

Welcome Class of 2027 Parents!

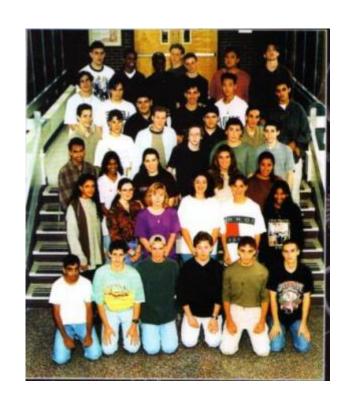


The Record

NORTH JERSEY'S TRUSTED SOURCE

August 18, 1992

When Bergen County's new magnet school opened its doors yesterday, it marked the start not only of the fall semester for 52 gifted freshmen, but also of a bold experiment in public education in New Jersey.







Bergen County Academies Celebrating over 30 Years of Excellence

Campus Admin Team



Russell Davis Principal



Dr. Raymond Bath Vice Principal



Giulia Zannoni-Mendelsohn Supervisor



Michelle Pinke Supervisor



Paul Kaser Lead Teacher



Nancy Sousa Lead Counselor



Bryan Respass Lead Teacher



William Hodroski Lead Teacher

We're here for you...





Our Teachers



Over 70% of our Teachers have taught at BCA for more than 10 years.

The Bergen County Academies serves students from all 70 towns in Bergen County

Our goal of orientation is to make *every* student feel welcome and part of our unique school community







BCA is a unique learning environment













Providing amazing opportunities for students



A Parent's Dream

- 1. Child gets accepted to BCA
- 2. Child gets all A's at BCA
- 3. Child gets accepted to an Ivy League College / University

The BCA Experience

- 1. Student is accepted to BCA
- 2. Student is academically challenged at BCA
- 3. Student explores a myriad of interests and opportunities
- 4. Student earns "real world" internship experience
- 5. Student is well prepared for college and beyond

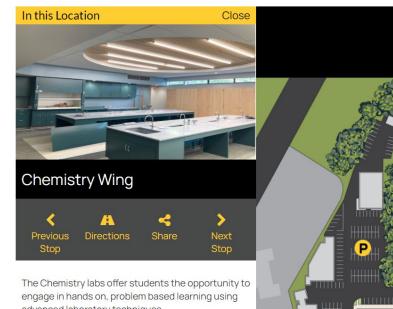
Tonight's Goal

Helping your child make a positive transition to BCA

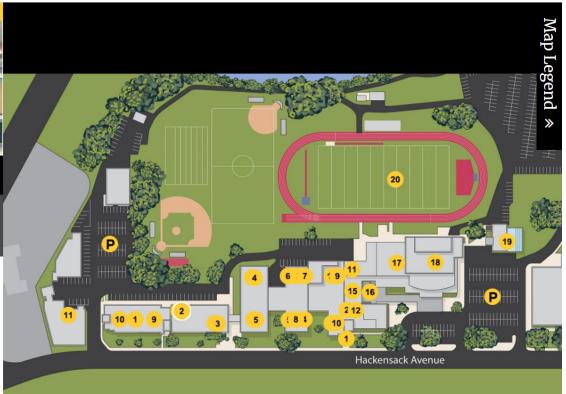
- 9th Grade Orientation
- School Safety
- Campus Overview
- Student Handbook
- Academics
- Technology
- Parent Partnership Organization



BCA Virtual Tour is available online



advanced laboratory techniques.



https://www.bergen.org/domain/733



CAMPUS OVERVIEW DR. RAYMOND BATH, VICE PRINCIPAL



BCA Freshman Orientation by SPARK

What to bring to orientation...

- Enthusiasm and energy
- No laptop or computer needed during orientation
- Bring food for money for lunch (\$5.25)
- Remember what bus company handles your route



S.P.A.R.K.

Sharing Perspectives Among Real Kids

Jisae Son – Senior ACAHA Jamie Lim – Senior AMST



BCA Freshman Orientation by SPARK

- Icebreakers
- Guidance Seminar
- School Tour / ScheduleTour
- Lockers
- Academy Q & A
- Introduction

- Letter writing to their future selves
- Anti Bullying Activity
- PowerSchool & Schoology
- Fun Time / Contact Exchange
- Review Club Getaway Trip
- SPARK Q & A
- Bus Dismissal procedures



Dining Services

Scott Kallensee | Director of Dining Services 201-343-6000 Ext. 2260









https://www.bergen.org/domain/554



Chartwells Dining Services



- Creating a Payschools Account
- · Apply for free meals on-line-general info
- Apply for free meals on-line instructions
- Apply for free meals on-line instructions Spanish
- Cashless instructions-English
- Cashless instructions-Spanish

