

# **BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

#### November 2008

# IN THIS ISSUE

- Foundation's New Program
   1
- Foundation
   Financials and
   Mission
   2-3
- Foundation's Business Partners
   4
- B-CC Numbers **5**
- Alumni News
  6
- Donor List
   9-11

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

# CollegeTracks—Foundation's New Signature Program

This past spring, the B-CC High School Educational Foundation added the award-winning B-CC CollegeTracks as a Foundation signature program to its continuum of essential programs that serve B-CC students. With this addition, the Foundation now enables the school to offer a range of academic support services for students: from the summer before their freshman year, throughout their high school years, to when they pursue post-secondary education options.

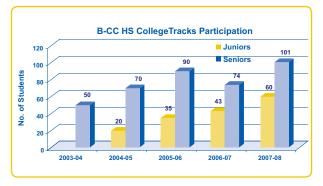
CollegeTracks, started seven years ago by three B-CC parents, works with low and moderate income students who can succeed at college but may not get there simply because they don't know how to apply to college or get financial aid. Few have adults in their lives familiar enough with the American higher education system to guide them successfully through an increasingly complicated system. Some are immigrants who face language and cultural obstacles. Most believe college is unaffordable.

CollegeTracks staff and trained volunteers work right at B-CC to ensure that students and families get inspiration, information and support to understand their postsecondary education options, successfully navigate the admissions process, and secure the financial aid they need

in order to attend college. Since 2002, CollegeTracks has worked with more than 540 students at B-CC, over 95% of whom have gone on to college or technical school. CollegeTracks received this year's Montgomery County Board of Education Distinguished Service to Public Education Award for organizations that have made exemplary contributions to public education in Montgomery County. According to Dr. Frank Stetson, Community Superintendent for B-CC High School, "This award is well deserved. CollegeTracks has helped make college a reality for students who might not otherwise be able to take advantage of such opportunities."

Started with \$1,500 seed money from the Foundation in the fall of 2002, CollegeTracks was an all-volunteer effort for three years. In December 2005, on the basis of its success at B-CC, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation awarded it a two-year \$90,000 grant to expand the program to Wheaton High School. With additional generous contributions from local government, charitable organizations, and individuals, and inkind support from the school system, College-Tracks has had a paid staff at both schools for the last two years, allowing it to reach more students and deliver more comprehensive services.

"CollegeTracks is remarkably cost-effective, serving each student annually for less than \$400," says Executive Director Nancy Leopold. "The return on this investment is huge – for the students, for their families, and for our entire community." To ensure that CollegeTracks will continue to deliver these essential services to B-CC students year after year, the Foundation made CollegeTracks a signature program and pledged to raise \$50,000 for its annual operating costs.



2

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE High School Educational Foundation 2008-2009

#### Board of Directors

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BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. F.O.BOX 31209 BETHESDA, MD 20824-1209 WWW. bccedfoundation. org.

### From the President

This school year has brought changes both for B-CC High School and the Foundation.

B-CC welcomes a new principal, Karen Lockard, who had previously served as assistant principal and as a teacher. Ms. Lockard took over from Sean Bulson this summer when he left to take a leadership position with the county school system. The Foundation is working closely with Principal Lockard to ensure that our resources continue to help meet the school's highest priority needs.

The Foundation is proud to have adopted CollegeTracks as our newest signature program. As the cover story explains, CollegeTracks is a wonderful example of a program that began with a small amount of seed money from the Foundation and has now grown into a fully operational college access program helping over a hundred B-CC students per year realize the dream of attending college.

B-CC High School Educational Foundation's signature programs, including College Tracks, the Summer Academy for incoming at-risk ninth graders, and the TAP after-school tutoring program, provide critical support needed for all B-CC students to reach their academic potential. These programs receive no funding from Montgomery County or the State of Maryland. They exist at B-CC only because of the generous support of parents, alumni, our business partners, and other caring members of the community. Your support continues to make a real difference in our students' lives. We are also proud to announce a new Foundation grant to help students succeed at B-CC by strengthening the articulation between Westland Middle School and B-CC High School. In response to concerns that some students are not well enough prepared for the more rigorous level of classes when they advance from Westland to B-CC, the Foundation has provided both schools with a grant to identify strategies for addressing the problem. We are very excited about the potential for improving the alignment of the curriculum and teacher expectations between the schools, thereby enabling students to experience a smoother transition to high school.

