

# PPO CONNECTIONS

THE QUICK DETAILS ON WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BCA

[WWW.ACADEMYPPO.COM](http://WWW.ACADEMYPPO.COM)

## PPO Board Message

Welcome back! We hope that you had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to a busy and exciting school year. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our first PPO meeting. We'd like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Davis for his update on the many amazing events and opportunities available to our students, as well as our guidance team members for the informative breakout sessions.

BCA's big event you don't want to miss is the **International Tasting on Saturday, October 8th**. Come celebrate the diverse fabric of our BCA community as we share the delicious foods of our cultures. It promises to be a wonderful opportunity to mingle with other Academy families and we hope you can join us. If you haven't already done so please go to our website, [www.academyppo.com](http://www.academyppo.com), to register.

Also, mark your calendar for the **PPO Meeting on October 19th**. We have invited **Tevera Stith, Director of KIPP Through College** to come and speak to our families about how we can afford to pay for college as tuition costs continue to rise.

As many of you know, the PPO is an integral part of the Academy in terms of providing resources and support to our school administrators and teachers. Our very talented and generous parents dedicate endless hours and energy towards making the Academy experience unique and special for all. It is with that in mind that we wish to thank our volunteers who helped prepare our summer mailing of important school information as well as Roseann McCarthy and the many volunteers who donated food, began setting up at 6:30 a.m. and served up the wonderful Welcome Back Breakfast for our teachers. We would also like to thank Mary Deegan and her group of parent volunteers who helped donate and set up food/beverages for our first meeting. Finally, thank you to our class parent liaisons who are continually planning activities and opportunities to make every school year a memorable one for our students.

We would also like to welcome Anne D'Onofrio to the PPO Executive Board as our new PPO Treasurer.

On a final note, if you have not yet had the opportunity, please consider joining the PPO. Your membership supports the many activities and clubs that your children are a part of at BCA. It also supports the College Fair, Summer Opportunities Fair and numerous

competitions that enhance your child's high school experience.

Warm regards,

**Julia, Susan, Sue, Connie, Sasha, Anne**

## Calendar Highlights

Sept 25th	<b>BizPA Cocktail Party</b> - Rock Kitchen 5:30 - 8:00 pm
Sept 29th	<b>ASAP Meet &amp; Greet</b> - Upper Cafeteria 6:30 pm
Oct 1st	<b>SAT Testing</b> – Off Site
Oct 3rd-4th	<b>No School</b> – Rosh Hashanah
Oct 5th	<b>KPPO Meeting</b> – Poonglim Restaurant 12:00 pm
Oct 6th	<b>Half Day</b> – Back to School Night 6:30 - 9:00 pm
Oct 7th	<b>No School</b> - Curriculum Revision
Oct 8th	<b>PPO International Tasting Event</b> 7:00-9:00 pm
Oct 9th	<b>Joe Holbrook Memorial Math Competition</b> 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Oct 12th	<b>No School</b> - Yom Kippur
Oct 16th	<b>BCA Open House &amp; Class of 2017 Bake Sale</b> 11:00 am and 2:00 pm
Oct 19th	<b>PSAT</b> - Sophomores & Juniors 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Oct 19th	<b>PPO General Meeting</b> - 7:30 pm
Oct 21st	<b>Half Day</b> - Staff Development
Oct 22nd	<b>ACT Testing</b> – Off Site
Oct 23rd	<b>BCA Open House &amp; Class of 2018 Bake Sale</b> 11:00 am and 2:00 pm
Oct 28th	<b>BCA Friends &amp; Family Event</b> - The Fiesta 7:00 - 11:00 pm
Oct 30th	<b>BCA Open House &amp; Class of 2019 Bake</b>



**Academy Parent Partnership Organization**

A New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation

Our next issue will be published on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Please submit all November calendar entries and all articles to Connie Fong at [bcapponewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bcapponewsletter@gmail.com) by October 14, 2016.

# WELCOME TO ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

## From the Principal's Desk

I'm thrilled to welcome you back to another great year here at the Bergen County Academies. We began the year with an all school convocation where we discussed the success of our school's alumni, we recognized our latest accomplishments and discussed our plans for the future with students and staff. We also discussed this year's theme of Honesty, Integrity & Respect. The convocation lets us join together as a school community and begin the year on a positive note. Thank you to everyone who participated.



