

BCA

Seven Academies – One Great School

Welcome BCA Class of 2022
Freshman Parent Orientation



Our Administrative Team

Russell Davis
Principal

Dr. Raymond Bath
Vice Principal

Giulia Zanoni-Mendelsohn
Supervisor

Michelle Pinke
Supervisor

**Helping your child make
a positive transition to BCA**

Helping your child make a positive transition to BCA

- Freshman Orientation
- Safety
- Campus Overview
- Strategies for Success
- Club Getaway
- Parent Partnership Organization

Freshman Orientation

Students may bring their own lunch or purchase lunch for \$4 during Orientation

Busses are asked pick your child up 30 minutes later than designated time for normal school year. (Handled by your District)

Yearbook Photos will be taken on Thursday

S.P.A.R.K. Members assist in leading orientation
Sharing Perspectives Among Real Kids

S.P.A.R.K.

Sharing perspectives Among Real Kids

Freshman Orientation by SPARK

- **Wednesday**

- Icebreakers
- Guidance
- Administration
- Letters to Senior year selves
- Lunch
- HIB
- Bus Info

- **Thursday**

- Guidance
- Schedule Run
- Icebreakers
- Lunch
- Yearbook Photos
- “Wrap Up”

CAMPUS OVERVIEW

DR. RAYMOND BATH

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

Student Code of Conduct

- It is our utmost priority to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for all BCA students. In an effort to support this type of environment, we ask that parents review the following behavioral guidelines with their children:
- Students must report to IGS by 8:00 am and remain on campus until 4:10 pm regardless of class schedule.
- Lateness to school will be marked as excused only by presenting a doctor's note or religious obligations.
- A parent or guardian must be present in the office when signing their child out early.
- On delayed opening days, students using transportation other than the school bus, will have access to the school building starting at 9:00 am.

Student Code of Conduct (cont'd)

- While in the hallways during unscheduled time, students will maintain a moderate noise level, refrain from eating, drinking and talking on the phone. Furthermore, students will sit up and avoid blocking the flow of foot traffic in the hallways.
- Students will refrain from propping exterior doors open with objects and from opening exterior doors for any individual. All visitors, staff and students must enter the building through the main entrance at all times.
- Students are not allowed to sit in the stairwells either on the platforms or under the stairs.
- Students are required to carry their student ID at all times while on campus or engaged in school sponsored extracurricular activities.
- BCA is a drug, alcohol, smoking and vaping free environment.

I acknowledge that my child and I have read the Bergen County Academies Student Handbook in its entirety.

The importance of good behavior during high school years...

The Common Application used by many colleges and universities asks about your disciplinary history from grades 9-12. Therefore, it is imperative that while working to achieve personal academic goals, students are mindful of the consequences of inappropriate behavior.

The Common Application asks “Have you ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at an educational institution you have attended from 9th grade forward, whether related to academic misconduct or behavioral misconduct that resulted in your probation, suspension, removal, dismissal, or expulsion from the institution?” It is our expectation that the answer to this question for all Academy students would be “No.”

Dining Services

- Students may eat in both Cafeterias from 10:45 am – 1:00 p.m.
- Variety of Hot & Cold lunches available. Salads, soup etc.
- Standard lunch is approximately \$4.00
- Ala carte meals are slightly more
- Also open for breakfast daily at 7:00 a.m. bagels, yogurt, etc.

BCA Dining Services

PayForIt.net

Payments can be made by credit card (Visa, MC or Discover) or ACH (electronic checking) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at the parents' convenience. It is recommended to pay 24 hours in advance.

Payforit Apps for both iPhone and Android are available to allow parents to both make payments and view transaction details and balances via their mobile devices. Please visit the App Store or Google Play and search for "Payforit".

Morning Drop Off

Over 50 buses arrive daily
between 7:20 am & 7:45 am

Over two hundred (200)
students are dropped off by
their parents between 7:20 am
& 7:45 am

Make sure to pull up at the
furthest available spot in front of
the auditorium. This will ease
congestion and prevent backups
on Hackensack Ave.

Delayed School Openings

School starts at 9:30 am
Do not drive your child to
school earlier than 9:00 am

Half Day or Afternoon Pick Up

Pick your child up 30 minutes
after school ends.

(Much less traffic)

Bus Departure Information

- 53 busses depart each day
- Information about Buses
 - Students **should** know:
 - Their bus company (First Student, Leckie, etc)
 - Their route number if possible
 - Upperclassmen who are on their bus

Automated Bus Departure Information

- Students can find the location of their bus by...
 - viewing the TV monitors inside the school
 - MyBCAbus.com (indicates the specific location of your child's bus each day)

Reporting an absence

- Parents should call the main office to report an absence as early as possible.
- Any student with 10 or more absences for any reason (except religious holidays and suspension, may lose course credit.)
- Moving to Safe Arrival (automated system) in the Fall

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

TECHNOLOGY

MRS. GIULIA MENDELSON

Technology on Campus

- Wi-Fi is available throughout the campus
- Students will receive their login during Orientation
 - Accounts will be activated once online forms have been submitted.
- If your child brings in their own device they must register it with our Technology department. (Room 170)
- Students and teachers use a variety of PC's, Macs, iPads, Laptops, Chrome books, etc.
- Loaner laptops are available on a daily. Weekly or monthly basis through our technology department.