Finally, the Foundation said good-bye this year to three retiring board members: Nancy Leopold, Nancy Suniewick, and Ross Wiener. We are very grateful for their many contributions over the years.

We are very pleased to welcome two new members to the Foundation board: Susan Kitt, B-CC's past PTSA president, and Steve Hull, editor of *Bethesda Magazine* and parent of a B-CC graduate and three B-CC students. Both began serving three-year terms this fall.

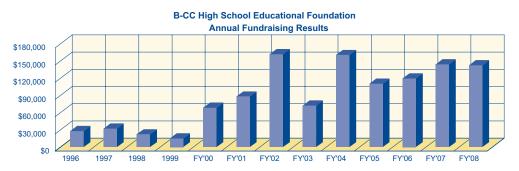
Thank you for your continued support of our Foundation and the many B-CC High School students we serve.

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Matthew Gandal

#### Foundation Financials

The B-CC High School Educational Foundation raised \$142,700 in FY2008, bringing the total amount of funds raised since its inception in 1996 to \$1.17 million. The two-year technology campaign that ended in FY2002 and the language lab campaign in FY2004 were especially successful. Our fundraising effort in the past two years to expand academic support for B-CC students at all levels also had significant results.

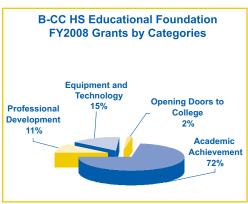


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#### Foundation's Mission, Goals, and Priorities

#### 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 smallschool 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.

### FY2008 Foundation-Funded Projects

The generosity of our donors during the 2007-2008 school year enabled the Foundation to continue to fund the following projects that enhance academic excellence at B-CC High School:

Academic Support Programs—after-school tutoring in English, math, science, and social studies at all levels; mentoring and diagnostic assessments for those students who need extra help.

**B-CC College Tracks**—after-school and evening workshops, as well as trained mentors, to help with the college application and financial aid process for students who, although 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. **B-CC Summer Academy**—a threeweek summer program for incoming 9th grade students who have struggled academically in middle school. Students work on English, math, study skills, and general school issues.

**Department Equipment**—purchase of books for the Media Center and the College/Career center, and new equipment for the Theater Department.

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

*Lazarus Leadership Fellows Program*—15 students selected each year to participate in leadership training in community service.

Parent Computer Classes—two seven-week basic computer skills classes 2008 ANNUAL REPORT\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Funding Priorities for FY2009**

• After-school tutoring (TAP) for all students

• Summer Academy for at-risk incoming 9th graders

• CollegeTracks to improve college access for students who are most at risk of not attending college

• International Baccalaureate Program support

• Professional development for teachers

• Strengthening articulation between Westland Middle School and B-CC High School

New computers and technology

The Foundation seeks funds from the B-CC community—parents, alumni, businesses, and other community organizations—for these priorities. Board members work closely with the school administration, the PTSA, and B-CC alumni to coordinate support for the school. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE B-CC HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

at B-CC's Cyber Café for ESOL and Latino parents in the B-CC Cluster schools to help them learn the technology they need to be engaged in their children's education.

**Parent ESOL Program**—two twelve-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 school and teachers.

**Professional Development**—grants for teachers to take courses and attend workshops and conferences.

*Writers' Residency Program* community-based writers and alumni writers lead writing workshops for students in English classes.

# Trawick Foundation Gives Major Grant for Summer Academy

The Foundation is very pleased to announce that the Jim & Carol Trawick Foundation gave a major two-year grant totaling \$30,000 to support B-CC's Summer Academy. The grant will fund half of the program for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 and enable it to include mentoring during the academic year. The Trawick Foundation spurred an increased gift from long-time Foundation supporter, Chevy Chase Bank.

