



# BB&N Buckingham Browne & Nichols School Profile 2007-2008

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Buckingham Browne and Nichols School, an academically rigorous coeducational day school, was formed in January 1974 by a merger of two Cambridge independent schools, both with origins in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Approximately 950 students are enrolled in Beginners through Grade 12, with about 460 students in the Upper School. The graduating class is around 115. 100% of the seniors go on to four-year colleges.

### ***Calendar and Curriculum***

BB&N's calendar is divided into two semesters. The grading system is numerical, with 60 as a passing grade. To graduate from BB&N, a student must complete the following requirements:

English	4 years, grades 9-12
Mathematics	3 years, including Algebra II and Plane Geometry
Foreign Language	3 years of the same language (modern or ancient)
History/Social Science	2 years, including United States history
Science	2 years, including biology and a physical science
Arts	2 years
Athletics	3 seasons in grades 9-11, 2 seasons in grade 12
Bivouac	2-week experiential outdoor program in grade 9
Community Service	40 hours
Sexuality and Relationships	8-week course required in grade 10
Senior Spring Project	8-week independently designed project

### ***Class Rank, Citation of Honor, & Cum Laude***

BB&N does not provide class rank or grade point averages for its students. Citation of Honor is awarded to students who have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 for the year. Cum Laude is extended only to seniors who have attained a high level of achievement throughout an academically demanding program of secondary school study.

### ***Faculty***

Fifty members of the faculty hold master's degrees. Thirteen members have earned doctorate degrees.

### ***Discipline Reporting***

BB&N does not report disciplinary actions unless they occur following the submission of the school letter in the senior year. It is expected that students, when asked about discipline, will respond in an honest and forthright manner.

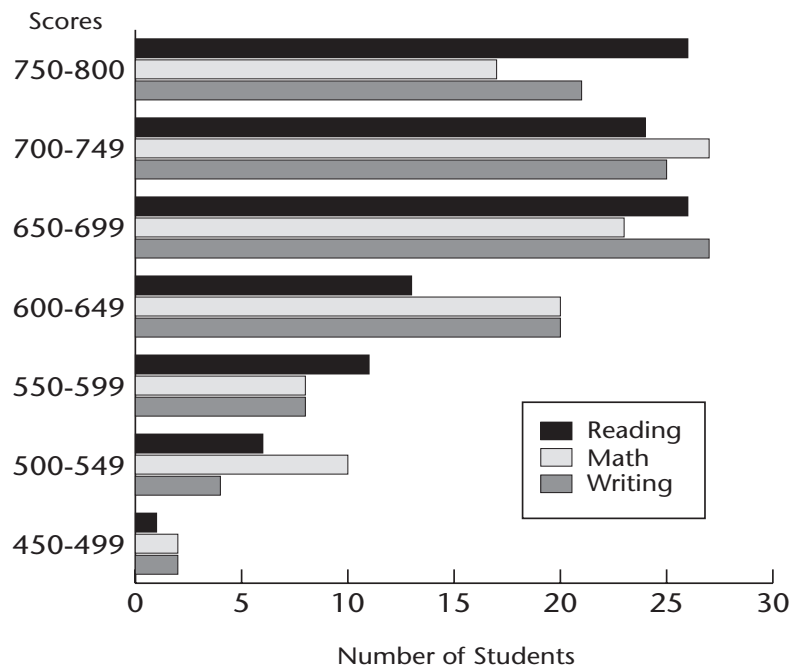
### ***Accreditation***

BB&N is accredited by the New England Association of Independent Schools and Colleges. Memberships are held in the National Association for College Admissions Counseling, The College Board, and The New England Association for College Admissions Counseling.

### SAT Subject Tests for the Class of 2008

Test	No. Tested	Mean
Literature	73	667
U.S. History	71	650
Math IIC	51	715
Math IC	43	627
Molecular Biology	31	659
Spanish	15	652
Chemistry	14	679
French	14	716
Physics	11	634
Latin	6	608

### Distribution of SAT Scores for the Class of 2008 through June 2007



### Comparison of Mean SAT Scores

Class	Critical Reading	Math	Writing
2007	675	660	676
2006	664	677	673
2005	682	679	698

### Average ACT Scores

Class	No. Tested	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2007	68	29.5	29.0	28.9	26.3	28.6
2006	60	28.6	29.4	28.4	25.7	28.1
2005	16	26.3	27.4	26.8	25.4	26.6

