit & Comp
Foreign Language – Honors French 5/6, Honors Spanish 5/6, 7/8; Honors Spanish for Spanish Speakers 3/4, AP Spanish Language
JROTC – Honors JROTC 5/6, 7/8
Math - Honors Algebra 1/2, 3/4; Honors Geometry, Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, AP Calculus, AP Statistics
Music - Honors Concert Band, Honors Concert Choir, Honors Jazz Band, Honors Orchestra, Honors Swing Choir, AP Music Theory
Science – Honors Anatomy & Physiology, Honors Medical Biology, Honors Medical Chemistry, Honors Physical Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics
Other – Honors Academic Decathlon