### Our new Environmental Science Center opens

I am happy to report that the Environmental Science Center (ESC) is now open. The ESC houses two multi-purpose classrooms that can be used for instruction, labs and research. The future of the Environmental Science Center is limitless; it will allow students to explore issues in sustainability on both local and global levels. I want to thank our teachers and students for their patience - I believe the new facility was well worth the wait.

### Our New Teachers...

I'm happy to introduce our new staff members who have joined our BCA community. We wish them many years of success!

#### Carly Berwick, English

Ms. Carly Berwick graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English and Humanities and received her Master's in the Teaching of English from Teachers College, Columbia University. She is also a freelance journalist and former magazine editor. Please join us in welcoming Ms. Berwick.

#### Gaby Barreto, World Languages

Ms. Gaby Barreto has always had a love for teaching. She earned her first Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education in Peru in 2000, her second B.A. in Spanish Studies at William Paterson University in 2005, and a Master's Degree in Hispanic Studies at the University of Montreal in 2008. She has taught Spanish in different

grade levels in the US and Canada as well as French. Please join us in welcoming Ms. Barreto.

#### Joseph Gutierrez, Business

Mr. Gutierrez earned his New Jersey teaching certificate at Ramapo College of New Jersey and his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from New York University. Prior to joining the staff, he spent his financial services career as an auditor for Coopers & Lybrand in different project management roles for global banks including Citibank, JPMorgan Chase, and Chase Manhattan. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Gutierrez.

#### Louis Spinelli, Vocal Music

Mr. Spinelli is thrilled to be joining the Bergen County Academies faculty. A 2007 graduate of BCA and four-year member of the Concert and Chamber Choirs, he went on to attend Westminster Choir College of Rider University, graduating in 2011 with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education, and a Masters degree from the University of Arizona. He previously worked at Millville Memorial High School in Southern New Jersey. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Spinelli.

#### Lucy Fan, Chemistry

Mrs. Lucy Fan will be filling in for Mrs. Feuss while she is out on maternity leave. Mrs. Fan earned her Master's Degree from the University of Pennsylvania and previously taught in the Bergenfield and Ridgewood schools. She also worked with firms such as Amazon as a Data Engineer. Mrs. Fan believes that science education is so important for today's students to thrive in a global and technology-driven economy and is thrilled to be at BCA. Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Fan.

### BCA students attend leadership conference in Singapore.

Through our ongoing partnership with River Valley High School in Singapore, BCA students and teachers were invited to attend the Y.LEAD Global Leadership conference which included 700 students from around the world. I'm proud to state that BCA was the only school from the United States that was invited to attend. The Y.LEAD Seminar is a platform for teenagers to acquire a heightened awareness of global social challenges and a useful set of leadership skills. One of our goals is to increase Global exchange opportunities for our students so look for more Global Exchanges in the future.

Welcome back to another great year at BCA!

Russell Davis,  
Principal

Please view our Superintendent Dr. Howard Lerner's Message by using this link:

<http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/1/1/1/7/11170958/superintendentletter2016.09.pdf>

# VOLUNTEER

## Open House

**WE NEED YOU!!**

Please consider volunteering at one or more of our Open Houses, being held twice per day on Sundays, October 16, 23 and 30.

We need volunteers in all capacities, but especially outdoors with greeting and directing traffic! There is a spot for everyone.

Many hands make light work, so please sign up to help!!

To sign up, click below or visit:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044ba9ac2fa6fc1-bcaopen>

Questions? Contact Annette Gallagher at 201-391-7270 or [guysgirl@optonline.net](mailto:guysgirl@optonline.net)



# Class News Updates....

## Class of 2017

Welcome to senior year! So glad everyone survived junior year :) The kids got off to a great start at our senior breakfast! We would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers and those of you who so graciously donated items!

We have lots to do this year for our children and we absolutely cannot do it alone. Listed is a summary of events that we need to plan for and we will be in touch shortly with a date for our first coffee social! Please mark your calendars:

- Open House Senior Class Bake Sale Fundraiser, Sunday, October 16th (we will be asking for volunteers to work and food donations)
- Seniors & BCA Alumni Breakfast, Friday, December 23rd
- February/March time-frame: place orders for personalized graduation lawn signs
- BCA Fashion Show, Thursday evening March 30th (location TBD) We will need to form a committee for this! Our children will be the models!
- Senior Experience Luncheon, Wednesday, May 31st (details to follow)
- Senior Class Trip to Great Adventure, Wednesday, June 7th
- Yearbook Signing Luncheon, Wednesday, June 14th (location TBD)
- Senior Prom, Thursday evening, June 15th Rockleigh Country Club
- Graduation Rehearsal, Wednesday, June 21st (details to follow)
- CLASS OF 2017 GRADUATION!!! Thursday evening, June 22nd followed by an all night undisclosed trip for our children aka PROJECT GRADUATION.