### National Merit Recognition 2005-2007

National Merit Semifinalists	24	National Merit Commended Scholars	77
National Achievement Scholarship Program	4	National Hispanic Recognition Program	1

### Advanced Placement Examinations (includes all students tested in grades 10-12)

2007	204 students	379 exams	21 subjects	93% of the scores were 3 or better
2006	197 students	359 exams	22 subjects	87% of the scores were 3 or better
2005	192 students	365 exams	21 subjects	88% of the scores were 3 or better
2004	208 students	385 exams	21 subjects	88% of the scores were 3 or better

### Colleges with Three or More BB&N Graduates 2003-2007

Harvard	32	Middlebury	13	Skidmore	6	Univ. of Michigan	4
Boston College	22	Trinity (CT)	13	Union	6	USC	4
New York University	20	Brown	11	University of Chicago	6	Barnard	3
Tufts	19	Dartmouth	11	University of Vermont	6	Case Western Reserve Univ.	3
Wesleyan	17	Princeton	9	Carnegie Mellon	5	Claremont McKenna	3
Georgetown	16	Colgate	8	Hobart William Smith	5	Fordham	3
Washington University	16	Vassar	8	Johns Hopkins	5	Hamilton	3
Yale	16	Williams	8	Oberlin	5	Kenyon	3
University of Pennsylvania	15	Amherst	7	Wake Forest	5	Lehigh	3
Colby	14	Connecticut College	7	McGill	4	Smith	3
Columbia	14	Northwestern	7	Swarthmore	4	Stanford	3
Cornell	14	Boston University	6	Vanderbilt	4		
Bowdoin	13	Duke	6	Villanova	4		
George Washington Univ.	13	Emory	6	Univ. of Mass. Amherst	4		

## Grade Distribution for Courses Taken by the Class of 2008 during Junior Year

Course	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	Total
<b>English</b>														
English 11 AP*	0	11	21	25	31	9	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	107
<b>Mathematics</b>														
Algebra 2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
Geometry	0	2	2	7	5	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	24
Pre-Calculus	0	10	7	7	6	11	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	49
Pre-Calculus AB Honors	0	2	3	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Pre-Calculus BC Honors	0	1	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
AP Statistics	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AP BC Calculus	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Languages</b>														
Arabic	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese 2 Honors	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Chinese 3	0	1	0	5	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Chinese 4 AP	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
French 3	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
French 4 Advanced	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
French 4 AP Language	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
French 4 AP Literature	1	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Latin 3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Latin 4 AP Vergil	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Russian 1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Russian 3	0	3	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Russian 5 Honors	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Russian Literature (Independent Study)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Spanish 2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Spanish 3	0	0	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Spanish 3 Honors	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Spanish 4	0	6	3	6	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	21
Spanish 4 AP Language	0	1	5	6	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
<b>Sciences</b>														
AP Biology	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chemistry	0	6	10	10	14	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	47
Chemistry Honors	0	2	5	5	8	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Environmental Science	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Physics	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Physics Honors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Physiology	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>History/Social Science</b>														
United States History AP	1	21	29	20	19	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
Presidential Politics	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Arts &amp; Drama</b>														
Advanced Studio Art	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Art Beyond Books	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chamber Music	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Choral	0	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Drama-Theatre	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Multimedia Sculpture	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Orchestra	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Paper Art	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Photography	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Advanced Photography	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Printmaking	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Set Design	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Studio Art	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Wood Sculpture	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Woodworking & Design	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Course	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	Total

**Grading Key:** 100-97= A+ 96-93=A 92-90=A- 89-87=B+ 86-83=B 82-80=B-  
 79-77=C+ 76-73=C 72-70=C- 69-67=D+ 66-63=D 62-60=D- 59-0=F  
 \* does not include students enrolled in off-campus semester or year-long programs

## Highest Levels of Courses in Each Department

English	AP English (grade 11), Senior Electives
Mathematics	Calculus AB & BC, AP Statistics, Multivariable Calculus and Linear Algebra, AP Computer Science
Foreign Language	AP French, AP Latin, AP Spanish, AP Russian, AP Chinese
Science	AP Physics, Experimental Biology, Advanced Biology, Current Topics & Research in Science & Technology
History	AP Government, AP Economics, Senior Electives
Arts	AP Art History, Independent Studio Art

### AP, Honors, & Advanced Level Courses

It is a privilege to be invited by the faculty to participate in these fast-paced and rigorous courses. English 11 and United States History are taught at the AP level for all juniors. BB&N is one of twenty schools in the nation to take part in the National AP Russian Pilot Program. Students in Russian 3, 4, and 5 took the Pilot AP Russian Exam in May 2007.

