

Victoria Kennedy, Head of School
Loren Stevens, Dean of Academics
Margaret Cottrell, Dean of Students



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Upcoming Events

	<u>January</u>
HS Home B'ball Games	27th
Lollipop Sale Begins	30th
MS Away B'Ball Games	31st
Report Cards Issued	31st
	<u>February</u>
Boxtops for Education Contest	
Parent Connection Mtg	1st
HS Away Games	1st
MS Home B'Ball Games	2nd
HS Home B'Ball Games	3rd
DR Student Planning Mtg	4th
DR Skateland Fundraiser	4th
DR Parent Meeting	8th
Cut-a-thon	12th

New England Association of Schools and Colleges Honors BCA

Bradford Christian Academy was honored, commemorating the school's initial accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) at a luncheon held on December 8, 2011 at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. Victoria Kennedy, Head of School, Loren Stevens, Dean of Academics, and Margaret Cottrell, Dean of Students received an accreditation plaque on behalf of the school.



Presenting the accreditation was NEASC Board of Trustees President Jay S. Stroud, William Bennett, Director of the Commission on Independent Schools, and Ann E. Scott, Associate Director of the Commission on Independent Schools.

The presentation ceremony was the culmination of two years of work involving BCA faculty, staff, board members, and parents who served on sixteen different committees that prepared BCA for a visiting committee site visit. Last April a seven member visiting committee of educators spent a week evaluating BCA against NEASC standards. The visiting committee concluded its evaluation by presenting a list of seven major commendations and three major recommendations to BCA's leadership and recommended that the school be granted accreditation. The visiting committee commended BCA for:

- Possessing a distinct mission and nurturing environment that is embraced by all of the school's constituencies.
- How much BCA has accomplished for and with students in such a short span of time (seven years). Students are learning, engaged and happy. They are challenged both within and outside the classroom.
- Creating and utilizing a well-developed and documented curriculum guide, including presentation of scope and sequence, curriculum maps and standards alignment.
- Employing *high quality, professional, dedicated faculty* (italics are NEASC's). (continued on page 2)



(continued from page 1)

New England Association of Schools and Colleges Honors BCA

- Forging excellent partnerships with community resources, including Zion Bible College, Cedardale Health and Fitness Center, local churches where space is used for chapel and theater rehearsals, local public transportation, Compassion International, Northern Essex Community College, and All-Pro Electric.
- Leadership's dedication and determination to further the mission and vision of the school and on the initiative and innovation they demonstrate in the process.
- Focus on school improvement as evident in its commitment to the accreditation process since its inception.

The visiting committee recommended that BCA:

- Pursue intentional and specific plans to ensure that all elements of its program and policies are aiding the school in the effective delivery of its mission and core values.
- Develop a plan for separating the positions of President of the Board and Head of School.
- Continue to wholeheartedly pursue their advancement and marketing initiatives to increase the school's tuition and gift income in order to provide the resources necessary for carrying out the school's mission and vision.

Once accreditation is granted, NEASC remains involved with accredited schools offering resources and standards that guide school growth and progress. BCA also received accreditation from Christian Schools International last spring. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to help the school reach this important milestone.

Massachusetts Theatre Guild Festival Information

Mr. Perusse attended the Director's Meeting for the March 3, 2012 Massachusetts Theatre Festival Competition and received important information regarding the upcoming event. BCA has been moved out of the district and will not be competing against the same schools as last year. They will be competing at Chelmsford High School, 120-200 Richardson Road, North Chelmsford, MA.

Students are to arrive at Chelmsford High School on March 3rd at 7:30 am "camera ready." BCA will perform at 12 noon. Other schools will perform hourly before and after BCA with a lunch break right after our performance. Please see the attached schedule for specific performance and time information. The schedule of events will be the same as last year, so students should plan on a LONG day, ending at approximately 10 pm.

Tickets will be on sale for \$10 at the door. One ticket allows entrance into all the performances held that day. Student performers do not need to purchase tickets. BCA would love to have a strong audience of support for their noon performance. Please spread the word and encourage the BCA community to attend.

If BCA wins the competition on March 3rd, the next round of the festival will be the following weekend on March 10th. The State Finals will be held during the weekend of March 23rd and 24th.