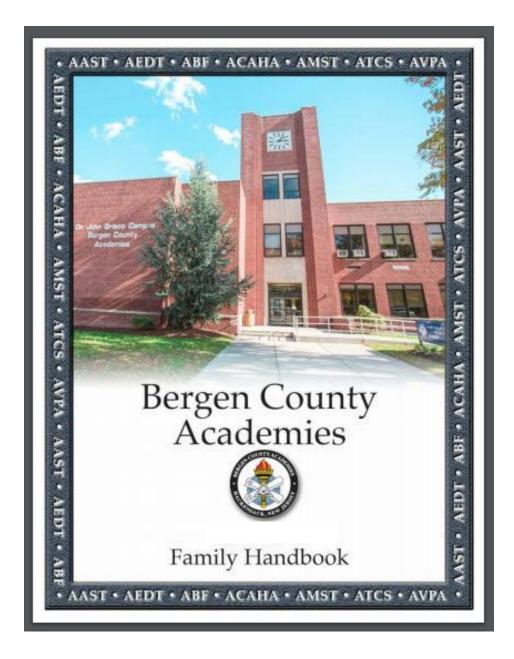


Scott Kallensee
Dining Services Director
scott.kallensee@compass-usa.com

Free Lunch Application Packet (English)

- Letter to Parent-English
- School Lunch Application
- School Lunch Application Instructions
- Sharing Information Form





Information on: **Academics** Guidance **Faculty Directory** Daily Schedule **Student Expectations Health Office Activities & Clubs**

Welcome Class of 2027

- This year we accepted 283 out of over 1800 applicants
- We could not accept all qualified applicants
- Therefore, it is our belief that attending the Bergen County Academies is a privilege



What can students do to ensure their success at school and avoid disciplinary consequences?

- 1. Be on time for school and classes.
- 2. Stay on campus
- 3. To wear their student I.D. at all times
- 4. Eat or drink only in the cafeterias.
- 5. Treat everyone with respect.
- 6. Use their free time wisely.
- 7. Wear clothing appropriate for an academic setting



HIB

Information on Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying

Our District is committed to raising your child's awareness and sensitivity to the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights through a variety of district-wide activities developed by their Anti Bullying Specialist to reinforce a positive school climate.

As parents/guardians, your role is essential to assist us with implementing the law. As a result, it is vital for you, as well as your child, to comprehend what constitutes the definition of harassment, intimidation and bullying, the consequences for this behavior and your rights as parents.

The New Jersey Department of Education has created multiple tutorials for parents to augment their understanding and implementation of the law. They may be accessed at *Keeping Our Kids Safe, Healthy and in School* website: http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib/tutorials/ for online tutorials.

Anti-Bullying Specialist Nancy Sytsma nansyt@bergen.org



The majority of HIB incidents takes place on campus

False

We find bullying and harassment takes place mostly on social media in chat rooms, text messages etc.



TRANSPORTATION, TECHNOLOGY & SAFETY

MRS. GIULIA MENDELSOHN



Transportation

We prefer that students take the school bus to and from school each day. (45 buses rather than 1100 cars)

What current students say...

- Taking the bus is a good way to meet new friends
- The bus arrives to BCA early giving me time to prep
- Learning to take the bus is a life skill
- Parents want to drive us, but we're fine taking the bus
- •If you choose to drop off your child in the morning, please do so after 7:20 a.m. Supervision of students begins at 7:20 a.m.





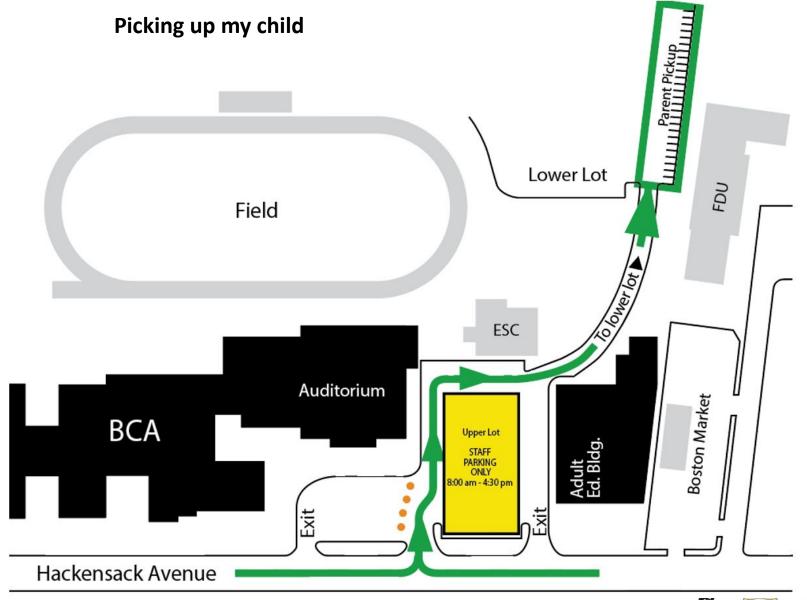
Picking up my child

If you choose to pick up your child after school, please do so after 4:30 p.m.

