

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

November 2006

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Foundation Filling the Gap

This year, B-CC's enrollment reaches almost 1,700 students. Its academic achievement is among the highest in the county. The school is 34th among *Newsweek's* latest ranking of the best public high schools in the U.S. (see p. 5.) The mean SAT score for B-CC's class of 2006 is 1784 out of a possible 2400, compared to 1634 for Montgomery County Public Schools, and 1518 for the nation.

However, in spite of these impressive statistics, a significant portion of B-CC students are not performing at grade level. According to Principal Bulson, "about 20% of the students under perform year after year at B-CC." Nationally, achievement levels are inversely associated with income (see chart below.) At B-CC, 92% of students take at least one honors level course, but only 67% of the students from families of limited income do so. B-CC's economic diversity presents certain challenges for the school. With an average of about a tenth of its students qualifying for free and reduced price meals every year, the school does not have a high enough concentration of disadvantaged students to qualify for federal funds that support student learning.

This is where the Foundation plays a major role. With funding from the Foundation, Principal Bulson has put in place an after-school tutoring program, TAP (Time for Academic Progress). TAP provides help to students in math, English, science, and social studies at all levels—from basic skills classes to advanced placement classes. TAP is held three days a week at B-CC, and two days a week at the Coffield Center in Rosemary Hills. TAP is available free to all our students.

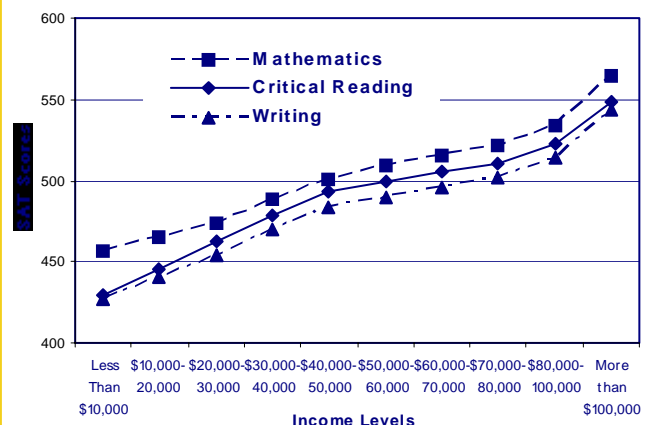
The Foundation is the sole source of funding for TAP's \$45,000 annual budget. Last year, 250 students visited TAP. Their gender and ethnicity are representative of the total B-CC student population. As more teachers refer students to TAP, TAP's role in academic support is becoming ever more important.

The Summer Academy is another program that relies entirely on funds raised by the Foundation from the community. Realizing that not all B-CC students have had the same educational opportunities to build a foundation for success at the high school level, the Academy aims to give a solid start to incoming 9th graders who have struggled academically in the middle school. This four-week summer program provides daily classes in English, mathematics, and study skills. Indications are that students who go through the Summer Academy do indeed have more positive outcomes, both academically and socially. Students' self-evaluations, completed at the beginning and at the end of the program, have re-

(cont'd on p. 8)

PLEASE INCLUDE THE B-CC HS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN YOUR ANNUAL GIVING. YOU MAY USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR DONATE AT WWW.BCCEDFOUNDATION.ORG

National SAT Scores and Income Levels, 2006



Source: <http://insidehighered.com/news/2006/08/30/sat>

From the President

**BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE
HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION
2006-2007**

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Thanks to the generosity of our many friends and supporters, the B-CC High School Educational Foundation had another very successful year. We raised nearly \$120,000 to support a variety of programs that B-CC students have come to rely on.

Our top priority has been supporting the academic progress of all B-CC students. Year after year we have supported the International Baccalaureate program and other initiatives designed to expand students' access to rigorous courses. B-CC has been so successful at increasing the number of students who take advanced courses that it was ranked 34th on *Newsweek's* list of the best public high schools in America.

One of the secrets to B-CC's success has been supporting students outside the regular school day, and the B-CC High School Educational Foundation plays a pivotal role in this regard. The Foundation is the sole sponsor of the TAP after school tutoring program which provides extra help to students in English, math, science and social studies. Last year, 250 students attended the tutoring sessions which are offered three days a week during the school year. This year we plan to expand the program to serve more students.