In addition to our Fashion Show, this year's major fundraiser for our class is selling student planners and car magnets. Included in this newsletter, please find our flyer to place your order.

Lastly, if you HAVE NOT paid your \$200 class dues, you will be receiving a letter shortly from our teacher advisors as we have to pay in full at this time for our yearbooks, leave deposits for buses to Great Adventure, Prom, Yearbook Lunch & Fashion Show venue etc. etc. Unfortunately, your child will not be able to participate if your dues have not been paid. Please send checks to the school made payable to "Student Activities Fund-2017".

We look forward to 100% parent participation in making this special year a memorable one for our kids!

Warm regards,  
D'Arcy Natale & Allison Orecchio  
[bcaclassof2017@gmail.com](mailto:bcaclassof2017@gmail.com)

## Class of 2018

Welcome back, Class of 2018! We are looking forward to an exciting and busy junior year with many events and activities. Here are some dates to mark on your calendar.

**Cabaret Organizational Meeting, Friday October 14 at 9:00am:** We are looking for a group of dedicated volunteers to help us run our biggest fundraiser of the year. The Cabaret is a festive and entertaining student and faculty talent show, held on April 19. **Please join us for our first meeting in the BCA Board Room, room 124.** If you can't make the meeting and would like to participate, please contact us at the email address listed below.

**PPO Meeting "How to Pay for College"- Wednesday, October 19 at 7:30pm:** This informative night will be held in the Auditorium.

# Class News Continued.....

## Class of 2018 (cont'd)

**Open House Bake Sale - Sunday, October 23 at 11am and 2pm:** Our class will be hosting the bake sale during the Open House for prospective first year students. We will be sending out a "Sign-up Genius" in October for volunteers and food donations. Homemade baked goods and store-bought items will be welcome.

**Junior Class Coffee Hour – Friday, November 18 at 8:30am:** Join us for our first coffee hour at the tables inside **Whole Foods in the Bergen Town Center**. Junior year is a big year, and we all have questions and concerns to share. We will continue to hold informal coffee hours for parents throughout the year.

**Junior Prom - Friday, May 12:** Our students are already busy with preparations for their Junior Prom at the Old Tappan Manor. We look forward to a special and elegant evening.

**Class Dues:** Many thanks to all who have paid your class dues. Please note that you only pay once during your student's four years. For those who have yet to pay, please consider submitting your check soon so we can continue to plan for all the events during junior and senior year.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful group of students and parents working together. If you have any questions or would like to participate in any of these activities, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. We wish all of our class a smooth start to the junior year,

Rena Moy-Chang, Christine Nicholas, and Jordana Engler  
[BCAclassof2018@gmail.com](mailto:BCAclassof2018@gmail.com)

## Class of 2019

Greetings Class of 2019 parents! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We are looking forward to a great sophomore year for our students filled with many fun activities.

First up will be the Froshmore movie night; our class will host the freshmen at a Halloween themed get together/movie night in late October. Also coming up in October will be our first class fundraiser bake sale, to be held during the BCA open house on Sunday October 30th. We will be reaching out via email with volunteer and donation sign ups.

If you are on Facebook, please join our Class of 2019 Parents page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/539465096216336/>

Looking ahead to another amazing year for our class!

Warm regards,  
Pam, Amy and Kirstie  
[bcaclassof2019@gmail.com](mailto:bcaclassof2019@gmail.com)

## Class of 2020

Welcome Class of 2020! On Wednesday September 14th we held our Potluck dinner, which was a great success. Students came with their families and enjoyed many delicious dishes and desserts. It was a very successful and fun night. Thanks to the PPO members for all their help and support.

We will be having two evening coffee chats: 9/30 and 12/2. Please reach out to us if you have any questions. We hope we will have a very successful and fun year.