IMPORTANT: Re-enrollment News

Re-enrollment Agreements and deposits were due **Tuesday, January 24, 2012.**

If you have not turned them in please do so as soon as possible. Students are not re-enrolled until the Enrollment Agreement and deposit are received; therefore, BCA cannot guarantee a spot in their grade for the 2012-2013 school year.

Bulletin Board

**Dominican Republic Mission Trip
News and Information**

BCA is sending a mission team of 24 people to the Dominican Republic to work with La Iglesia de Dios de Batey Angelina (The Angelina Church of God). The trip is February 21st—28th. Team members will be working on the construction of the church building and working at the student center which provides food and education to 300 children in the community. The student center is funded through Compassion International's child sponsorship program.

Team Members are:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Christy Abreu | Andrew Gerry | Sarah Stanley |
| Charlotte Boody | Victor Gould | Alexa Stevens |
| Jessica Brouillette | Brooks Horsley | Sam Velasquez |
| Mary Buckley | Mackenzie Kennedy | Marcus Villafane |
| Ali Craven | Christina Meneghini | Cottrell Family |
| Ashleigh DeMaris | Hannah Pritchett | Chris and Sharon Ziegler |
| Kyle Doyon | Hunter Rogers | Brianna Spohr |

Skateland Fundraiser

The team is hosting a fundraiser **Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 5-7** at Skateland in Bradford. The price is \$10 per person (\$40 maximum per family), which includes entrance and a donation. Skates can be rented at the door for an additional \$3. Students will be selling the tickets before the event at the middle and high schools. Tickets can also be purchased at the door. Friends and family are welcome. All of the proceeds will go toward the trip cost and toward building materials for the construction.



Meetings

There is a student planning meeting on **Saturday, February 4th from 2 –4 pm** at Sharon Ziegler's house, 24 Belvidere Road, Haverhill, MA 01830.

A parent meeting will be held at the high school on **Wednesday, February 8th at 3:15 pm.**



Middle School Box Tops Contest

Grades 5—8 will be having a BOX TOPS for EDUCATION contest during the month of February. The class that brings in the most Boxtops in February wins a free Friday jeans day and pizza for lunch. There will be a container in each homeroom. Check all your products at home before you throw out boxes, cans, and labels, and cut out the Box Tops labels.



2nd Quarter Report Cards

Report cards for the 2nd quarter will be available Tuesday, January 31st at the close of school. To view and print log onto portal.veracross.com/bradford. Below your student's name select report cards Quarter 2.

February HS Lunch

High school lunch, offered by the Zion Bible College kitchen, is **\$76 for the month of February.** To order the 16 lunches for the month please submit the attached order form with payment to the HS office by Tuesday, January 31st. A menu of lunches for the remainder of the school year is also attached.



Bulletin Board—cont'd

Parent Connection News!

- **Chocolate Football and Heart Lollipops for sale** (see attached order form).
- **Cut-a-thon to Benefit BCA Athletics on Sunday, February 12th from 11 am—3 pm at Fergie's Barber Shop, 106 Plaistow Road in Haverhill** (see attached flyer).
- **Parent Connection meeting this Wednesday, February 1st from 7:00—8:30 pm at the middle school.** (Please contact Marge Squire or Jennifer Cram at marge.squire@bradfordchristianacademy.org, or jcram@bradfordchristianacademy.org).
- **Prayer Team meets on Thursday mornings from 8:00—9:00 am in room 3 at the middle school.** Submit prayer requests by emailing Mary Rheinauer at merlipps@yahoo.com and use "BCA Prayer Chain" in the subject line.

High School Dress Code

Last Wednesday in chapel high school students were addressed in separate groups of boys and girls regarding recent dress code concerns. Rather than stipulating specific dress options, the appearance code for the high school years sets parameters within which students may make responsible choices with respect to dress. The guiding characteristics of the BCA dress code are cleanliness, neatness, and modesty. Guidelines from the BCA Parent-Student Handbook are attached.

Students are asked to exercise their creativity and individuality while adhering to the guidelines set in the Parent-Student Handbook. The interpretation of these guidelines has become increasingly time consuming and conflict ridden for parents, students, BCA teachers, and administration. Therefore, in an effort to rectify the situation, students were informed at last Wednesday's chapel that all teachers are collecting data on student dress code violations and sending this data to Mrs. Cottrell and Mrs. Stevens, who will be following up with students one on one. Data collection will be used to inform decision making in the future and correct current dress code violations.