The Foundation also continues to fund the summer academy for incoming ninth graders, which provides at risk students with intensive support and academic preparation before they arrive for their first semester at B-CC. According to Principal Sean Bulson, these and other academic support programs funded by the Foun-

ation have made an enormous difference in the lives of B-CC students. He has urged us to continue to make them a priority in our fundraising efforts.

We were especially pleased this year to see one of the core programs the Foundation has sponsored, CollegeTracks, become replicated at another county high school. Due to the program's success in helping low income students at B-CC prepare for and apply to college, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has provided a grant to expand the program to Wheaton High School.

This year, the Foundation said good-bye to four retiring board members: Leslye Fraser, Nancy Pindus, Gail Werner, and Mier Wolf. We are very grateful for their many contributions over the years and are sad to see them go. We are pleased to welcome Susan Banks, Carole Brand, Tom Papson, and Kirk Renaud who joined the Foundation board this fall.

As the B-CC High School Educational Foundation has grown over the years, the faculty and students have come to rely on us to support programs that are central to the school's mission. These programs would not exist without the generous contributions of the many parents, businesses, alumni, and others who have made us part of their annual giving.

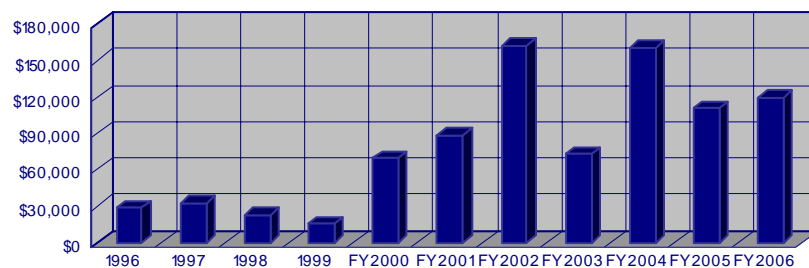
Thank you for your continued support.

Matthew Gandal
Matthew Gandal

Foundation Financials

Since its inception in 1996, the B-CC High School Educational Foundation has raised more than \$880,000 to support the school and its students. The two-year technology campaign that ended in FY2002 and the language lab campaign in FY2004 were especially successful. Our special fundraising initiative in the past two years allowed the school to expand after-school tutoring and academic support for students at all levels.

**B-CC High School Educational Foundation
Annual Fundraising Results**

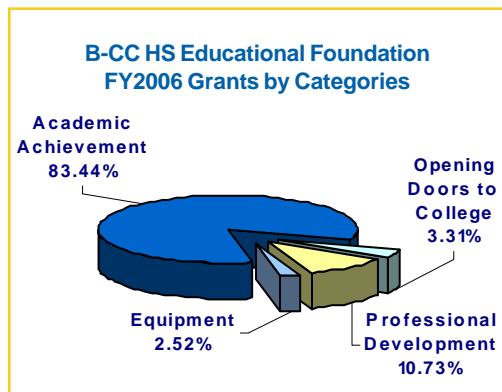


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org**

Foundation's Mission, Goals, and Priorities

Mission

The B-CC High School Educational Foundation is dedicated to providing the leadership and support necessary to ensure that students attending B-CC, now and in the future, enjoy the world-class education that is the school's historic legacy. The Foundation is committed to helping all students achieve high academic standards, attracting and retaining the highest-quality faculty, supporting a school environment where every student matters, and strengthening the bond between B-CC and the community it serves.



Goals

- Raise academic achievement – improve preparation of incoming 9th graders, support a rigorous curriculum, increase participation in advanced courses, provide tutoring and support to help students succeed, and ensure that all students are college-ready.
- Attract and retain the highest-quality teachers and staff – attract the most qualified candidates to B-CC, provide resources for teacher professional development, and improve communication among school, parents, and community.
- Support a school environment where every student matters – honor diversity, encourage mentoring and other student supports, and help maintain a small-school experience, even as enrollment increases.
- Strengthen the bond between the school and the community – build awareness of the school within the local community, reconnect with alumni, and foster partnerships with local businesses.