Question – Why am I being directed to the lower lot to pick up my child before 4:30 p.m.?

Answer – Student Safety



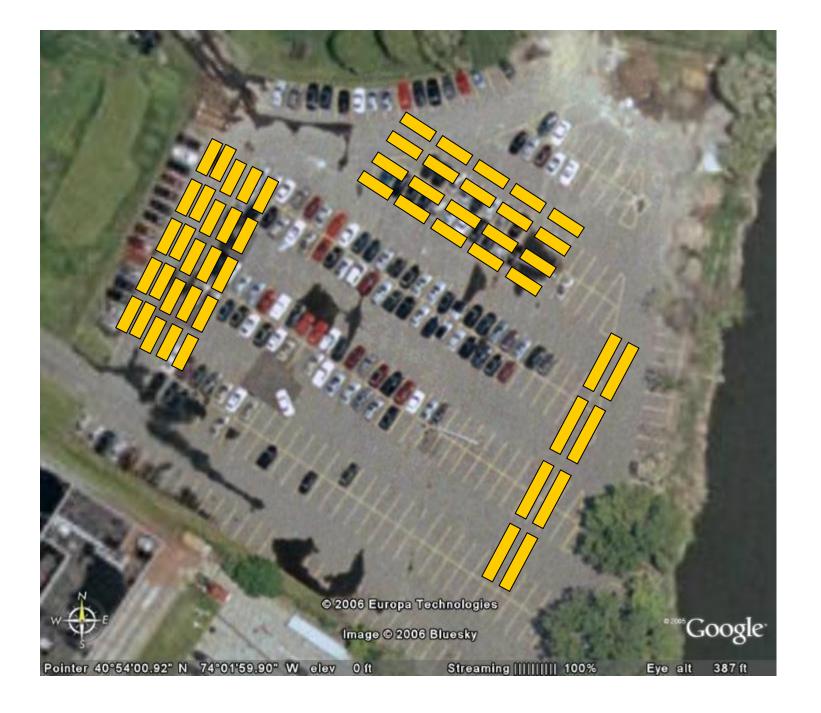




Picking your child up after 4:30 pm = Less stress for you







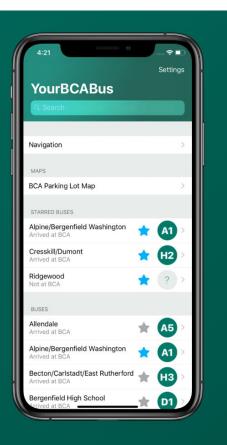
It's your BCA bus.

Android beta available now.

Enough with having to constantly refresh MyBCABus. Enough with staring at your phone, wondering when your BCA bus will arrive. Say hello to the future of BCA bussing.

Web App iOS Ap

Android Beta





Bergen County Academies



Allendale Not on location	† ?	Alpine/Bergenfield Not on location	† ?	Becton/Carlstadt/East Rutherford/Wood Ridge Not on location	ήr	?
Cliffside Park/Fairview/Pal Park Not on location	* ?	Closter/Demarest Not on location	* ?	Cresskill/Dumont Not on location	ήr	?
Elmwood Park Not on location	★ ?	Emerson/Oradell/River Edge Not on location	★ ?	Englewood Not on location	ń	?
Englewood Cliffs Not on location	* ?	Fair Lawn Not on location	* ?	Fort Lee Not on location	ήr	?
Franklin Lakes/Wyckoff BA10 Not on location	* ?	Franklin Lakes/Wyckoff BA9 Not on location	* ?	Garfield Not on location	π	?
Glen Rock Not on location	* ?	Harrington Park/Haworth Not on location	★ ?	Hasbrouck Heights/Rochelle Park Not on location	ήr	?
Hillsdale/River Vale Not on location	* ?	Hohokus Not on location	★ ?	Leonia/Edgewater Not on location	ŵ	?
Lodi/Saddle Brook Not on location	* ?	Mahwah East Not on location	* ?	Mahwah West Not on location	rk	?
Maywood Not on location	* ?	Midland Park/Waldwick Not on location	* ?	Montvale Not on location	ήr	?
Moonachie/So Hackensack/Bogota Not on location	† ?	New Milford Not on location	† ?	North Arlington/Lyndhurst Not on location	str	?
Northvale/Old Tappan/Norwood Not on location	† ?	Oakland/Fr Lakes/Wyck BA8 Not on location	† ?	Paramus East Not on location	÷	?
Paramus West Not on location	* ?	Park Ridge/Woodcliff Lake/Hillsdale Not on location	★ ?	Ramsey Not on location	ήr	?
Ridgefield Not on location	* ?	Ridgefield Park/Little Ferry Not on location	★ ?	Ridgewood Not on location	str	?
Rutherford/Wallington Not on location	₩ ?	Saddle River Not on location	★ ?	Teaneck Not on location	rk	?
Tenafly Not on location	† ?	Upper Saddle River	† ?	Washington Township/Westwood	n	?