Data from the month of January reports that half of the high school students were named at least once with a violation of the appearance code. The BCA Parent-Student Handbook states;

"Teachers and faculty use their discretion when determining if an article of clothing is out of compliance. The teachers' judgment call or interpretation of the appearance code is to be respected by students."

Students were reminded that the dress code is interpreted by the teachers and staff and that teacher and faculty discretion should be respected. The issues listed within the month of January were: non-BCA sweatshirts, or sweatshirts with hoods and logos; *unprofessionally* tight pants, (pants that may not be considered too tight for home, may be considered too tight for a professional learning environment); shirts that are *unprofessionally* low, as measured by one hand's width from the neck, or tight shirts revealing underwear straps and lace; skirts that do not meet handbook length, as measured by one hand's width from the knee; jean or denim-like material for pants in grey, black and various non-blue jean colors (in general, thick cotton rugged material with a patch pocket); slipper-shoes, and coats worn in the building.

Students were **empowered** to demonstrate that our current dress code can be maintained. They were encouraged that freedom = responsibility; to tighten up on their adherence to the current dress code; to stay away from items that require interpretation and are "grey" areas; and to encourage each other to make good choices.

Students were warned that if the recent trend continues the dress code will need to be amended and the freedom for interpretation will decrease. Data will be reviewed with students again in meetings in March and discussions will continue. Students with specific questions of interpretation were directed to Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Cottrell.

We ask parents to encourage students to follow the dress code and ask in advance of wearing an item that might be considered a "grey area."



Basketball

Middle School

Monday	1/30	Girls' Game @ Lexington Christian, Lexington, MA Boys' TBD	4:45—5:45pm
Tuesday	1/31	Girls' Game @ Manchester Essex, Manchester, NH Boys' Game @ Manchester Essex, Manchester, NH	3:30—4:30pm 4:30—5:30 pm
Thursday	2/2	Girls' Game v North Shore at Cedardale Boys' Game v North Shore at Cedardale	3:45—4:45pm 4:45—5:45 pm
Monday	2/6	Girls' NSBA Tournament, Lynn, MA Boys' Practice at Cedardale	TBD 3—4:30 pm
Tuesday	2/7	Girls' Practice at Cedardale Boys' NSBA Tournament, Marblehead, MA	3—4:30 pm TBD
Wednesday	2/8	Girls' NSBA Tournament, TBD	TBD
Thursday	2/9	Boys' NSBA Tournament, Marblehead, MA	TBD

High School

Friday	1/27	Girls' Game v Notre Dame at Cedardale Boys' Game v Notre Dame at Cedardale	5:15—6:45 pm 7—8:30 pm
Monday	1/30	Girls' Practice at Bradford FCC Boys' Practice at Bradford FCC	3:30—5:00 pm 5—7 pm
Tuesday	1/31	Girls' Practice at Bradford FCC Boys' Practice at Bradford FCC	5:30—7 pm 3:30—5:30 pm
Wednesday	2/1	Girls' Game v South Shore, Weymouth, MA Boys' JV Game v South Shore, Weymouth, MA Boys' Varsity Game v South Shore, Weymouth, MA	4:15—5:30 pm 3-4:30 pm 5:30-7 pm
Friday	2/3	Girls' Game v Twin Cities at Cedardale Boys' Game v Twin Cities at Cedardale	4:30—6 pm 6—7:30 pm
Monday	2/6	Girls' Game v New England, Swansea, MA Boys' Game v New England, Swansea, MA	4—5:30 pm 5:30—7 pm
Tuesday	2/7	Girls' Practice at Bradford FCC Boys' Practice at Bradford FCC	5:30—7 pm 3:30—5:30 pm
Wednesday	2/8	Girls' Game v Greater Boston at Cedardale Boys' Varsity Practice at Bradford FCC Boys' JV Practice at Bradford FCC	4:15—5:45 pm 3:30—5:30 pm 5:30-7 pm
Thursday	2/9	Boys' Practice at Bradford FCC	3:30—5:30 pm
Friday	2/10	Boys Game v BU Academy at Cedardale Boys' Game v Twin Cities at Cedardale	4:15—5:45 pm 6—7:30 pm



Information!

Cedardale Facility for Basketball

Last week information was sent out to basketball families regarding the management of BCA home basketball games. It also was printed in the January 20th issue of News Of Note. This week the same information was communicated to all our students. As detailed below, there are some areas of concern regarding our use of Cedardale during home basketball games that need attention to maintain necessary harmony between the Cedardale and BCA organizations. Thank you to the many people who stepped up last week; there was marked improvement.