Warm Regards,  
Renata Ayob & Roxann Castelli  
[bcaclassof2020@gmail.com](mailto:bcaclassof2020@gmail.com)

### **An Added Note:**

***One goal of our monthly PPO meetings is to feature presentations from relevant outside resources available to the community. It is not, however, a PPO practice to endorse them for your own use. We hope you will use your best judgment deciding whether you choose to utilize their services.***

# BCA SkillsUSA National Success!

This past June, 10 students and 2 advisors traveled to Louisville, Kentucky to perform at the SkillsUSA National Leadership. More than 16,000 students, teachers, and business partners from 50 states and US territories participate in this week-long event. The BCA team represented New Jersey in Community Service, Health Knowledge Bowl, and Prepared Speech competitions. In addition, the BCA Skills USA chapter was recognized as a **National Chapter of Excellence** and was invited to a special award dinner at Churchill Downs, home of Kentucky Derby.

All students were finalists and most finished in the top 10% of their respective contests. In fact, the **Community Service Team** brought home a **Gold Medal** and was recognized as **1<sup>st</sup> in the Nation** for their #SayNo2Hunger project. The week-long trip, was made successful by everyone who contributed their time into making this trip a success.

The BCA SkillsUSA chapter is excited for the new year and looking forward to returning to Louisville, Kentucky next year.



# The PPO International Tasting

Small Bites from Around the World

October 8<sup>th</sup> 2016



**Join us from 7:00pm – 9:00pm  
as we take a culinary adventure around the world.**

Enjoy an evening of international tastings as you sample dishes from different regions of the world while mingling with the BCA community at the same time!

This event is open to PPO members and their immediate families.  
Attendance is limited to the first 600 people who register.

REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.ACADEMYPPO.COM](http://WWW.ACADEMYPPO.COM)

## Welcome (back) to BCA!

The **BCA Math Team** meets on Saturdays from 12:30-4. This club is open to all interested students and is run by Dr Abramson. The emphasis is on competition-style math, and the BCA team has had great success, participating in competitions all over the country. Interested students should contact Dr A.

The team also runs the Joe Holbrook Memorial Math Competition for 4th - 8th graders, which draws 500-600 contestants from the NJ/NY region. This year's competition will be held on Sunday, October 9, and we are looking for parent volunteers to assist with parking, registration, proctoring, supervising lunch and selling snacks.

**Our first parent meeting will be held on Saturday, September 17. If you have any questions, please contact Shailesh Patel or Lisa Park at [bcamathppo@gmail.com](mailto:bcamathppo@gmail.com).**

## Welcome new Academy of Business & Finance Parents!

The Business Academy Parents Association, known as **BizPa** would like to welcome all the freshmen parents to our community. Our parent organization's board consists of two parents from each graduating year. The board works with our business teachers and guidance counselor to keep you informed so we and our students can better navigate through our four years at BCA. The agenda for the year is being finalized. **We kick off with our cocktail party on Sunday, September 25th.** The business teachers are invited so this gives you an opportunity to meet and chat with them and your fellow ABF parents. Please fill out the flyer in the newsletter or from our PPO page and come join us for a lovely evening. If you have not yet joined BizPa you can still attend the cocktail party. In addition to social events BizPA will be holding informative meetings, helping with DECA competition prep and holding a post-IB exam luncheon for our seniors. So our PPO group runs the gamut from social to educational. We hope you will fill out the membership form and join in to support us in our efforts.

We would like to welcome our new Board Member from the class of 2020, freshman parent Beth Thomas-Rea. We hope one more freshman parent can join Beth so as to insure the BizPa PPO remains strong in the years to come. If you are interested, please contact **Gwen Sullivan at [gwestley59@optonline.net](mailto:gwestley59@optonline.net).**

The BizPa board would also like to welcome our new ABF teacher Joseph Gutierrez and we look forward to working with him.

Lastly if you have not received an email from board member Gwen Sullivan please email her at the above address. A few emails did get kicked back and we don't want to leave anyone out of the loop.

We look forward to seeing you on the 25th and working with you this coming school year.

### **BizPa Board**

Erin Kemeys (2017)

Roni Greer & Gwen Sullivan (2018)

*Business Academy Parent  
Organization (BIZPA) invites you to a  
Cocktail Party!*

Sunday, September 25th from 5:30-8:00

Rock Kitchen: 195 Rock Road, Glen Rock, NJ

\$30 per person (includes beer, wine, appetizers)

**This will be a great opportunity for BIZPA parents and ABF teachers to  
mingle in an informal setting.**

Fill in the information below & mail with payment to:  
Erin Kemeys, 236 Glen Avenue, Glen Rock, NJ 07452

Questions: email Roni Greer -- ronigreer@aol.com

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Make Checks Payable to: Academy PPO-BIZPA

RSVP by September 9th

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle: I am currently a BIZPA member:    Yes    No



## BIZPA

# Business and Finance Parents Organization

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### Membership Form for the 2016 - 2017 Year