Funding Priorities for 2007

- After-school Tutoring (TAP) for all students
- Summer Academy for at-risk students
- Mentoring for at-risk 9th graders
- International Baccalaureate Program Support
- Professional Development for teachers
- New Computers and Technology
- English Proficiency and Basic Computer Classes for parents

The Foundation is seeking funds from the B-CC community—parents, alumni, businesses, and other community organizations—for these priorities. It works closely with the school administration, the PTSA, other parent groups, and B-CC alumni to coordinate support for the school.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
B-CC HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.**

FY2006 Foundation-Funded Projects

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, during the 2005-2006 school year, the Foundation was able to help fund the following projects that enhance academic excellence at B-CC High School:

Professional Development – grants for teachers to take courses and attend workshops.

Department Equipment – purchase of new equipment for the art, science, physical education, and special education departments.

International Baccalaureate Program – teacher training, textbooks, and materials for this academically rigorous program that is open to all interested B-CC students.

Academic Support Programs – after-school tutoring in English, math, science, and social studies at all levels;

as well as mentoring and diagnostic assessments for those students who need extra help.

B-CC Summer Academy – a four-week summer program for incoming 9th grade students who have struggled academically in middle school. Students worked on English, math, study skills, and general school issues.

Science Fairs – grants to cover Science Fair expenses for students for whom these expenses were a hardship.

Summer Scholars – a summer program offering academic support for elementary school students in the B-CC cluster.

Parent ESOL Program – two 12-week ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses, provided in cooperation with Montgomery College

teachers, to help B-CC cluster parents improve their English-language skills and their interaction with schools and teachers.

Parent Computer Classes – two seven-week basic computer skills classes at B-CC's Cyber Café for ESOL and Hispanic parents in the B-CC Cluster schools to help them learn the technology needed to be engaged in their children's education.

CollegeTracks – after-school and evening workshops, as well as trained mentors, to help with the college application and financial aid process for students who, even though qualified, may be at risk of not going to college.

B-CC Community Scholarship Fund – scholarships for college-bound B-CC students who would not otherwise be able to attend college.

Helping Parents Help Kids

High school is a new experience for both parents and children and can be a difficult adjustment. The B-CC High School Educational Foundation partners with B-CC to give support not only to students but also to their parents. The aim is to help parents help their children learn and succeed.

Workshops for Summer Academy Parents

For five summers, the Summer Academy has assisted incoming 9th graders, who have struggled academically at Westland Middle School, in improving their English, math, and study skills. Students learn leadership and problem-solving skills at the same time. This summer, a workshop for parents of Summer Academy students was added to give parents the skills they need to support their children as they make their way through 9th grade. A counselor from Youth and Family Services offered practical advice on parenting teens. Parents learned about credits, grade point averages, course selection and other information essential to understanding how high school works. In addition, throughout the school year, parents of all the students eligible for the Academy are being enlisted to work with their children's mentors and teachers to assist the children in meeting the 9th grade expectations.

English Classes for Parents

Every year, there are about 100 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students from all over the world at B-CC. These students learn English quickly in ESOL classes, but their parents often have a much harder time. Understanding how the high school works and what the children are learning is not an easy task for a parent new to B-CC. It's even more difficult for a parent from another country who doesn't speak English.

Since 2002, the Foundation has funded English classes for ESOL parents one night a week, for twelve weeks each semester. The goal is to help parents participate in the school and in their children's educational process. Two ESOL teachers teach the class, and the content of the courses is geared toward school vocabulary, curriculum, and "school-based" situations such as a teacher conference. This past year, 80 parents applied for the 40 available spaces. Preference was given to those with the least proficiency in English. The students were mainly Hispanic or from Eastern European countries. The Foundation gave an additional grant to the program last year to cover child care expenses to make attendance easier for those who needed the program.

Computer Classes for Parents

Computer skills are increasingly necessary for parents to stay engaged in their children's education. B-CC students have

access to computers at school and are expected to do their school work and home work using computers. School announcements are posted on the email listserv and on the school's website. Access to teachers is much faster and more efficient through email. Starting this fall, with MCPS' new online academic reporting system, parents and students can view students' assignment and test scores, as well as class announcements and homework assignments, online.

