

# Celebrating a Modernized Benson Polytechnic High School



## Spring 2024 Project Update

Construction has entered the final stages, and the entire site is filled with activity. Finishing touches are ongoing in many parts of the campus. Display cabinets and lockers are being installed in hallways and technology is being placed in classrooms. New

furniture and manufacturing equipment for Benson Tech CTE programs is arriving and being moved into rooms. Meanwhile, final landscaping is underway. Everything is coming together for staff and students to return at the start of the 2024-25 school year.

## Design Highlights

- Historically significant universally accessible main entry with upgraded security and an enclosed vestibule.
- New, 2-story wings featuring co-located CTE and core academic learning spaces.
- CTE working courtyard featuring covered workspaces and an outdoor classroom.
- A centrally located student commons/ cafeteria connected to an enclosed courtyard that serves as the heart of the new school.
- Auditorium upgrade maintains historic character while adding the latest lighting and audio-visual technologies.
- New Community room to facilitate interaction with alumni, industry, & community partners
- Student flex areas for collaboration, small group work, and social interaction.
- An Alumni heritage room that will showcase some historical artifacts of the school illustrious history and serve as an intimate gathering space for Benson Tech Alumni

## Project Timeline

### SPRING 2019 - SUMMER 2021

#### Design & Permitting

Schematic Design / Design Development / Construction Documents / Permitting

### FALL 2021 - SUMMER 2024

#### Construction

Students and staff will temporarily relocate during construction.

### FALL 2024

#### Completion

Fully modernized Benson campus opens

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South Courtyard Entry with Solar Panels and Biology Lab Roof Deck

## Transforming Historic Benson Polytechnic

Construction began in the fall of 2021 to fully modernize Benson Polytechnic. The remodel includes a seismic retrofit of four historic buildings with complete health & safety upgrades. The large gym was upgraded as a Category IV emergency shelter, in partnership with Oregon's Seismic Retrofit Grant Program (SRGP).

Five all new buildings have been added that house state of the art career and technical education (CTE) learning spaces for the programs in construction, manufacturing, electrical, engineering, health occupations, digital media, computer science, automotive, and broadcasting.

The centrally located cafeteria/commons space is connected to an enclosed courtyard and is a new focal point for student life. This modernized campus will continue to inspire and engage future generations of diverse Portland students.

## Innovative Earth Friendly Building

The entire Benson Polytechnic campus is designed with sustainability in mind, natural daylight and increased energy efficiency significantly lowers the school's carbon footprint. Its large solar array is expected to provide about 314 MWh of renewable energy. Additionally, over 40 new trees have been planted to capture carbon and increase shade. The building will also greatly exceed the PPS standard of LEED Silver for remodeled buildings.

## Grand Opening Celebration

Please join us for the Grand Opening Ceremony of the fully modernized Benson Polytechnic High School on Saturday, September 14th, 2024, from 11am to 1pm. It will include a special Ribbon Cutting Ceremony followed by tours of the new campus.



For more information and updates please visit the Benson Modernization website <http://BensonBond.pps.net>