

## **9TH GRADE OCTOBER PA NEWSLETTER**

Our freshman students are back from Bivouac and, we hope, ready to engage fully in academic classes, sports and other extracurriculars! This is our first monthly Parents Association newsletter and we want to welcome all parents of 9th graders and encourage everyone to find ways to get involved here at the Upper School. Please contact Melanie Shaw or Nancy Baskin with your questions, concerns, suggestions, or offers of help for student and parent events! We look forward to your emails or calls at [melanie\\_shaw@bbns.org](mailto:melanie_shaw@bbns.org) (617-800-2472) or [nfbaskin@baskinfamlaw.com](mailto:nfbaskin@baskinfamlaw.com).

Below are some calendar dates covering key 9th grade/Upper School student and/or parent events this autumn. BB&N is strengthened through community support, and one of the best ways to show support is by making the commitment to attend important events in the life of the School. We do know how busy everyone is, which makes your attendance at events all the more meaningful!

### **GRADE 9 PARENT ORIENTATION PROGRAM Preceding Upper School Back to School Night Wednesday, September 30, 6:00 PM Upper School THEATRE**

Get your 9th grade packets at this preliminary event held especially for 9th grade parents! After orientation, move on to meet your student's advisor and attend classes according to your student's schedule (which you will receive from your student's advisor).

### **GRADE 9 BACK FROM BIVOUAC STUDENT PARTY Friday, October 9, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Upper School Community Room (off academic building main lobby)**

Postcard invitation mailed to students. Casual attire. \$10 per student at the door. Students with BB&N sports game allowed entry after 7:00 upon return from their games. Pizza, snacks, a great DJ and lots of fun! This is one of the major on-campus social events this year for 9th graders and we hope for the majority to attend! (And it comes at a great time -- before homework and tests/papers, etc. are in full swing . . .)

### **Grade 9 PARENT GATHERING before student pick-up from party Friday, October 9, 9:30 PM Tentative Location: Upper School 2ND FLOOR RECEPTION AREA**

Parents who are coming to collect their students after the party, please consider arriving at 9:30 for dessert and some social time to chat with other parents in a location separate from the party area but in the academic center and convenient for student pick-up.

**PARENTS, PLEASE RSVP!** Online at:

<http://www.doodle.com/ngdrwxix4yvv47q>

Just click on the link or type it in, then click on the RSVP column and any volunteer options in which you are interested!

**"LANGUAGE PROGRAMS AND TRAVEL AT BB&N"**

**Grade 9 Parent Coffee**

**Featured speaker: US Language Department Chair, Willa Chamberlain**

**Thursday, October 15, 8:00 - 9:00 AM (Speaker 8-8:30)**

**Upper School Athletic Center STONESTREET LOUNGE (off main lobby)**

**Please note that morning coffees begin promptly** due to faculty/administration speaker schedules! Parents are welcome to socialize and/or continue discussions after 8:30 AM.

Four 9th grade morning coffees are scheduled for this school year, in October, December, February and April, each with a different topic and speaker. For those who cannot attend, we will provide meeting summaries and copies of any handouts via email request to Melanie or Nancy. Stay tuned for more information!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**"Checking the Box: Changes to the Common App & How Your Child's Risky Behavior Might Affect the College Process."**

**Thursday, October 22, 7:00 PM**

**Upper School Community Room**

Hosted by the USPA, Dr. John Knight, Director of Boston Children's Hospital's Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research (CEASAR), discusses: "Why Smart Kids Make Risky Choices: How Parents can Protect Your Teen's Life and Future."

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**GRADE 9 PARENT POTLUCK DINNER**

**Wednesday evening, November 4**

**Upper School Belmont Street Campus (location to be confirmed)**

**46 Belmont Street (off Mt. Auburn St. just past Star Market on left)**

The date is set, but we will get back to you with more details on the venue and menu. We're hoping for another great turnout for this purely social evening!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**ONE SCHOOL-ONE WORLD FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, November 14, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**  
**Upper School Athletic Center**

We are relying on your attendance and participation at this enthusiastic celebration of the BB&N community. If you have specialty food to share, or performances or information to present, relating to your family's heritage, traditions, and/or culture, please let us know. Much more information to come on this one!

**AND A FINAL CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!**

**If you want to help with any of the above events, please contact Melanie or Nancy (or use the Doodle link, provided above, for October 9). Thank you!**

## Upper School PA Newsletter

**October 2009**

Dear Upper School Parents:

The school year is off to a great start and the USPA is no exception! We just co-hosted with the Upper School our first meeting, 'Meet the Deans and Transitions and New Beginnings'. Each Upper School Dean spoke on their respective areas, highlighting upcoming events and expectations for the year. Then, Upper School Director Jack Knapp spoke, customizing Dr. Richard Light's ten tips for the successful student in the BB&N environment. Head of School Rebecca T. Upham closed the evening praising the work of Dr. Knapp after he announced his retirement at the end of this school year. The room was overflowing with parents and was a great kick-off to the myriad events we have scheduled this year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Aulet, Tammy McLeod, Maureen DiChiara, and Kasey Kaufman  
Your USPA Leadership Team

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**Next USPA Event: Thursday, October 22nd at 7pm**

**"Checking the Box: Changes to the Common App & How Your Child's Risky Behavior Might Affect the College Process"**

Dr. John Knight, the Director of the Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research (CeASAR) at Children's Hospital will talk about "Why Smart Kids Make Risky Choices: How Parents can Protect Your Teen's Life and Future". Please plan on joining us for another terrific evening.

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## **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Calling all volunteers for **One School-One World**.

This fabulous multicultural event, linking all three campuses will be held Saturday, November 14th at the Upper School from 11am-2pm. If you missed the first one, held in November 2007, it was a wild, colorful, exciting day, with hundreds coming together to be part of our extraordinary and diverse BB&N community. For this event, we need volunteers to do the following:

- One (or two) parent/s to work with Upper School Art Department exhibit
- Parents to organize Upper School food station
- A parent to help identify student performance pieces for Upper School center stage (we need three performances per campus).
- To encourage and identify parents who wish to have a cultural table at the event. (Examples: we had a Japan table, an India table, and a Mideastern table headed by parents. They had maps, photos, music, food, crafts.)

Please email Kate O'Kelly at [klokld@yahoo.com](mailto:klokld@yahoo.com) if you can volunteer. Thanks.

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## **Upcoming Events**

10/22 (Thur) USPA Event:  
Risky Behavior and the College Process

11/12 (Thur) USPA Event:  
State of the Upper School: How far we've come and where we are going

11/14 (Sat.)  
One School-One World

Please see our website for more details