To aid parents gain computer literacy, the Foundation has been funding an evening course on basic computer skills, in English and Spanish, for ESOL and Latino parents in B-CC cluster schools since 2004. The course meets once a week for seven weeks each term. The content ranges from basic introduction to PCs and the Internet to how to access information on the MCPS and school web sites. It covers checking children's

grades electronically, communicating with teachers and administrators, and working with Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

This year, 25 international parents who speak French, Hindi, Italian, and Spanish have signed up. Cristobal Lopez, the

mother of a Somerset Elementary School student, said, "You just cannot imagine how much we are benefiting and learning in this course. This is exactly the type of program we need in our community." Ovilia Dominguez, B-CC High School and North Chevy Chase Elementary School parent, added, "It is fantastic how I can retrieve information on the Internet about my children's schools. In turn, this information can keep me in contact with and participating with my children's education."

CollegeTracks, B-CC's College Access Program

For the past four years, the Foundation has supported CollegeTracks, B-CC's college access program. Staff at CollegeTracks help families with the college search process. Parents learn how to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the form that states and colleges use to determine students' eligibility for financial aid. This is especially valuable to families who may not have thought that their children would be able to attend college. For families with little or no college experience, the college application process can be overwhelming. (See more *CollegeTracks* on p. 9.)



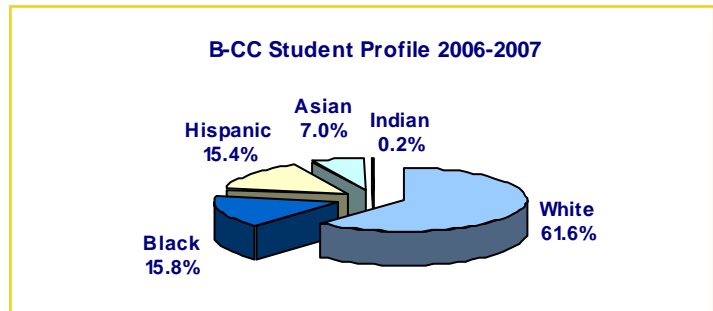
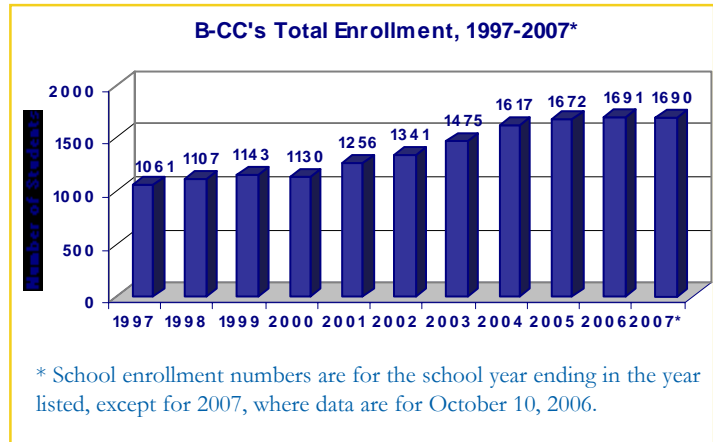
Parents learn the computer skills they need to stay engaged in their children's education

B-CC at Full Enrollment

B-CC has 87 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students, representing 33 countries and 22 languages this school year.

After increasing steadily for six years in a row, B-CC's enrollment registers at 1690 at the start of the 2006-07 school year, essentially unchanged from last year. The total student population now stands 50% higher than in 2000, and 60% higher since the Foundation's inception.

B-CC remains one of the most ethnically and economically diverse schools in Montgomery County, reflecting the county's changing demographics. As of October 10, 2006, 61.6% of the student body is white, 15.8% black, 15.4% Hispanic, 7.0% Asian, and 0.2% American Indian. The proportion of students qualifying for "free and reduced meals" stands at 10.9% this year. B-CC's student body is almost evenly divided between male (49.2%) and female (50.8%).



B-CC's Notable Numbers

- The Class of 2006 was the first graduating class to take the new SAT. The new SAT has three sections: critical reading, math, and writing. Each section has a maximum of 800 points. The SAT mean scores for B-CC's class of 2006 were 1784 (total), 595 (critical reading), 598 (math), and 592 (writing). Comparable scores for MCPS were 1634, 539, 558, and 537; and for the nation, 1518, 508, 520, and 490. Eighty-one percent of B-CC's class of 2006 took the SAT.

- The class of 2006 had 84 IB diploma candidates and 237 IB certificate candidates, compared with 82 and 154, respectively, in 2005, and 48 and 63, respectively, in 2004. B-CC's passing rate was well above the international average.

- A total of 601 students took 1060 AP tests in May 2006.