The Summer Academy's purpose is to enhance academic success in 9<sup>th</sup> grade for incoming at-risk students, to improve their classroom attendance, and to reduce their high school drop-out rates. For three weeks each July, students attend a series of classes and workshops taught by B-CC High School teachers. The program continues during the academic year, offering mentoring services to these students to sustain and add to their achievements attained during the summer

One of the Foundation's signature programs and nearly ten years old, the Summer Academy has proven its effectiveness in attracting a broad range of targeted students and in encouraging their academic progress during the school year.

The Jim & Carol Trawick Foundation was formed in Bethesda in 2007 by local philanthropists and community activists Jim and Carol Trawick. They sold their twenty-year successful business, Trawick and Associates, in 2006 and created a family foundation to assist community endeavors in the arts and human services. Sadly, Jim passed away in September, 2008. Carol remains active in numerous community ventures. She has received many awards and accolades for her community work and generosity over the years, and currently serves as Chair-Elect for the Strathmore Hall Foundation. The Trawick Foundation's grant is an excellent example of local philanthropy, and the B-CC High School Educational Foundation hopes it will serve as an inspiration for local businesses and foundations to emulate.

#### **B-CC Goes Solar**

As of October 29, 2008, B-CC has an operational 1.08 kw photovoltaix array. This six-panel solar array, mounted on the sun shades on top of the small gym, will provide teachers and students new opportunities for interdisciplinary projects and experiments while helping to reduce the school's energy costs. BP Solar donated the panels. The Green Schools student group at B-CC did the initial feasibility study and provided the bulk of the funding. Additional financial support came from the Maryland Energy Administration and the B-CC High School Educational Foundation.

"The early enthusiasm and support of the Foundation helped us keep hope for the project when logistics looked impossible," said math teacher Ms. Rita Pascale.

# Chevy Chase Bank Expands Foundation Partnership

In 2008, long-time Foundation partner Chevy Chase Bank significantly expanded its support of the Foundation's Summer Academy program with a leadership grant of \$15,000. Matched by an equivalent grant from the Jim & Carol Trawick Foundation, Chevy Chase Bank's generous donation enabled the Summer Academy and mentoring program during the school year to be fully funded for fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Chevy Chase Bank, "the leading local bank," has an enviable record of strong support for the Foundation and B-CC High School over many years. In the 1990s, it gave a leadership gift of \$25,000 to facilitate the development of the Cyber Café, and it has regularly supported technology upgrades. It has been a major sponsor of the Summer Academy since the program's inception ten years ago. The Bank also provides interview and resume development training for B-CC High School students, hosts students for the annual Career Partnership Day, and provides internships for students exploring careers in financial services. A senior Bank officer (alum Russ McNish) was on B-CC's accreditation committee during the school's re-accreditation process, while other Bank executives participate in a variety of outreach activities throughout the school year.

The charitable commitments of Chevy Chase Bank extend to the Bethesda-Chevy Chase community and to other educational institutions. For instance, the Bank is a major supporter of the new Bethesda Green initiative, donating free office space and serving on the Board of Directors. Its unique, nationally recognized strategic partnership with Montgomery College provides college students employment opportunities at Chevy Chase Bank, enabling students to earn money while in school and learn about the world of banking. And for each student who remains employed by the Bank for a year, the Bank makes a contribution to the Montgomery College Foundation.

Chevy Chase Bank was founded in 1969 by B. Francis Saul, II and is by far the largest locally owned and managed bank in the greater Washington, D.C. area. Headquartered in downtown Bethesda since 2001, the Bank prides itself on its strategic partnership with B-CC High School and its Foundation. The Foundation is grateful for the Bank's continuous financial support and is promoting the Bank's leadership as an example for other local business partners.

### New Courses at B-CC

Reflecting increased enrollment, students' need for more diverse course offerings, and individual teachers' intellectual interests, eight new courses have been added at B-CC this year: Latin American History, African American History, East Asian History, Comparative Religions, Arabic, Introduction to Engineering Design, Advanced Band, and Treble Choir.