## Curriculum Highlights

### Foreign Languages

- Chinese, Russian, Arabic, French, Spanish, and Latin are all offered.
- In 2006-07, 43 students were Double Language Students, having completed seven years or more of language study in grades 9-12.
- Students regularly excel on national exams in Latin, French, Spanish, and Russian. Recently, one student won third place at a Chinese competition at the embassy in Washington, D.C.
- Three of the language faculty have doctorate degrees, and eight have master's degrees.
- Every year students and faculty travel to Russia, China, Italy, France, and a Spanish-speaking country.
- Spanish students beyond level two use college-level textbooks.
- Spanish students at all levels work with a Latin-American immigration organization teaching English, computer skills, and citizenship classes.

### English

- In grade 10, all students participate in inter-class debates, concluding with an All-Star Debate conducted before the entire grade.
- During grade 11, all students write what is known as the Junior Profile, an in-depth examination of an individual in his/her work environment written in the style of *The New Yorker* profiles. The strongest essays are read by outside judges, who choose the top few.
- During grade 12, students write a major paper, either analytical or emulative, about one of the books in his/her first-semester elective.
- Visiting writers speak and teach at BB&N.

### Science

- Experimental execution is the foundation for all science courses.
- During the biotechnology unit for the introductory biology course, students spend a day at a biotech teaching lab in Boston performing a DNA amplification experiment and analyzing DNA using gel electrophoresis.
- Taught by a master teacher, Honors Chemistry is offered in place of Advanced Placement Chemistry and is considered one of the most challenging classes in the science curriculum.
- For seniors, there are advanced science electives, most notably Advanced Placement Biology and Experimental Biology, which prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination.
- Current Topics & Research in Science & Technology is for the most advanced science students and provides the opportunity for students to share their research with the whole community. Topics presented this past year include "Advances in Stem Cell Research," "The Future of Ethanol as Fuel in the United States," "MicroRNA's and Cancer," "The Physics of Rocketry," and "Global Warming and its Effects on Asthma."

### History

- The History Department is dedicated to preparing BB&N students to be global citizens. Each history course teaches students the necessary research, reading, geography, and writing skills that they will need to train a critical eye on both historical and current topics.
- All history students in grades 9 and 10 write in-depth research papers in preparation for a major research paper written in grade 11 based on a semester's worth of research, undertaken while the main course proceeds at full pace.
- All courses are designed to allow students to learn of the broad exchange of ideas and technology across continents and cultures.
- The Class of 2008 has had access to the growing number of global offerings, including Modern World History, World Religions, Philosophy, Modern China, and a United States History course taught with an increasing emphasis on international issues.

### Mathematics

- The Math Department is committed to ensuring that every student who graduates from BB&N will be able to succeed in a college-level calculus course.
- Approximately 35% of our students take calculus at the AP level in high school.
- Our Geometry course includes numerous precalculus topics and has been highlighted in "The Mathematics Teacher," a national journal, as well as at regional educational conferences.
- The honors level of Pre-calculus uses the innovative North Carolina School of Math and Science curriculum.
- The AP Statistics teacher is world renowned for his leadership in statistics education and is a major lecturer in the field.
- BB&N is the only school in the country to teach the AB level AP Computer Science curriculum in one year to students with no experience.

### Arts

- BB&N believes that engagement in the arts is an essential aspect of education. The goal of the Arts Department is to give every student an in-depth experience in the creation of art, by offering twenty-three courses and rigorous programs taught by practicing artists.
- The first year of the two-year requirement is completed in the ninth grade. The second year may be completed by taking electives or through two years of participation in our music program.
- Over 50% of our students go beyond the two-year requirement.
- The AP Art History course uses the vast resources available in the Greater Boston area. Students make weekly visits to the Museum of Fine Arts where they make individual presentations on works they have studied.
- The school's commitment to the arts is demonstrated through the recent completion of the \$25 million arts facility.