- The Class of 2006 had a graduation rate of 98.9%.

- 75% of the class of 2006 went to four-year colleges; 20% went to two-year colleges.

- Among Montgomery County Public Schools, B-CC has the highest percentage of students enrolled in at least one honors-level course (92%).

The 2006 commencement speaker was actress Lynda Carter, star of "Wonder Woman."

B-CC Ranks 34th Among Top Public High Schools

B-CC continues to rank high among the best public high schools in the country. It placed 34th on the latest *Newsweek* "best public high schools" list. Based on *Washington Post* reporter Jay Matthews' Challenge Index—the number of Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) tests taken by all students at a school, divided by the number of graduating seniors—the list "recognizes schools that do the best job of preparing average students for college." The article appeared in the May 8, 2006 issue of *Newsweek*.

On the Cyber Café...

"The Cyber Café is one of the best things that has ever happened to my students at B-CC. They depend on it for their homework, research, and class projects. They use it for emails and internet search. This is the only link many of our foreign students have to their home countries. They use it before school, during lunch, and after school. I am so grateful to the Foundation for what it has done for my students." - Stuart Markowitz, B-CC Computer Instructor and Cyber Café supervisor.

ALUMNI CORNER

Check the alumni website for useful information about planning a reunion: www.bccedfoundation.org/alumni

Mark your reunion with a Class Gift. Your class year will go on the Donors' Plaque in the school lobby with a donation of \$2,500 or more! Go to www.bccedfoundation.org to donate online or download a donation form.

B-CC Alumni Notables

David Rachlis ('78) & Frank Hayde — *Zion - The Story Behind the Scenery* (Zion Natural History Assoc., 2005). This book is part of a national park series called "The Story Behind The Scenery" which covers all of the major U.S. parks. Rachlis and Hayde, two former Zion park rangers, describe the geology, flora, fauna, and history of the park.

Seth Resnik ('90) was awarded the 20th anniversary Don and Gee Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Seth and his co-writer Ron Moskovitz won the prestigious fellowship for their work, "Fire in a Coal Mine," one of five winners selected from nearly 6,000 scripts submitted for this year's competition.

Emily Beach ('01) captained the University of Maryland women's field hockey team to its 2006 NCAA field hockey national championship.

Alum Governor-Elect of Iowa

Chet Culver ('84) was elected the 40th governor of Iowa this November. After graduating from B-CC, Culver attended Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia on a football scholarship, earning a B.A. in political science. After working as an environmental and consumer advocate in the Iowa Attorney General's office, Chet went back to school and received his Master of Arts in Teaching at Drake University in 1994. He taught history and government in high schools in Des Moines, Iowa before being elected to his first of two terms as Iowa's Secretary of State in 1998, becoming the country's youngest Secretary of State. Chet, son of former US Senator John Culver, will be this country's only governor who has worked in a classroom in the last twenty years.



Back in a classroom on the 3rd floor of Building C, the Class of 1966 reminisced about their B-CC days.

Class Gifts

A big **Thank You** to the Class of 1985 whose members marked their 20th reunion with generous gifts to the B-CC High School Educational Foundation totalling \$2604.

Reunions

Upcoming Reunions:

1950: June 2007, Yosemite National Park. Contact: Ron Wenninger, Grjmwen@cs.com

1957: October 5-6, 2007, Bethesda Hyatt. More info at: <http://bccclass1957.com>

1971: September 29, 2007, Chevy Chase Woman's Club. Contact: Barbra Johnson, glengenny@comcast.com

1976: November 24, 2006, Pooks Hill Marriott, Bethesda. More info at: <http://www.backtoschoolreunions.com/B-CC.htm>

1986: November 24-25, 2006, Pour House, D.C., Meadowbrook Park, CC. More info at <http://bcc86reunion.blogspot.com>

1996: November 25, 2006, Rock Bottom Brewery, Bethesda. Contact: Eaton Dunkelberger, BCCclassof96@gmail.com

2001: November 25, 2006, Adams Mill Bar and Grill, D.C. Contact: Jeff Schiffman, jschiffm@tulane.edu

Reunions held in 2005-2006:

1951: Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2006. Contact: Charlie Zimmerli, cznz@juno.com

1956: Sept. 29-30 2006. Contact bcc56@reunioncentral.com.