45 Buses – 1 Great student app



Technology





<u>PowerSchool</u> is our web-based Student Information System. It facilitates communication about students' performance, academic schedules and grades among students, faculty members and parents.

<u>Schoology</u> is our School Management System. It functions similarly to Google Classroom but provides a better integration with PowerSchool.

Student PowerSchool and Schoology accounts

- Parents can create Parent Accounts in both PowerSchool and Schoology.
 Parents should have received a letter with instructions on how to create a PowerSchool and a Schoology parent account.
- Students will receive their Single Sign In credentials during freshman orientation. The credentials are used to access student PowerSchool, Schoology and email accounts.
- Your student will be coached by SPARK students on these platforms during Freshman Orientation.
- Should you or your child experience any issue with their Single Sign In credentials, please email <u>Bcaportalsupport@bergen.org</u> for a quick response.

E-collect PowerSchool District Forms due by August 31st Required online Forms – click "Yes"

Status	Form Name	Form Description	Category	Last Entr
Empty	MARQUEE FORM	Marquee Form	REQUIRED FORMS	
_ Empty	MILITARY- COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY- PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS	Parental Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters, College/University Recruiters or Prospective Employers	REQUIRED FORMS	
Empty	NETIQUETTE AND COMPUTER SECURITY POLICY FORM	Netiquette and Computer Security Policy Form	REQUIRED FORMS	
Empty	NJSMART REQUIRED INFORMATION FORM	Required information for NJSMART for SID Management	REQUIRED FORMS	
Empty	PHOTO MEDIA VIDEO CONSENT FORM	Photo Media Video consent form.	REQUIRED FORMS	
Empty	STUDENT PICK UP AUTHORIZATION FORM	Student Pick Up Authorization Form (other than parents/guardian)	REQUIRED FORMS	
Empty	WEB SITE CONSENT FORM	Web Site Consent Form - Bill A592	REQUIRED FORMS	

Personal Device



- Students and teachers use a variety of PC's, Macs, iPads, Laptops, ChromeBooks, etc.
- Loaner laptops are available on a daily, weekly or monthly basis through our College Center.
- Please contact me at <u>bcaloan@bergen.org</u> should you wish to request a school issued laptop loaner.
- Please contact the <u>Bcaportalsupport@bergen.org</u> for issues with PowerSchool, Schoology, or email accounts.

Campus Safety & Security



Campus Safety & Security

The safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

We work closely with the following agencies to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff

Bergen County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff's Officer assigned daily to the campus

Bergen County Security

Two Security Guards assigned daily to the campus

Hackensack Fire Department

Responds to all fire emergencies

Bergen County Office of Emergency Management

Provide support as needed









BUILDING SAFETY

Main goal: to maintain all entrances locked and secured at all times. All safety professionals agree on this.

Students:

- 1. To enter exclusively through the main entrance
- 2. To not prop exterior doors open
- 3. To not open exterior doors for anyone
- 4. To wear their student I.D. at all times

Monthly Safety and Fire Drills

- One safety and one fire drill each month
- Students are trained in grade level meetings on what to do during drills and practice every month
- Our main objectives are to practice:
- 1. How to evacuate the building in a swift and orderly manner
- 2. How to regroup in the back of the building
- 3. How to shelter in place
- 4. How to lock down

Parents will receive an email after each monthly safety drill.

Visitor's Procedures

With the objective of keeping our building safe, we monitor the access to our school building. When coming to BCA for any meeting, please follow these procedures:

- Make an appointment in advance.
- Announce the reason of your visit at the main entrance.
- Once you are allowed in, sign the visitor log.
- Place a visitor sticker in a visible area.
- Wait for the staff member to meet you at the entrance.
- At the end of your visit, please sign the visitor log.
- Exit the building from the main entrance.

Early Pick Up Procedures

- •Enter the building (following the procedure we described).
- Inform the secretaries in the main office who you are and the reason of your child's early dismissal.
- Wait for your child in the lobby.
- The student's ID will be scanned in the main office by secretary.
- It is mandatory that students are signed out by their parents.

Object drop off: supplies, lunch and miscellaneous non valuables.

- Please place these objects in the cabinet in the vestibule in the main entrance and inform your child to pick it up during their free time.
- Please drop off valuables inside the main office.

