

Dear Parents and Students of the Class of 2025,

We are excited to welcome you to the Upper School and to tell you more about the fall Bivouac program! The information contained here should allow you to begin your preparations. Some additional notes and reminders will be shared with you in early August and in the weeks leading up to the start of the school year, but for the time being, you should find all the information you need contained within these documents.

Please note that in addition to the other required vaccinations for school entry, BB&N will require students participating in activities at Bivouac to be fully vaccinated (two doses plus 14 days) for COVID-19. Documentation for vaccinations should have been completed in the Magnus Health Tracker Form found in your Veracross Parent Portal by the 7/13 due date. If a child is applying to receive a documented medical or religious exemption please reach out to the Upper School Nurse, Bridget Murray, as soon as possible for review and decision by BB&N.

This electronic mailing contains information about four items to help you prepare for Bivouac:

1. **General Information:** This document describes the Bivouac program in detail, contains important dates, provides emergency phone numbers, and outlines other pertinent information.
2. **Equipment List:** This document provides guidelines for packing; we encourage you to follow our recommendations closely. We do all we can to make the Equipment List financially manageable and believe that most of the equipment needed for Bivouac can be gathered from existing personal belongings or borrowed from friends. Should cost be a factor while gathering the necessary equipment, please contact Bivouac Director David Strodel or the Financial Aid Office.
3. **Consent and Agreement Form:** This document is found online on the Veracross Parent Portal and contains important safety information and also requests information on a variety of important questions, consent and a waiver, release and indemnity agreement from parents/guardians. Students may not participate in Bivouac without submitting this signed form. Please review and complete this form electronically online (or contact us if you have any questions).

In addition, this same document sets forth restrictions regarding the use of electronic devices during the Bivouac program. We fully believe that the value of the Bivouac experience is compromised by the distractions created by electronic devices. Therefore, we place a special emphasis on the rules that prohibit the use and/or possession of cell phones, iPods, and other similar devices during the Bivouac program. The Electronic Devices Agreement questions must be signed electronically on the Veracross Parent Portal to indicate agreement by both the parent/guardian and the student.

4. **Online Health Forms:** Information about BB&N's required medical forms have also been sent to you electronically. These forms are the basis for the student's medical record for the academic year and for the Bivouac program. They can be accessed in the Magnus Health Tracker Form found in your new Veracross Parent Portal.

If you have any questions about the Bivouac program, we will be available during the summer. For specific questions, David Strodel can be reached by via email at [dstrodel@bbns.org](mailto:dstrodel@bbns.org). We hope that you are as excited about Bivouac as we are and we look forward to seeing you again in the fall!

Sincerely,

Geoff Theobald  
Director of the Upper School

David Strodel  
Ninth Grade Dean  
Bivouac Director