1961: Jun. 16-18, 2006. More info at: <http://www.webstoriches.net/bcc/bcc61.htm>

1966: Aug. 12, 2006. Contact: Steve Van Grack, SVG@vawlaw.com, or 301-738-7671

1970: Jun. 10-12, 2006. Contact: David Rochlin, rochlin.david@epa.gov

1980: Oct. 21-22, 2006. Contact: Kirsten Denney, 212-414-2129. kdislandgirl@yahoo.com

1985: Nov. 25, 2005, Contact: <http://bcc85.com>

1990: Nov. 26, 2005. Contact: Xan Raskin, xraskin@yahoo.com, or 646-425-5860

B-CC Alumni Website:
www.bccedfoundation.org/alumni

Contributions By Class 1996 - FY2006

Class Year	Total Contributions	Class Year	Total Contributions	Class Year	Total Contributions
1933	\$ 200	1958	\$ 5,808	1982	2,130
1934	250	1959	7,995	1983	\$ 3,493
1935	475	1960	8,900	1984	2,925
1936	225	1961	11,036	1985	5,395
1937	1,280	1962	2,933	1986	1,560
1938	735	1963	4,355	1987	1,850
1939	1,150	1964	5,410	1988	470
1940	1,528	1965	3,945	1989	500
1941	1,817	1966	5,593	1990	245
1942	900	1967	7,153	1991	625
1943	2,135	1968	1,870	1992	380
1944	2,300	1969	2,990	1993	375
1945	2,125	1970	2,139	1994	65
1946	1,735	1971	2,240	1995	25
1947	335	1972	3,453	1996	70
1948	1,870	1973	6,130	1997	140
1949	3,420	1974	4,675	1998	85
1950	6,175	1975	13,520	1999	225
1951	5,075	1976	4,544	2000	437
1952	1,025	1977	7,719	2001	50
1953	3,413	1978	610	2003	25
1954	1,675	1979	4,200	2004	25
1955	3,190	1980	935	2005	25
1956	6,630	1981	2,090	2007	65
1957	41,545				

From the Archives

Benjamin W. Allnutt, B-CC journalism and English teacher, died June 2, 1976 at age 56. Mr. Allnutt had Hodgkin's disease. "During nearly three decades as a B-CC teacher, Mr. Allnutt helped build the school's biweekly paper, *The Tattler*, into an award-winning publication, many of whose staff later made careers in journalism.... On the 50th anniversary of the National Scholastic Press Association, he was cited as one of 13 teachers across the country who had contributed the most to scholastic journalism." (*Claudia Levy, Washington Post, June 4, 1976*)

Lester L. Olinger, Jr., B-CC Social Studies teacher, died in 1996. Then-Rep. Connie Morella read into the Congressional Records a tribute to him in June 1996; <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/R?r104:FLD001:E51066>

In Remembrance:

Mrs. Eleanor Kormann Bingham, German teacher at B-CC from 1950's to 1968, died on Dec. 30, 2005 in California at age 97. Mrs. Bingham, known affectionately as "Frau Bingham" at B-CC, was born in New York City in 1908 and graduated at age 19 from Hunter College. She began her teaching career in New York, and in 1947, moved to Washington, D.C. with her husband, the late Alfred J. Bingham (Prof. Emeritus, U of MD) and their children. She taught French at Mrs. Cook's School (now the Sheridan School) before coming to Montgomery County, where she helped develop the FLES (Foreign Languages in Elementary Schools) program and taught at Woodlin Elementary.

A "Brady" Retirement

Brady Blade came to B-CC in 1974 as a teacher and coach. He became its athletic director in 1984. After 21 years, Brady decided to retire from his AD job. He spent the 2005-2006 school year teaching in the classroom, but when the AD job at Einstein HS opened up this past July, he accepted it readily. "I really felt like I was sitting on the curb, watching the parade go by," said Blade. "Maybe after doing it for 21 years at B-CC, which is a stressful job; in that constant pressure and stress to win.... I needed a year off. But that year kind of revitalized me." (*John Y. Wehmuller, Bethesda Gazette, Aug. 23, 2006*)



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered in the school entrance lobby for their tour of the renovated school.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI CLASSES: TAKE THE CLASS OF 1975'S CHALLENGE. ADOPT A MURAL!