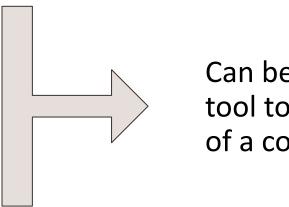
Keep your child safe - Social Media

Social media platforms are very attractive to teens and are here to stay. Teens use social media to

- Develop friendships
- Develop their identity
- Establish themselves within a community

Our students use apps like

- Snapchat
- Instagram
- TikTok
- WhatsApp
- Kik
- Tumblr
- Discord

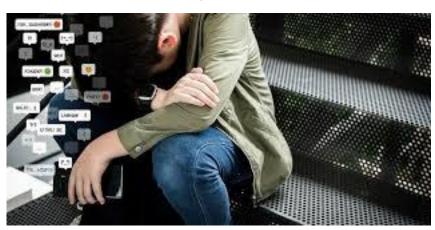


Can be a useful tool to be part of a community

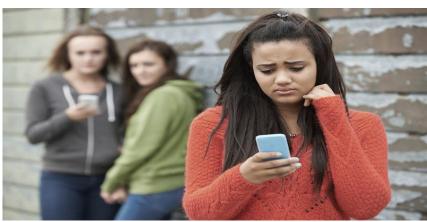
or it can become a powerful tool to ostracize and bully others.

THEN NOW









How is this different?

- The frequency: teens are more likely to say something harmful online than in person
- The scale: what used to be observed by a few, is now witnessed by hundreds
- The indelible online presence: these exchanges and online conversations may be reproduced and reshared, screenshot or recorded.

What can I do?

Talk to your child periodically about how to use social media responsibly

Social Media Instagram

- @bca.stuco supported by the BCA Student Council
- @bcafrosh2027 Group chat with other freshmen and Student Council members. Ask questions and socialize.

Both of these accounts are a great way for incoming freshmen to learn more about the BCA community.

ACADEMICS & SCHEDULE

MRS. MICHELLE PINKE SUPERVISOR OF ACADEMICS



Period Schedule

7	74	h
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l		

1	8:00 AM	8:50 AM
IGS	8:54 AM	8:58 AM
2	9:02 AM	9:52 AM
3	9:56 AM	10:46 AM
Lunch 4	10:50 AM	11:40 AM
5	11:44 AM	12:34 PM
6	12:38 PM	1:28 PM
7	1:32 PM	2:22 PM
8	2:26 PM	3:16 PM
Electives/ Sports/ Clubs 9	3:20 PM	4:10 PM



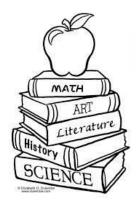
Ninth Grade Courses

Core Courses:

- Academy/Career Focus
- American Literature I
- Art Fundamentals
- Health & Physical Education
- Math
- Science
- World History I
- World Language

Elective (trimester long)

School Counseling Seminar/Projects





Sample Schedule

Day	1	HR	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
M O N D A	Academy Focus Course	~IGS	World Language	Science	~Lunch	~Art Fundamentals	World History I	Math	~Study Hall	Elective
T U E S D A	Academy Focus Course	~IGS	World Language	Science	~Lunch	~PE & Health	World History I	Math	Amer Lit I	~Study Hall
W E D N E S D A	Academy Focus Course	~IG S	Guidence Seminar	~Study Hall	~Lunch	~Art Fundamentals	World History I	Math	Amer Lit I	~Clubs
T H U R S D A	~Study Hall	~IGS	World Language	Science	~Lunch	~PE & Health	World History I	Math	Amer Lit I	Elective
F R I D A	Academy Focus Course	~IGS	World Language	Science	~Lunch	~PE & Health	World History I	Math	Amer Lit I	~Study Hall





Opportunities & Exploration

Research

- Agriscience Research
- Cell Biology Research
- Chemistry/ Nanotechnology
- Electrical Engineering Research
- Mathematics Research
- Mechatronics Research Lab
- Optics Research

Programs

- Bloomberg Markets Concepts Certification
- Concert Choir
- Music Ensembles
- Theatre Productions





Academic Calendar

2023 -2024 Academic Terms			
Term	Begin	End	
Trimester One	September 7, 2023	December 6, 2023	
Trimester Two	December 7, 2023	March 13, 2024	
Trimester Three	March 14, 2024	June 14, 2024	
Semester One	September 7, 2023	January 26, 2024	
Semester Two	January 29, 2024	June 14, 2024	





Minimal Days

BCTS Student Abbreviated Days — 2023-2024 School Calendar

Bergen County Academies, Hackensack (including Adult Ed as noted	d "*")
*District Staff Development	Friday, September 22, 2023
Back-to-School Night	Thursday, October 5, 2023
*District Staff Development	
*Before Thanksgiving Recess	Wednesday, November 22, 2023
Building Staff Development	Friday, December 8, 2023
*Before Winter Recess	Friday, December 22, 2023
Admissions	Wednesday, January 17, 2024
District Staff Development	Thursday, February 15, 2024
Admissions	Tuesday, March 5, 2024
Admissions	
Professional Development/Advisory Board	Tuesday, April 9, 2024
*Building Staff Development	
End of Year Procedures	Mon-Thu, June 17-20, 2024
Graduation/Last day for Students	Monday, June 24, 2024



September Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
4 School Closed for Labor Day	5	6 Club Getaway	7 Club Getaway	8 Club Getaway	
11 First Day of classes for 9th Graders	12	13 Guidance Seminar Begins Clubs Assembly	14	15	
18 Convocation Assembly	19	20	21 Picture Day	Minimum Day Picture Day School Wide Assembly	
25 School Closed for Yom Kippur	26	27	28	29	



Academic Portals



PowerSchool



Schoology



Naviance





Grade Point Average (GPA)



Unweighted 4.0 scale
Calculated once per year, after all grades are final
Credit hours determine course impact on GPA
Courses with a "~" in front of the name show on
transcript but are not included in GPA

BCA does not rank students





How should my child get help or resolve an issue they are having in a class?

1. Work with their teacher.

- 2. If not resolved at step one, students should involve their school counselor.
- 3. If an issue is not resolved after working with their teacher and school counselor, contact the Lead Counselor, Mrs. Nancy Sousa or the Supervisor of Academics, Mrs. Michelle Pinke.



Academic Support



Academic support is offered via:

Teacher extra help

Peer tutoring



Time Management



Students report that they need find what works for them

Schoology is NOT a planner

This is a rigorous school but workload should be manageable for students

Make time for other things















How can parents help?

Assume everyone has positive intentions and wants to see your child succeed



How can parents help?



Manage your expectations in light of the transition to a different type of school





How can parents help?

Remember why your child came to BCA



Our ongoing commitment to Mental Health & Wellness

Dania Paula - School Psychologist



A little bit about me:

- Big Move!
 - I was raised in New York and worked in Westchester County, NY for about 6 years.
 - Four years ago I moved to NJ and was commuting back and forth between NJ to NY, then decided to make the move to NJ.
- I began my career at Binghamton University where I received my Bachelors Degree in Psychology. Then I attended Long Island University and received my Masters Degree in School Psychology.
- Originally, became interested in this field to advocate for students and their needs.

My role at BCA:

What do I do?

- Support students with disabilities.
 - Case manager for students with IEP and 504 Plans
 - Help families navigate how to access services
- Support students emotionally and behaviorally.
 - Stress management
 - Time management
 - Coping strategies
 - Interpersonal skills
- Crisis Management
 - Tough days



A BCA TRADITION RETURNS!

Get to know your friends for the next four years through Ropes Courses, Archery, Hiking, Campfires, Games, Entertainment and Activities!

There will be no freshman classes held at BCA on these days

Includes roundtrip coach bus transportation, two nights accommodations in shared bunk cabins, seven all-you-care-to-eat meals, evening snacks, activities, and evening entertainment.

Over 75% of the Class of 2027 have already registered for this program!

Final Registration Deadline: Thursday, 8/31/23 3pm, through CommunityPass

Email Mr. Hodroski (wilhod@bergen.org) with ANY questions



Wednesday to Friday
Sept. 6th – Sept. 8th
Location: Club Getaway, Kent, CT





BCAPPO

The Bergen County Academies
Parent Partnership Organization



My SAF Account

WELCOME

ABOUT

ACADEMY GROUPS

BCA MERCH

CONTACT

RESOURCES

PHOTOS

Welcome to the BCA PPO!

We hope that our website will help you stay informed and connected to the BCA community. Since we are continuously working on improving our site and the information we offer, please come back often and never be shy to ask for more information or to comment on what you see. We truly appreciate your feedback.

bcappopres@gmail.com

Announcements & Upcoming PPO Events

Full Calendar of PPO Events

Valeriya Avdeev, President
Parent Partnership Organization
academyppo.com



Class of 2027 Parent Orientation

August 29, 2023 7pm



Class of 2027 Parent Orientation

August 29, 2023 7pm

Class of 2027 Welcome!

Welcome back!

