



BB&N Buckingham Browne & Nichols School Profile 2008-2009

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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 19th 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 alphabetical, with D- 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-five members of the faculty hold master's degrees. Fourteen 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. If BB&N discovers that the student has not contacted his or her colleges, or has not answered the question honestly and in a forthright manner, BB&N will immediately contact the colleges.

Accreditation

BB&N is accredited by the New England Association of 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.

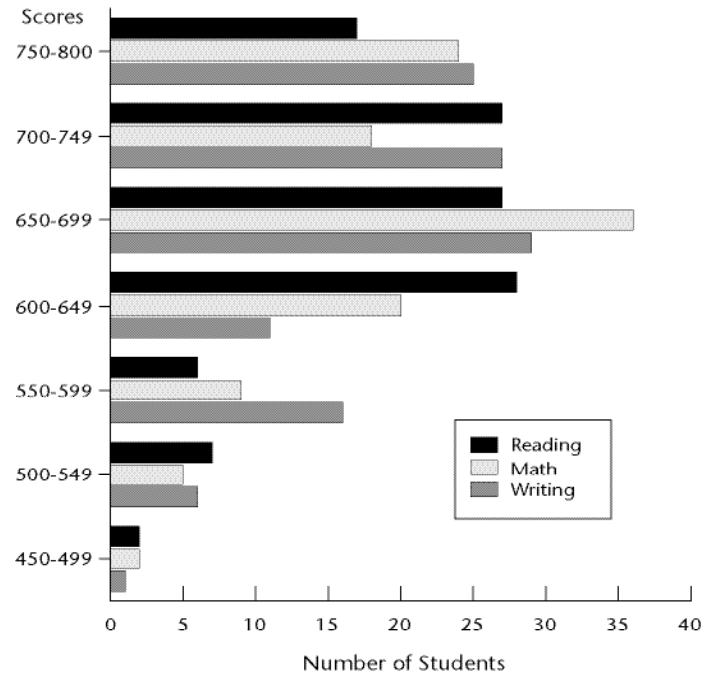
E.E. Ford Achievement Study

A recent independent survey conducted by researchers at the University of Massachusetts Boston and Simmons College and funded by the E.E. Ford Foundation concluded that "GPAs at BB&N are lower than those at other NAIS schools and among national SAT takers. This suggests a rigor at BB&N that may not be present elsewhere."

SAT Subject Tests for the Class of 2009

Test	No. Tested	Mean
Literature	73	676
U.S. History	57	673
Math IIC	52	772
Math IC	57	650
Molecular Biology	20	669
Spanish	19	650
Chemistry	13	664
French	7	680
Physics	13	686
Latin	3	750

Distribution of SAT Scores for the Class of 2009 through June 2008



Comparison of Mean SAT Scores

Class	Critical Reading	Math	Writing
2008	666	671	677
2007	675	660	676
2006	664	667	698

Average ACT Scores

Class	No. Tested	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2008	68	28.5	28.5	29.3	25.5	28.0
2007	68	29.5	29.0	28.9	26.3	28.6
2006	60	28.6	29.4	28.4	25.7	28.1

National Merit Recognition 2006-2009

National Merit Semifinalists	33	National Merit Commended Scholars	102
National Achievement Scholarship Program	4	National Hispanic Recognition Program	1

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

2008	188 students	334 exams	21 subjects	91% of the scores were 3 or better
2007	204 students	379 exams	22 subjects	93% of the scores were 3 or better
2006	197 students	359 exams	21 subjects	87% of the scores were 3 or better
2005	192 students	365 exams	21 subjects	88% of the scores were 3 or better

Colleges with Three or More BB&N Graduates 2004-2008

Harvard University	31	Bowdoin College	11	Boston University	6	Johns Hopkins University	4
Boston College	19	Trinity College	10	Colgate University	6	Mass. Institute of Technology	4
George Washington University	18	Amherst College	9	Vanderbilt University	6	Babson College	3
Wesleyan University	18	Dartmouth College	9	Bard College	5	Brandeis University	3
Yale University	18	Middlebury College	9	Case Western Reserve University	5	Fordham University	3
New York University	17	Union College	9	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	5	Hamilton College/NY	3
Tufts University	17	Connecticut College	8	Northwestern University	5	Kenyon College	3
University of Pennsylvania	17	Vassar College	8	Skidmore College	5	Lehigh University	3
Washington University/St. Louis	16	Brown University	7	Swarthmore College	5	McGill University	3
Colby College	15	Duke University	7	University of Southern California	5	Oberlin College	3
Columbia University	15	Emory University	7	University of Vermont	5	Reed College	3
Georgetown University	13	University of Chicago	7	Bates College	4	Stanford University	3
Cornell University	12	University of Michigan	7	Carnegie Mellon University	4	Villanova University	3
Princeton University	12	Williams College	7	Claremont McKenna College	4	Wake Forest University	3

Grade Distribution for Courses Taken by the Class of 2009 During Junior Year

Course	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	Total
English														
English 11 AP	0	8	28	35	21	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	108
Creative Writing*	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mathematics														
Geometry	0	1	7	4	4	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	25
Geometry Honors	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Pre-Calculus	1	10	17	6	9	9	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	58
Pre-Calculus AB Honors	0	2	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Pre-Calculus BC Honors	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Calculus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AP AB Calculus	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AP BC Calculus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Math*	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Statistics	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Languages														
Chinese 1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese 2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Chinese 3	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Chinese 3 Honors	0	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
AP Chinese 4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese 5*	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
French 3	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
French 4 Advanced	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
French 4 AP Language	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
French 4 AP Literature	0	3	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
French 5 Advanced	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Latin 4 AP Vergil	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Russian 2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Russian 3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Spanish 2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Spanish 2 Honors	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Spanish 3	0	0	0	4	7	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	14
Spanish 3 Honors	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Spanish 4	0	5	1	6	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Spanish 4 AP Language	0	3	4	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Spanish 5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
German*	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sciences														
Biology	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chemistry	0	11	15	8	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47
Chemistry Honors	1	3	3	4	1	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	20
Environmental Science	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Physics	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Physics Honors	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
AP Physics	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Physiology	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
History/Social Science														
United States History AP	0	20	22	28	20	12	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	107
AP Modern														
European History	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
African American History	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Arts & Drama														
Advanced Studio Art	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Chamber Music	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Choral Ensemble	0	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Drama-Theatre	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Film & Video	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Multimedia Sculpture	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Orchestra	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Advanced Photography	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Printmaking	0	11	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Studio Art	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Wood Sculpture	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Art Beyond Books	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Woodworking & Design	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

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

Highest Levels of Courses in Each Department

English	AP English (grade 11), Senior Electives
Mathematics	AP 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 2007-08, 49 students were on track to become Double Language Students, and will complete 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 Biology and Experimental Biology, which together 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: "Invasive Species: How they affect our environment and our economy," "Extremophiles: Microorganisms that live in extreme environments and their commercial applications," "Wireless Energy Transfer: New research and the potential for new applications," and "Network Security: How your personal data is safeguarded on the internet."

History

- The History Department is dedicated to preparing BB&N students to be citizens of the United States and of the world. 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 considerable research during the fall of the first semester.
- All courses are designed to allow students to learn of the broad exchange of ideas and technology across continents and cultures.
- The Class of 2009 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 while at BB&N.
- 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 previous computer 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 opening of its \$25 million arts facility.