

For Immediate Release

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BENSON HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION LAUNCHES \$6.5 MILLION CAMPAIGN FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELDS AT GALLAGHER PARK

Omaha, Nebr. (March 11, 2025) The Benson High School Foundation is excited to unveil its ambitious plans to raise \$6.5 million for the development of new baseball and softball fields at Gallagher Park. This significant project will be announced at the Take Me Out to the Ballpark Luncheon on March 11 at 11:30 a.m. in the Wimbledon Room at Happy Hollow Club.

The Foundation has been working in collaboration with Matt Kalcevich, Director of the Omaha Parks and Recreation Department, and John Krogstrand, Director of Omaha Public Schools Athletics, to bring this vision to life. This public-private partnership will play a crucial role in expanding athletic facilities for both Benson High School and the wider Omaha community.

"Increasing access to quality athletic facilities is vital for Benson students and the surrounding community," said Paul Brown, President of the Benson High School Foundation. "This project represents a major step forward in providing opportunities for our student-athletes and ensuring Benson High School has the resources needed to compete at the highest level. We are thrilled to launch this campaign and look forward to the impact it will have for generations to come."

In just four years of operation, the Benson High School Foundation has already achieved remarkable milestones, including:

- Constructing four new lighted, professional-quality tennis courts for school and community use
- Laying the groundwork for the Benson Community Health Center at Benson High School
- Establishing a memory garden adjacent to the Health Center entrance
- Providing ongoing support for faculty and staff to enhance academic and extracurricular programs

Currently, Benson High School is the only Omaha Public School institution without a baseball field, and there are no regulation city baseball fields for public use north of Dodge Street and east of 72nd Street – except for Fontenelle Park, which serves as North High School's home field. The new Gallagher Park fields will address this critical gap, providing much needed resources for student athletes and the Omaha community at large.

The Benson High School Foundation invites community leaders, alumni, and supporters to join the effort in making this vision a reality. For more information, visit bensonhighschoolfoundation.org.

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About Benson High School Foundation

The Omaha Benson High School Foundation is dedicated to enriching educational opportunities, supporting educators, and strengthening the bond between alumni, the school, and the community. Committed to preserving the school's rich history and traditions, the Foundation provides essential funding for scholarships that help teachers further their education, classroom grants that bring innovative teaching ideas to life, extracurricular activities that enhance the student experience, and facility improvements that create a safe and modern learning environment.

Website: <u>bensonhighschoolfoundation.org</u>

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