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# 5

# **B-CC Enrollment Reaches New Heights**

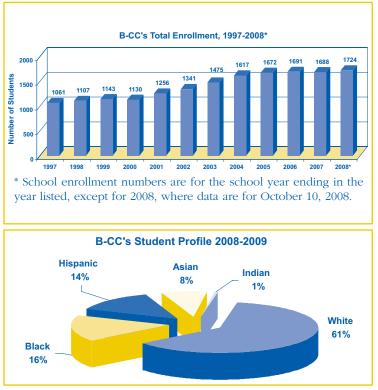
B-CC has 71 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students, representing 34 countries and 22 languages.

The 2008 commencement speaker at DAR Constitution Hall was Congressman Chris Van Hollen, Maryland 8th District.

Chips, B-CC's literary magazine, again earned The Columbía Scholastíc Press Association Gold Medalíst Award and Maryland-District of Columbía Scholastíc Press Association Gold Award.

B-CC's enrollment jumped to 1,782 students at the start of the 2008-09 school year, the highest in recent memory. The total student population is now 58% higher than in 2000, and 68% higher than in 1996, the year the Foundation began.

B-CC remains one of the most ethnically and economically diverse schools in Montgomery County. As of October 7, 2008, 61% of the student body is white, 16% black, 14% Hispanic, 8% Asian, and less than 1% American Indian. The proportion of students on free and reduced meals is 11% this year.



### **B-CC's Notable Numbers**

• 94% of B-CC students are enrolled in at least one honors-level course and 72% of B-CC seniors are enrolled in at least one AP or IB course at the start of the 2008-2009 school year.

• B-CC offers 24 AP courses this school year – 7 in languages, 7 in social sciences, 9 in math and sciences, and 1 in fine arts. A total of 625 students took 1,114 AP tests in May 2008.

• B-CC had 272 IB certificate candidates and 90 IB diploma candidates in 2008, up from 210 and 72, respectively, the year before. The pass rate of the IB diploma candidates was 91%, compared with 70% in the U.S. and 80% worldwide.

• The SAT mean scores for B-CC's Class of 2008 was 1751. Comparable scores for MCPS and for the nation were 1616 and 1511, respectively.

• B-CC has a graduation rate of 96%, among the highest in the country, compared with 71% nationally, and 81% for MCPS.

• 75% of the Class of 2008 went to fouryear colleges; 20% went to two-year colleges.

• The Class of 2008 had 10 National Merit Semifinalists and 13 Maryland Distinguished Scholar Finalists.

# **B-CC Ranks Among Top 100** High Schools in the Nation

B-CC continues to rank high among the best public high schools in the country. It placed 63rd 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. B-CC was one of six MCPS high schools ranked in the top 100.

# **B-CC** Math Teacher Named County's Teacher of the Year

B-CC math teacher and senior class advisor Christopher Orlando was named Montgomery County Teacher of the Year for 2008.

Mr. Orlando, a seven-year veteran at B-CC, teaches a range of math classes, including AP Calculus and IB Math. In his six years of teaching AP Calculus, 96% of the 328 students in his classes passed the AP test, and 53% scored a perfect "5" on the test.

6

# The Murals Project

Could the wonderful wall murals painted by B-CC students from the 1940s through the 1990s be displayed on the walls of B-CC once again? They could not be saved during B-CC's modernization because the walls on which they were painted were lined with abestos. Fortunately, the PTSA had them photographed before the demolition, and the Foundation is leading the effort to have the murals recreated.

The class of 1975 started the ball rolling with a generous gift at their 30th reunion to recreate the *Ehris* mural which now graces the wall across from the new B-CC auditorium.

This summer, B-CC alumnus Philip Hutinet ('88) offered to repaint *Youthquake*, the mural he created in 1988, and he is now putting it on canvas. Once complete, his donation of this recreated piece of B-CC history will hang in the Art hallway, adjacent to the atrium highlighting the 1934 "C" building.