The Class of 1975, after underwriting the first mural (Elvis) to return to B-CC, contributed a further **\$1,300 as a leadership challenge grant** to encourage other classes to contribute to the murals project for the return of additional murals to B-CC. View all the murals at www.bccedfoundation.org/alumni/bcc_alumni_gallery.html

Russian Exchange Program Returns to B-CC

In January 1989, B-CC made history when it became one of the first high schools in the U.S. to have a student exchange program with the Soviet Union. The exchange was part of the initiative begun by Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev. When the students from Moscow School 45 arrived at B-CC, then-Secretary of State, George Schultz, and the Russian ambassador both attended the welcoming ceremony in the B-CC auditorium. It was an exciting occasion, and the Russian students and the American students were thrilled to be making history together.

The exchange program, one group from Moscow School 45 in the fall, and one group of B-CC students to Moscow in the spring (except in 1991 during the height of the Gulf War), went into hiatus when Russian and Social Studies teacher, James Biedron retired in 2002. Now, thanks to B-CC teachers Mike Costello and Philip Herner, the Russian exchange program has returned, this time with Gymnasia #1 in Samara City. The Russians will be at B-CC for ten days in November, and B-CC students and teachers will visit Samara for two weeks in the spring. During these two-week stays with host families, students will attend classes, interact with their host families, and be an integral part of a different world. Students and teachers will make cultural excursions, visit other cities, and engage in dialogue with politicians, businessmen, and journalists to better understand the political, economic, and cultural life in Russia and the U.S.

Many classes have returned to B-CC to tour the new school. Check out their photos at www.bccedfoundation.org/alumni/bcc_alumni_gallery.html

Foundation Filling the Gap

(cont'd from p. 1)

ported significantly higher "motivation to achieve academic success" at the end of the program. However, a large majority (86% this past summer) felt that they would need ongoing support in 9th grade.

To address this need, the Foundation now funds support during the school year for the 92 students who were recommended for the Summer Academy this past summer. The students' class performance is being tracked and their TAP attendance monitored. They also have regular weekly meetings with trained adult mentors from the community and student mentors from the National Honor Society.

B-CC Chess Team 2006 State Champions

B-CC's Chess Team is Maryland's new State Team Chess Champion. A team of four B-CC students, coached by B-CC math teacher Michael Costello, won the High School Division of the Maryland Scholastic Team Chess Championship on February, 18, 2006 in Towson, MD. Approximately 320 chess players participated in this year's tournament.

Go Barons! 2005-2006 Titles

Baseball—Division 3A/2A/1A Champs

Field Hockey—Division Champs

Boys' Lacrosse—Division Champs

Indoor Track—Regional Champ (55-yard hurdles)

Track & Field—Regional Champs (1600m & 3200m), State Champs (110m hurdles & 3200m run)

Football—John Zehner, Gazette's 2005 Montgomery County 3A/2A/1A Coach of the year.

2006 Homecoming

Score: B-CC 42, Walter Johnson 3!

On a chilly homecoming night a large crowd cheered the Barons football team to victory over Walter Johnson. Thanks to a dominating overall performance on offense and defense, the Barons sprinted to a 36-3 halftime lead and never looked back. Coach John Zehner's squad kept the pressure on throughout the game, which ended with a resounding 42-3 victory for the home team. It was truly a great homecoming night for the Barons and their boisterous fans.

B-CC Technology Fund

The Montgomery County Public Schools System requires that all computers in its schools be replaced every four years. To comply with this schedule, the Foundation must raise \$60,000 every four years to replace the extra computers that it has purchased for the school's computer labs and classrooms. The Foundation seeks special help from the community to fund this ongoing project. **Please help underwrite the Foundation's Technology Fund.** Use the enclosed envelope or donate online:

<http://www.bccedfoundation.org>

B-CC Scientists Hit New Heights

The B-CC High School Educational Foundation is a proud supporter of science and math. Two years ago, the Foundation supplied the seed money for the school's Academy of Technology, Mathematics, and Science (ATMS); this past school year, ATMS became a reality.

By 10th grade, all ATMS students are required to enter the Montgomery County Science Fair. However, starting, developing, and running a science project can be expensive. The Science Department and PTSA cover only some of the costs. Last year, the Foundation supported the Science Fair with a grant for students to buy supplies; without this support, their projects would have been impossible. For instance, one student used his money to buy magnets to build a mini maglev transportation system. Two students used their money to buy chemicals that the school does not normally stock for a project on detecting aluminum in baby formula.