- Website: Please visit our website <u>www.bcappo.com</u> to stay up to date on all the amazing and unique opportunities our school has to offer.
- MTK: Also, please take the time to sign up for Membership Toolkit (MTK) as it is an essential tool for us to stay connected with our families and collect student activity fee (SAF).
- Volunteering: If you would like to get involved, we welcome your interest. Please contact us at bcappopres@gmail.com





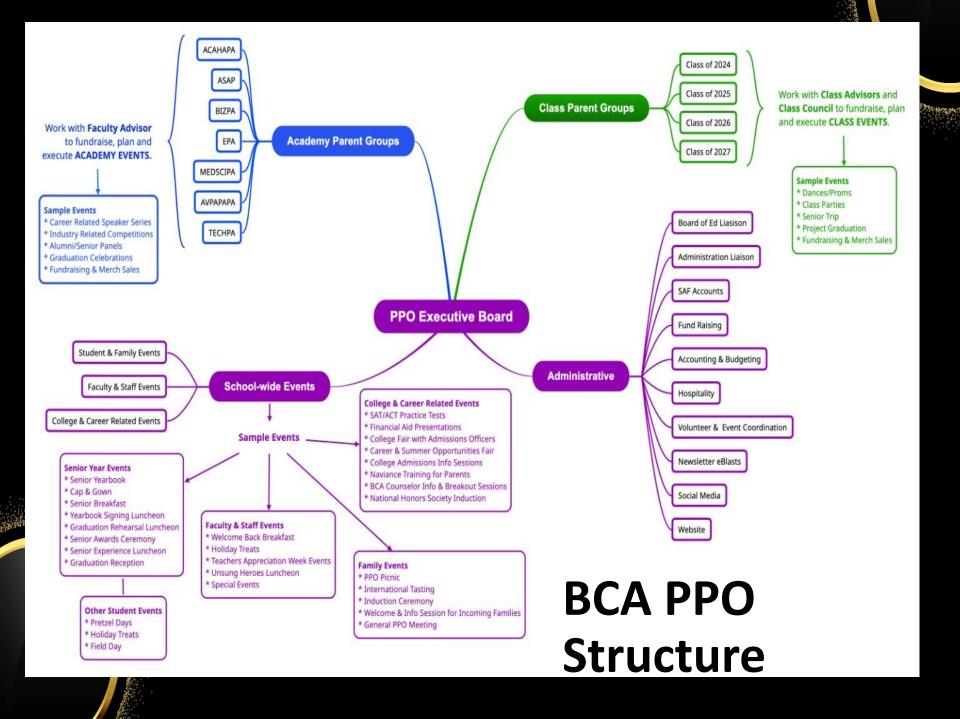
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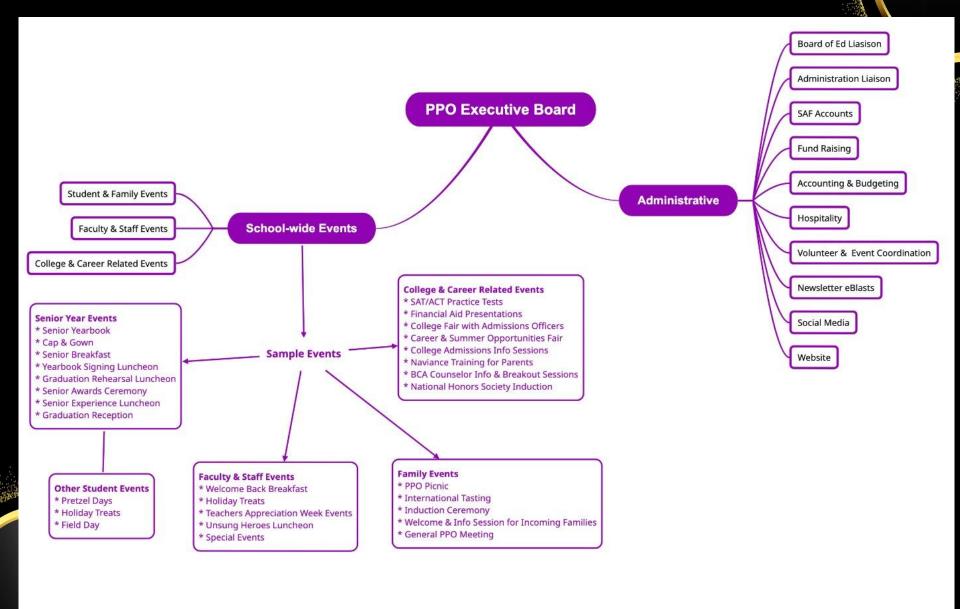