The class of 1956 is now a part of our most exciting historic murals recreation. Their generous 50th reunion gift is bringing back the "B-CC Mural". This mural, originally painted in the 1940s, represents everything B-CC, including sports teams, cheerleaders, graduation, the bonfire, the glee club and more. B-CC parent artist and muralist Katie Freeman Vita will duplicate the mural on canvas with acrylics on three panels, to be mounted on the curved wall in the school's entrance lobby above the trophy case.

This exciting project is possible only with the support of interested alumni. You can see the photos of the original murals and the progress of the mural recreation project on the alumni website – www.bccedfoundation.org/alumni/ bcc\_photogallery/murals/index.htm.

#### Barons at Nationals Stadium

On May 6, 2008, the B-CC baseball team took on the Whitman team in a regular season game at the beautiful new Nationals Stadium. It was a historic high school and community event, and a memorable night not only for the players, but also for families and fans, watching the Barons play on the same field as the major leaguers. Barons junior Boross singled for the Barons in the top of the first inning, marking the first hit ever by a high school player at the new Nationals Park. Final score: Whitman 5, B-CC 1.

#### Class Gifts

A special thank you to the classes of 1971 and 1987 for their generous gifts to the B-CC High School Educational Foundation!

#### Reunions

#### **Upcoming Reunions**:

1957: April/May 2010. Contact: Class of 1957Reunion Committee bccclass1957@yahoo.com1959: 50th reunion, October 9-11, 2009.

Please send contact information to Linda Huntington, 301-279-2248, lthunting@hotmail.com

**1960**: 50th reunion in 2010. Contact: Peter M. Salisbury salisburypm@cox.net or Judy Colton Christensen judybchristensen@comcast.net Class of 1960 official website: www.class report.org/usa/md/bethesda/bcchs/1960/

**1961**: 50th reunion in 2011. Contact: Barbara Johnson bj8x@msn.com or Phyllis Warfield Watkins at 301-829-4929. Class 1961 website: www. webstoriches.net/bcc/bcc61.htm

**1983**: November 8, 2008, Buffalo Billiards, Dupont Circle. Go to www.jdland.com/bcc83 for 25th Reunion details and registration information.

**1988**: November 29, 2008. Contact: bcc\_class\_of\_88@yahoo.com, or register at www.classof88bcc.com.

**2003**: November 28, 2008, at Blackfinn Restaurant & Saloon in Bethesda. Contact: elliedb@gmail.com

#### Reunions held in 2007-2008:

**1953**: Jun. 6-7, 2008. Contact: Toniward2002 @yahoo.com

**1958**: Apr. 25-27, 2008. Contact: BaronNet58 @aol.com

1963: Sept. 27, 2008. Contact: jcatsdt12 @ verizon.net

**1967**: Nov. 3, 2007. Contact: Richard Mannion, RGmannion@aol.com

**1968**: Oct. 11, 2008. Contact: bcc68 @verizon.net

**1987**: November 23, 2007. Contact: Jason Gross, jason.gross@verizon.net

**1997**: November 24, 2007. Contact: bccreunion97@hotmail.com

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

Check the alumní websíte for useful ínformatíon about planníng a reuníon: www. bccedfoundatíon. org/alumní

🖌 Alumni Corner

Mark your reunion with a Class Gift. Your class year will be placed 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.

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#### Alumni Authors' Works On Display

Works by B-CC alumni, parents, and staff were again showcased at this year's B-CC Literary Arts Festival where visitors were treated to performances by B-CC musicians, a poetry slam, and a display of IB Middle Years Program and Altered Books Art projects.

On display were works by alumni authors/artists Judy Barr ('63), Sandy Burk ('80), Linda Reid Stassinopolous Chassiakos ('70), Tracy Chevalier ('80), Kirsten Denney ('80), Sarah Erdman ('92), Laura Hillenbrand ('85), Joe Haldeman ('61), A.M. Homes ('79), Charles Lane ('79), Michael Lowenthal ('86), John McKeon ('71), Aaron Mendelsohn ('84), Dan Nainan ('79), Michael Shipler ('95), Jeff Stuart ('63), David G. Ullman ('62), William Wang ('63), Alexandra Zapruder ('87), Matthew Zapruder ('85), and Michael Zapruder ('87).