These small investments, and hours and hours of hard work on the part of students, teachers, parents and mentors, have paid huge dividends for B-CC's science and math students.

At the 2006 Montgomery County Science Fair:

- B-CC brought home two of the four Grand Intel ISEF Awards. The ATMS robotics team captured the first place, grand prize in engineering. Junior Beebe Parker won the first place, grand prize in zoology.

- B-CC scientists won 20 category awards, including three first places, three seconds, three thirds, and one honorable mention.

- In the category of microbiology, B-CC swept the field, winning the first, second, and third place awards.

- Twenty-one B-CC science and math students won special awards from sponsoring organizations, including the National Society of Professional Engineers, the American Meteorological Society, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

In addition, at the International Intel finals, Beebe Parker bested competitors from Taiwan, Russia, China, and the U.S., to win the fourth place award.

And then there was the National Science Bowl. This past school year, a Foundation grant bought quiz buzzers for the National Science Bowl team, which team members used to hone their skills in practice and strategy sessions. No B-CC team had ever made it to the second round before, but at the finals last February, the team took third place for the Maryland/Delaware region. B-CC science teacher and team advisor, Deb Pober Haase, reported that the B-CC team "trounced the competition." The buzzers are now being used by B-CC's "It's Academic" team.

CollegeTracks Program Recognized

CollegeTracks, the brainchild of three B-CC parents, was launched in October 2002 in collaboration with the school's administration and its Counseling Department, and with an initial \$1,500 grant from the B-CC High School Educational Foundation. Its goal was simply to level the college admissions and financial aid playing field among B-CC students.

The parents saw students who looked with despair when asked about their plans after graduation. These students came from widely varying backgrounds. However, most were from low-income households and, unlike their middle class counterparts, not one of them had an adult in their lives familiar enough with the American higher education system to help them navigate the complicated maze of gaining admission to college and securing sufficient financial aid to attend.

What the parents saw was consistent with research showing that one of the largest barriers to college access is lack of college know-how: how to prepare for college, how to apply, and how to get financial aid. That know-how most eludes low-income students, racial and ethnic minorities, and youths from families with no previous college history. These groups have significantly lower college enrollment rates than their peers in higher socioeconomic strata. And it's not grades: poor kids with high grades are only as likely to attend college as rich kids with low grades. In Maryland, low-income young adults are three times less likely to attend college than their counterparts from high-income families. Getting into college and finding enough financial aid is a complicated, jargon-filled journey.

Since 2002, with an annual grant from the Foundation, CollegeTracks staff and trained volunteers have been helping students one day a week after school, and one evening a week at the Coffield Community Center in Rosemary Hill. They advise students and families on all aspects of career exploration, college selection, college application, SAT/ACT registration, test prep options, FAFSA preparation, and financial aid packages negotiation. And as young people tackle the complicated college admissions process, they learn important self-sufficiency skills, such as perseverance, organization, time management, and how to interact well with adults. **Over these past four years, CollegeTracks has worked with more than 300 students, almost all of whom went on to college or technical school.**

Based on its successful track record at B-CC, CollegeTracks was awarded a two-year \$90,000 grant in 2006 from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. The grant enables the program to hire and train staff so it can continue to provide college access services at B-CC and expand those services to Wheaton High School where the college-going rate is among the county's lowest.

Special thanks to our retiring Board members Leslye Fraser, Nancy Pindus, Gail Werner, and Mier Wolf for their many years of invaluable service to the B-CC High School Educational Foundation.

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Two years ago, the B-CC High School Educational Foundation launched a new way to support the school—the *Barons Scholars Circle*. **The *Barons Scholars Circle* creates an annual source of funds for on-going B-CC programs, including TAP, mentoring programs, and the Summer Academy, that offer individual academic support to our students at all academic levels. Please join us by becoming an annual member of the *Barons Scholars Circle*.** You can join *Barons Scholars Circle* with a donation at the honor roll level of \$500, the cum laude level of \$1,000, the magna cum laude level of \$2,500, or the summa cum laude level of \$5,000. The *Barons Scholars Circle* has no administrative costs—100% of your dollars go directly to fund these academic support programs.

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