Coach Gabriele has asked for our help by complying with the solutions below and volunteering to help. The volunteer sign-up spreadsheet is attached—please add your name to it and email it back to Coach.

Running Track—It is very important that the running track be kept clear for Cedardale members, who are using it during the games. People should not stand on it to watch the BCA games, or allow children to play, run around it, or use basketballs on it.

Other Courts—BCA is contracted for the use of one basketball court on which the game is being played. The other 2 courts are used for Cedardale member activities. BCA may not use the other courts during BCA games.

Lobbies and Lounge Areas—Cedardale is conducting business in the tennis desk, lounge, and restaurant areas. BCA may use the food services, but kids cannot be allowed to freely run around in these areas.

SOLUTIONS

- Be responsible for your own family as you watch the games. If you notice others not complying, please gently let them know what we have been asked to do.
- Be a game day volunteer. Monitor the track, the courts or the tennis lounge/restaurant area every 5-10 minutes during a middle school or high school game to make sure those areas are clear.
- Please sign up to help out during one of the remaining games on the attached spreadsheet and send it to Troy Gabriele at troy.gabriele@bradfordchristianacademy.org.

Thank you for your help. BCA Athletics asks a lot of our parents and you always step up in incredible ways. It is not Coach Gabriele's desire to continue to ask more of you, but the above issues are of very high importance to the program.

South Shore Trip - Wednesday 2/1

On Wednesday, February 1st all 3 high school basketball teams head down to Weymouth to play the South Shore Christian teams. Since there are so many players traveling together, a bus has been scheduled for the trip. Therefore, drivers are not needed but are invited and encouraged to watch the games and support the teams!

The South Shore athletic department has invited our teams to stay for pizza and fellowship at their school following the games. This is a generous offer from them and a great way to connect. The teams will probably be returning to BCA at approximately 9:30 pm. This is late for a school night, but is a fun opportunity in the absence of a tournament this year. All players will be required to ride the bus to and from the games.

Remaining Games Transportation

The transportation schedule is attached. Please look over and confirm the dates for which you have volunteered. Barring any changes, it appears we are all set for the remainder of the season. Thank you so much for your help.

College Corner

Congratulations to our seniors who have been accepted to the following colleges:

Erin Beausoleil
Charlotte Boody
Hannah Burgett
Troy Dumas

Franklin Pierce University
Cedarville University
Roberts Wesleyan College
Lyndon State College of Vermont

College Application Timeline for Seniors

January

- **Submit your FAFSA as soon as possible. (See information below) If a college you are applying to has a Feb. 1 financial aid deadline, use estimates based on end-of-year pay stubs and 2010 tax returns.**
- **Finish your application essays and proof-read them rigorously for mistakes. Ask Mrs. Sawyer or Mrs. Stevens to check them.**
- Follow up with teachers to ensure that letters of recommendation are sent to meet your deadline.
- Give transcript requests to Mrs. Gilford at least 3 weeks in advance.
- Contact the financial aid office at the colleges on your list to make sure you have all required financial aid forms.

College Search Timeline for Juniors

January

- **Review your PSAT Score Report. Check out "Score Report Plus" and "My College Quickstart" on www.collegeboard.org.**
- Make an appointment with Mrs. Stevens to talk about colleges that you are interested in, and what courses you should take next year.
- Research scholarships.
- Continue developing a portfolio if you are planning to major in the arts (drama, music, fine art).
- Begin developing a resume to accompany your college applications.
- Start to learn about financial aid. Use the *Financial Aid EasyPlanner and Net Price Calculator* at www.collegeboard.org to estimate how much aid you might need.

SAT Information

Register **online at www.collegeboard.com**. The website contains information regarding cost, test times, and the registration process. Early registration is important to ensure test site choice. Contact Jennifer Cram at 978-373-7960 or jcram@bradfordchristianacademy.org with any questions.

Test Dates

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Saturday, March 10th

Saturday, May 5th

Saturday, June 2nd

Registration Deadlines

Contact College Board

February 10th

April 6th

May 8th

Test Location

BCA Middle School

BCA Middle School

BCA Middle School

Other

We strongly recommended that 11th graders take the SAT at the end of their junior year because the material on the test reflects information covered in our junior curriculum.