#### A Reunion Across the Ocean

Kenneth Isen ('68) was in his seventh-grade English class at Leland Junior High School when his teacher announced that students in Japan learning English were seeking American pen pals. Twelve-year old Isen volunteered and was given a letter and a photo from Hiroshi Horiuchi of Shimoyoshida, Japan. Correspondence between them lasted three years.

Isen rediscovered Hiroshi's letters when he sold his mother's house. When a friend invited him to visit China last spring, he thought of Hirsoshi. A Google search netted a doctor named Hiroshi Horiuchi on the Japanese website of a medical clinic. Enlisting the help of his cousin's Japanese wife, Isen reached Dr. Horiuchi, who remembered him immediately and invited him to visit. Isen finally met his pen pal from 45 years ago!

#### Homecoming 2008

On Friday, Sept. 26, the B-CC Barons varsity football squad took on the Watkins Mill Wolverines in the annual Homecoming game. A heavy downpour that started just before kickoff made the game challenging for both sides but did not dampen the spirits of the exuberant Barons fans. Watkins Mill jumped to an early lead with a strong running game and controlled the first half. As the rain continued to fall, the Wolverines expanded their lead in the second half until the Barons finally broke through with a touchdown in the fourth quarter. In the end Watkins Mill won, 20-6.

#### GO Barons! 2007-2008 Titles

Boys' Basketball—Division & Regional champs Girls' Basketball—Division champs Boys' Cross Country-Regional & State champs; first state title since 1973 Field Hockey-Division & Regional champs Gymnastics—Division, County, Regional & State champs Boys' Indoor Track—Regional champs (800m, 3200m) Girls' Indoor Track-State (1600m, 4x800m), Regional (800m, 1600m, 3200m), & County champs (1600m) **Poms**—Division champs Boys' Soccer-Division, Regional & State champs; first state title since 2001 Girls' Soccer—Division champs Swimming and Diving-Division champs Boys' Track & Field—Regional champs (3200m, 4x800m) Girls' Track & Field-Regional champs (800m, 1600m, 3200m, 4x800m)

Girls' Volleyball-Regional champs

Contributions By Class 1996 - FY2008											
Class Year	Total Contri- butions	Class Year	Total Contri- butions	Class Year	Total Contri- butions	Class Year	Total Contri- butions	Class Year	Total Contri- butions	Class Year	Total Contri- butions
1933	\$ 200	1946	2,530	1959	12,350	1972	4,638	1985	7,640	1998	110
1934	400	1947	510	1960	23,810	1973	8,705	1986	3,854	1999	225
1935	575	1948	2,545	1961	14,941	1974	6,240	1987	4,635	2000	592
1936	225	1949	4,115	1962	4,403	1975	18,645	1988	1,590	2001	60
1937	1,605	1950	7,575	1963	5,170	1976	5,744	1989	520	2002	50
1938	910	1951	5,435	1964	6,945	1977	9,089	1990	495	2003	25
1939	1,390	1952	1,150	1965	5,455	1978	1,580	1991	765	2004	25
1940	1,903	1953	4,288	1966	7,668	1979	5,025	1992	780	2005	75
1941	2,292	1954	1,975	1967	10,544	1980	1,280	1993	840	2007	85
1942	1,065	1955	7,110	1968	2,575	1981	3,790	1994	65		<u></u>
1943	2,380	1956	11,953	1969	4,115	1982	2,580	1995	25	Class Gifts:	
1944	3,155	1957	44,845	1970	3,069	1983	3,848	1996	120	1971	\$1,500
1945	2,275	1958	10,498	1971	4,440	1984	3,350	1997	690	1987:	\$ 938

# Foundation Funds Effort to Strengthen Curriculum Alignment

The Foundation launched a new program this year to improve the transition of students from Westland Middle School to B-CC High School. The goal is to improve the alignment of the curriculum and teacher expectations so that students entering B-CC are better prepared for the rigors of high school.