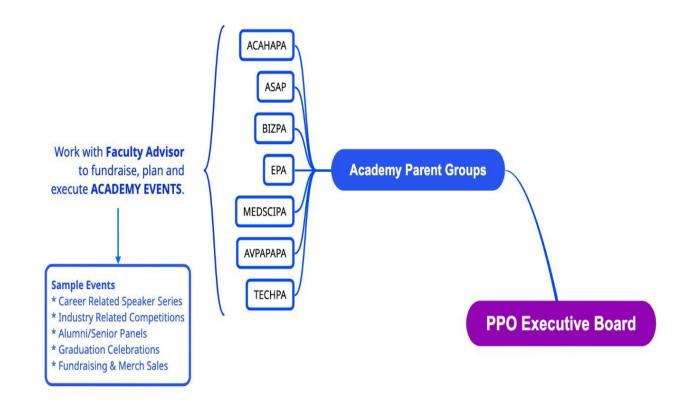


BCA PPO Mission

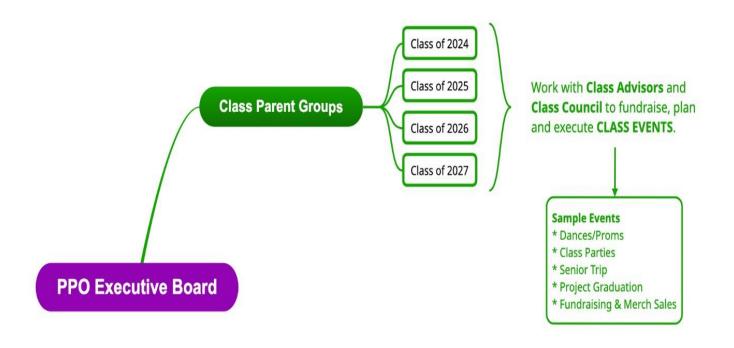
The PPO works with the Administration, Faculty Advisors, and Student Council to enhance the lives of BCA students and to build community within the BCA Family.



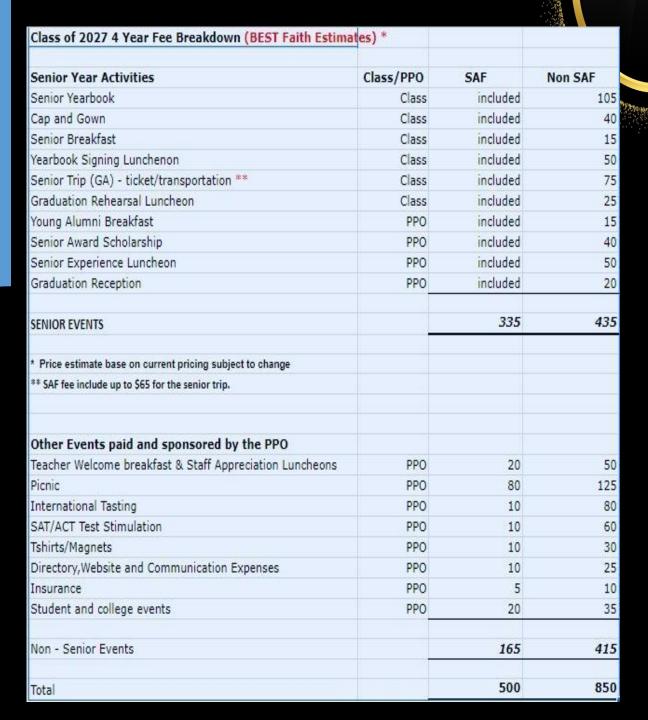




BCA PPO Structure – Class Parents



2027 SAF Breakdown



Student Activity Fee Allocation

- \$500 student activities fee for 4 years
- \$335 used for senior events
- With most of the fee allocated to senior year, the remaining balance amounts to \$41 per year per student (assuming everyone contributes)
- Over 70% of the Class of 2027 families have paid SAF so far - it makes it easier for us to plan

List of Events – September, as example

- Napkin Folding event
- Incoming class parent PPO orientation (gym)
- Teachers Welcome Back Breakfast
- Students Welcome Back Treat
- Senior Breakfast
- PPO general meeting with guidance counselor's breakout session

List of Events – October, as example

- Practice SAT test session
- Practice ACT test session
- College Financial Aid presentation
- Senior Parents Panel
- Halloween Treats

2027 SAF – Ways to Pay



BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES PARENT PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZATION

WAYS TO PAY





Payable to Academy PPO

Mail to Valeriya Avdeev 27-15 Berkshire Rd Fair Lawn, NJ 07410



PayPal

Zelle

Check

MTK

academyppotreasurer@gmail.com

Your BCAPPO Executive Board

Valeryia Avdeev (2024), Julie Chan (2025), Jin Lewis (2025), Sophia Li (2025), Piri von Gordon (2024) You can also reach us by email at bcappopres@gmail.com in case you have any questions.

Ways to Stay in Touch



BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES PARENT PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZATION

WAYS TO STAY INFORMED & CONNECTED









BCA PPO Website

BCA PPO Facebook

Class of 2027 Facebook Class of 2027 WhatsApp

Your BCAPPO Executive Board

Valeryia Avdeev (2024), Julie Chan (2025), Jin Lewis (2025), Sophia Li (2025), Piri von Gordon (2024) You can also reach us by email at bcappopres@gmail.com in case you have any questions.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on 9/19, General **PPO Meeting** with Guidance **Counselors Breakout Sessions at** 6:30pm

If you paid your SAF, please remember to pick up your Class of 2027 t-shirt!





We look forward to working with you and your child

Questions?