Required online Forms

Netiquette & Computer Security Policy

Provides access to Bergen Net and indicates guidelines for network and computer use – copyright, appropriate material, etc.

Parent / Guardian Photo/Media/Video Consent Form

I/We grant permission for this student's image to be published

Brochures, Newspapers, Magazines etc.

(no identifying information included)

Website Consent form

I/We grant permission for this student's image to be published on our website (no identifying information included)

Code of Conduct form

I/We have reviewed the Student Handbook with my child

Please click Yes or Agree

CAMPUS SAFETY

Campus Safety

- Video surveillance throughout the campus.
- School Resource Officer assigned to the District
- Bergen County Sheriff's Department
- Two security guards (am & pm)
- Direct communication with Bergen County Sheriff's Department.

Campus Safety

- Safety Drills
 - Different types of drills are practiced each month.
 - (Shelter in Place, Lockdown, Bus Evacuation etc.)
 - All students and visitors must follow the safety directions of teachers and staff.
 - In the event of an actual incident parents will be notified by text message.
 - Parents should not attempt to come to the school during an active incident.

Campus Safety

- Students can assist in keeping everyone safe.
- Students are not permitted to leave campus during the school day.
- All doors are to remain locked.
- All visitors should be directed to the main entrance.
- Students should not open outside doors for anyone.
- Students should carry their ID with them at all times.

Health Services

- Full time nurse - Mrs. Laura Hynes & Student EMT Response Team The Nurse's office is located on the 2nd floor
 - The nurse must be informed of any medication that your child brings to school (prescription or over the counter)
 - Please discuss any medical concerns with Mrs. Hynes ext. 2254

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

MRS. MICHELLE PINKE

The Big Picture

- Remember why you and your child made the decision to come to the this school.
- Let this guide your expectations, decisions, and reactions during your time here.

Challenge

- This is a rigorous school designed to challenge your child.
 - This may be a new experience for your child.
 - They must find time management strategies that work.
 - They must come to class prepared and be engaged during class time.
 - They must avail themselves to teachers when they have questions or need extra help.

Time Management

- They must use a planner to schedule their tasks.
- Students must balance screen time with their other activities.
- Phones and computers are a resource but a lot of their work is best done offline.
- A quick text “costs” more than a few seconds of focus time.

A Typical 9th Grade Schedule

Unscheduled Time

- Lunch needs to be a time to nourish, rest and recharge.
- Other unscheduled time should be used wisely.
 - Find a quiet place to study
 - Meet with a teacher
 - Do your homework
 - Work on projects

Being Prepared Requires Sleep

- Teenagers 13 to 18 years of age should sleep at least 8 hours per night.
- Improved attention, behavior, learning, memory, emotional regulation.
- All screens off 30 minutes before bedtime and that TV, computers and other screens not be allowed in children's bedrooms.

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics

Teachers and Counselors are Available

Competition

- Students should be striving for their personal best.

Making the Adjustment

- This will be an adjustment, plan to revisit your calendar often in the next few weeks to discuss what is working and what is not.
- Communicate with your child – ask opened ended questions to find out about their lives.
- Make family and friends a priority.

Academic Support- Who do I contact?

- **Contact Information & protocol**
 - Concerns regarding individual classes should always be directed to the **classroom teacher first**.
 - If you need additional assistance contact your child's Guidance Counselor
 - Contact Ms. Pinke, Supervisor of Academics

CLUB GETAWAY

OVERVIEW

Club Getaway Trip

Class of 2022

September 5th, 6th, & 7th

Mrs. Marain Trip Coordinator karmar@bergen.org

- Team Building
- Leadership Training
- Orientation

When Is Club Getaway?

- Arrive at BCA 8:00 A.M., Wed., Sept. 5th
- Parent or guardian drop off in front of the Auditorium

How Long Does It Take To Get There?

- Two-hour bus ride
- No carry-on luggage
- Wear old clothes suitable for a Hike
 - No time to change clothes

What Kind of Food Do We Get?

- Wholesome varieties at each meal
- Plus
 - Cereal Bar (breakfast)
 - Salad Bar
 - Afternoon and evening snacks

What Do the Cabins Look Like?

- Clean and neat
 - Sheets, pillow, and blanket provided
- Indoor plumbing
 - Bring towels, no amenities provided
 - Toilet paper provided by Club Getaway
- *Cabins should look the same when you leave as they did when you arrived*

This is a tremendous opportunity to meet and interact with your new classmates.

How to find out what's going on...

- View our website
- Read the PPO Newsletter
- Follow us on Twitter
 - [twitter@DavisBCA](https://twitter.com/DavisBCA)
- BCA.schoology.com
- PowerSchool.com



Contact Us

- **Russell Davis, Principal** rusdav@bergen.org
- **Raymond Bath, Vice Principal** raybat@bergen.org
- **Giulia Zanoni Mendelsohn, Supervisor** giuzan@bergen.org
- **Michelle Pinke, Supervisor** micpin@bergen.org

- **Laura Hynes, Nurse** lauhyn@bergen.org
- **William Muller, Athletic Director** wilmul@bergen.org
- **Craig Weaver, PowerSchool Support** crawea@bergen.org

Parent Partnership Organization
academyppo.com

Upcoming Dates

September 5-7th

Club Getaway

September 12th

PPO Meeting

October 4th

Back to School Night

Questions?



**We wish you and your child a
successful high school
experience!**