The idea for the program arose from conversations the Foundation had with the principals of B-CC and Westland who were concerned about a spike in expectations that occurs as students move from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade and also from 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade when many begin taking more challenging AP and IB courses. To help address their concerns, the Foundation has provided funding for teachers from each school to work together to evaluate the expectations of the curriculum in both schools and to identify areas where instruction should be strengthened in order to create a smoother transition for students through the grades.

The initial focus of this effort is on English. The B-CC team is evaluating what difficulties or weaknesses students have in their high school English classes, and is sharing its findings with the Westland team. The Westland teachers are working to sharpen their curriculum and instruction in response to these findings. Together, they hope to strengthen instructional programs and expectations for all students so they will have the skills needed for participation in IB, AP or honors classes in 11th and 12th grades.

This effort to improve the English articulation from Westland to B-CC is expected to provide the framework for addressing other subjects as well.

#### **B-CC's New Principal**

**Karen Lockard**, assistant principal at B-CC for the past two years, stepped into her new role as principal of B-CC this past July when former principal Sean Bulson was promoted to Director of School Performance in the Montgomery County Public Schools system.

Ms. Lockard, a 27-year MCPS veteran, is no stranger to B-CC. She taught English at B-CC for nine years and is a parent of two B-CC alums ('01 and '06). She is thrilled to be back at B-CC, which she considers "home."

# Foundation Signature Programs

Providing critical support for all B-CC students to reach their academic potential is the goal of the Foundation's signature programs. In addition to CollegeTracks (see cover story), the Foundation's two other signature programs are the Summer Academy and TAP.

The **B-CC Summer Academy** is designed to ease the transition from middle to high school and to help prepare incoming 9th graders for the challenges of their freshman year. Students who are struggling academically are identified while in middle school and are invited to attend the three-week program at no cost. This past summer, 62 students participated. There was also a workshop especially for parents.

As a follow-up to the Summer Academy, the Foundation also supports a mentoring program, "Barons Reaching Academic Goals (BRAG)." The Summer Academy students, as well as other freshmen who have been identified as academically at risk, are matched with trained adult mentors who meet with them weekly to provide guidance, encouragement, and support throughout the school year.

Time for Academic Progress (TAP) offers after-school tutoring and course work support to students at all levels, three days a week after school at B-CC and two evenings a week at the Gwendolyn Coffield Center in Silver Spring.

TAP at Coffield differs from the program at B-CC in that it offers a more convenient time and location for many students. Students are able to work one-on-one with a tutor, use the computers at the lab to complete their homework assignments, and have the camaraderie of other students who are also working towards academic success.

This past school year, TAP at B-CC had 2886 visits from 794 students. B-CC teachers provided help in math (44% of attendants), social studies (22%), science (21%), and English (13%) to students of all levels, from basic skills to advanced placement. Students received help with homework, test preparation, projects, and essays.

At both locations, TAP was used more consistently by underclassmen than upperclassmen. Students who attended TAP varied from those who needed lots of help to pass the class to those who were trying to raise their grade from a B to an A.

Many reunion classes have returned to B-CC to tour the new school. Check out their photos at www. bccedfoundation. org/alumní/ bcc\_alumní\_ gallery.html To request a school tour for your reunion, please contact bcchsedfounda tion@gmail.com

Níneteen teachers suffered through scratchy faces to compete in the Second Annual Beard-Growing Contest which raísed \$4,150 to donate to the Capital Area Food Bank.

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Recreation of the "B-CC Mural" – thanks to B-CC Class of 1956's special donation. See story on page 6.

11

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#### View Your Bricks Online

Have you bought an engraved brick that lines the interior courtyard at B-CC? Have you wondered what it looks like? Now you can view it online. Go to www.bccedfoundation.org/ alumni/bcc\_photogallery/ bcc\_bricks/index.html and follow the instructions.

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