**Membership dues are \$20/year and can be paid with either Cash or Checks Payable to "Academy PPO - BIZPA"**

Name of Parent(s):

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Name of Student(s):

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Year Graduating: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es):

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Interested in Volunteering at Events:      Yes    or    No      (circle one)

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, and/or issues, please send an email to  
Please mail completed form and payment to Erin Kemeys, 236 Glen Avenue, Glen Rock, NJ 07452

# **Bergen County Academies**

## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Joe Holbrook Memorial Math Competition**

**Sponsored by BCA Math Team Boosters Club**

**Individual Competitions for grade 4th through 8th  
Prizes for top finishers in each grade level**



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016**

**10:00AM TO 3:00 PM**

**Please arrive no later than 9:30 AM**

**Bergen County Academies**

**200 Hackensack Avenue**

**Hackensack, NJ 07601**

**\$30 Online Registration Fee (seats are limited)**

**Students should bring lunch or snack**

**For Registration & more information visit**

**[Sites.bergen.org/mathcompetition](http://Sites.bergen.org/mathcompetition)**



# ACAHAPA

Academy for Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration  
Parents Association



Welcome, or Welcome Back!

Thanks so much to the families who have joined our specialty group ACAHAPA which will help to support our students throughout the year. If you have not joined please remember that any Senior student who wishes to qualify to apply for the ACAHAPA Scholarship must be a member of ACAHAPA NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30TH.

Click [here](#) for the ACAHAPA membership form.

As a fundraiser ACAHAPA has a few items for sale. All proceeds help fund various events for the students.

Click [here](#) for the BCA LOGO Ceramic Mug.

Click [here](#) for the BCA LOGO ID Lanyards and Sunglasses.

This is our first year chairing ACAHAPA as the new co-presidents. We are planning the ACAHAPA meet and greet and will have details forthcoming to share with you once the details of the plans are finalized.

In early winter we will begin the planning process to solicit prizes for the BCA Annual Chocolate Competition. We will notify you about any meetings. All ACAHA parents are invited to contribute their ideas, talents and donations to make this year's Chocolate Competition outstanding and memorable, especially for the Junior and Senior student participants.

Lastly, please contact us should you have any questions or if you would like to become more involved in ACAHAPA, regardless of the year that your child is in. We appreciate any help your schedule allows.

**Marta Khanlian and Denise Magriple**

**ACAHAPA**



E-PA

E-PA (Engineering Parents Association) IS ON A ROLL!!

Our September Meet & Greet was a huge success! The event was attended by Mr. Liva, Mr. DeFalco, Mrs. Marain, Ms. Sousa, and over 40 parents!! Be on a lookout for the date for our next meeting, featuring a STUDENT PANEL. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn firsthand from AEDT seniors and juniors about their unique experiences at BCA! Both E-PA parents and students are welcome and encouraged to attend this informative meeting.

Additional exciting E-PA plans for the year include an Alumni Panel, an Engineering Lab Tour, a Senior Panel, a Field Trip, and so much more!

Don't forget to join our E-PA Facebook group at: <http://bit.ly/2cwrull> where you will find updates, resources and more, not to mention the opportunity to connect with other E-PA members!

Not yet a member? It is never too late to join our vibrant group! For a membership form visit our E-PA page on the PPO website

<http://www.academyppo.com/e-pa.html>

or click here

[http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/1/1/1/7/11170958/e-pa\\_flyer\\_1016-17.pdf](http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/1/1/1/7/11170958/e-pa_flyer_1016-17.pdf)

Questions? Suggestions? Contact Tal Millet at [talmillet@hotmail.com](mailto:talmillet@hotmail.com)

# ORDER YOUR BCA YEARBOOK TODAY!

## BCA 2016-2017 Yearbook

**Full-Color yearbooks are on sale for \$95.00**

Order now, before it's too late!  
Yearbooks will be delivered in June 2017

### Two Easy Ways to Order!

1. Go to [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com) and type our school name. Purchase a Yearbook online using a credit or debit card.

OR

2. Complete the form and send it to the Main Office.



## Hurry! Buy your yearbook now!

If you have a great picture please share it with Ms. Min in room 140

### DEADLINE: November 15, 2016

Available for pre-order only

Questions? Contact Mrs. Rios  
[everio@bergen.org](mailto:everio@bergen.org)  
201-343-6000x2323

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# of Yearbooks \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost

Payment Method  Check  Cash

# balfour