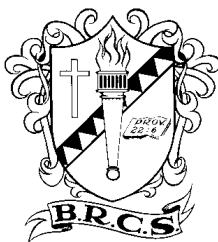


# BOCA RATON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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 CEEB School Code: 100118



**Robert H. Tennes, Ed.D.**  
 Headmaster  
**Stephen M. Smith, M.A.**  
 High School Principal  
**Wendy Stapleton, M.A.**  
 Dean of Students  
**Carolyn Johnson, M.A.**  
 Academic Dean  
**Lori Riter, M.A.**  
 High School Guidance

## SCHOOL PROFILE 2011-2012

### The School

#### **Background and Mission**

Boca Raton Christian School (BRCS) is committed to offering the highest caliber of college preparatory Christian education and academic excellence. Located in downtown Boca Raton, Florida, BRCS is a PreK3-12<sup>th</sup> grade independent school that was established in 1973 as a ministry of Boca Raton Community Church, an independent evangelical church.

The school's mission is to encourage students to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ and to provide for academic excellence. BRCS has developed a nurturing, family-oriented environment where each student is educated to his or her utmost potential. With a demanding academic climate and a commitment to serving the community, BRCS has an outstanding record in college placement, athletics, and the arts.

#### **Accreditation**

BRCS is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and the Florida Kindergarten Council (FKC).

#### **Awards**

In 2010, 28 document cameras and wireless tablets were donated for use in classrooms at BRCS by Elmo USA Corp. BRCS was awarded the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Admissions Advertising Award for its website in 2008. BRCS received a \$17,500 Best Buy Grant as part of a national competition in 2007, enabling the purchase of GPS devices, digital cameras, video projectors, and a document camera to enhance the school's geography instruction. In 2002, BRCS was selected as an Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) Exemplary School for its use of technology in its educational programs. The school received a National Technology Grant in 2001 and is recognized as a Level II, Computer Learning Foundation Certified School. BRCS (K-8) received the National Blue Ribbon School Award from the U.S. Department of Education in 1990 and 1997.

#### **Admission**

BRCS seeks to be an extension of the Christian home. Students are considered for admission on the basis of the family's commitment to Christian education and the student's academic/conduct history and performance on standardized achievement tests. **Non-Discriminatory Statement:** BRCS admits students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, and ethnic origin in administration or its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

#### **Student Activities Program**

Activities	Boys' Athletics	Girls' Athletics	Community Service
Fine Arts Night	Baseball	Basketball	9 <sup>th</sup> grade Orlando missions trip
Homecoming	Basketball	Cheerleading	10 <sup>th</sup> grade Tennessee missions trip
Ignite (worship band)	Cross-Country	Cross-Country	11 <sup>th</sup> grade Arizona missions trip
Jazz Band	Golf	Golf	12 <sup>th</sup> grade Costa Rica missions trip
Madrigal Dinner	Soccer	Soccer	Local community service project
Media Team	Tackle Football	Softball	100 community service hours for graduation
Musical Theater	Tennis	Tennis	
National Honor Society	Track & Field	Track & Field	
		Volleyball	

#### **The Student Body**

BRCS provides classes for students in PreK3 through grade 12. The average high school class size is 14 students. Total enrollment for the 2011/2012 school year is 530 students. The school community represents over 100 local churches. The student body ethnic makeup for the 2011/2012 school year is as follows: African American 4%, Latino Hispanic 26%, Asian American 3%, other minorities 4%, and Caucasian 63%.

#### **Faculty**

BRCS has a caring, energetic, and diverse faculty. Administrators and teachers, kindergarten through high school, must have a bachelor's degree and obtain teacher certification. BRCS currently has forty-three administrators and teachers with bachelor's degrees, eighteen with master's degrees, and two with doctorates; 65% of full time faculty has worked at Boca Christian for ten or more years, and 63% of full time faculty has worked in a Christian school for ten or more years. Several faculty members have been included in either Who's Who in American Education or Who's Who Among America's Teachers. In addition, the William Dwyer Excellence in Education Award given by the Economic Council of Palm Beach County has recognized two teachers as semifinalists. Other awards given to teachers include the Deaver Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching, Target's teacher scholarship award, and the ACSI Secondary Teacher of the Year for the State of Florida.

#### **Facilities**

BRCS' facilities include a gymnasium, computer labs, middle and high school science labs, media center, art room, music room, band room, 500-seat chapel, 450-seat dining room, early childhood and elementary playgrounds, weight room, and a 3-in-1 athletic field: football, soccer, and baseball.

#### **Grading Scale and Class Rank**

The high school academic grading scale is as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage Range	Grade Point Average Scale		
		HS-STD	HON*	AP or DUAL
A	90 - 100	4	4.5	5
B	80 - 89	3	3.375	3.75
C	70 - 79	2	2.25	2.5
D	60 - 69	1	1.125	1.25
F or WF	0 - 59	0	0	0

**Weighted Courses - All honors courses are weighted as 1.125; all AP and dual enrollment courses are weighted as 1.25.** (\*Prior to the 2009/2010 school year, honors courses were weighted as 1.25.) BRCS does not provide class rank, as it would not be an accurate predictor of success in college due to the relatively small class sizes; however, the school does select a valedictorian and salutatorian based on the weighted GPA.

#### **Testing**

The College Board SAT averages for the students who pursued an advanced diploma in the graduating classes of 2007-2011 are as follows:

The critical reading average is 630. The math average is 661.

The College Board SAT averages for the classes of 2007-2011 to date are as follows:

The critical reading average is 541. The math average is 523.

Note: These averages were compiled using the highest score for each student in the critical reading and math tests.

One National Merit Scholarship Program finalist was named from each of the classes of 2011, 2009, 2005, and 2003. In the past five years, various BRCS students have achieved a perfect score of 800 on the Ecological Biology SAT subject test, the Math Level 2 SAT subject test, the critical reading section of the SAT, and the math section of the SAT. In 2011, one student received the Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction Award, three students received the Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor Award, and five students received the Advanced Placement Scholar Award. Seventy-four percent of Advanced Placement students at BRCS were determined to be proficient in their area of study by earning a 3 or higher on Advanced Placement tests administered in 2011. Based on the Blue Ribbon cutoffs by the U.S. Department of Education, BRCS is academically in the top 15% of the nation's high schools based on the 2011 Stanford Achievement Score, 10<sup>th</sup> edition.

### High School Curriculum

The high school curriculum offers three diplomas: standard, college preparatory, and advanced. The primary difference in the three diplomas lies in the amount of math, science, social studies, and foreign language required (see chart under Graduation Requirements for specific requirements). The college preparatory diploma requires Algebra II and foreign language credits. Because the advanced diploma is designed for students considering a more rigorous college program, physics or an AP science, pre-calculus, foreign language, a minimum of six honors courses, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 are required. Curriculum offerings for all of the diplomas may include dual enrollment with Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBAU), Florida Atlantic University (FAU), and/or Palm Beach State College (PBSC). One credit is equivalent to 36 weeks of instruction with 47-minute periods daily.

### Technology

Technology is a unique feature of the high school program. Teachers and students in grades 10-12 are issued a laptop computer, which is connected to a wireless network with Internet access. Students in grade 9 have access to desktop computers.

### Graduation Requirements

	Advanced Diploma	College Prep Diploma	Standard Diploma
SUBJECT	CREDITS	CREDITS	CREDITS
Bible	4	4	4
English	4	4	4
Math	4	4	4
Science	4	4	3
Social Studies	4	3	3
HOPE (Health Opportunities through Physical Education)	1	1	1
Foreign Language	2	2	0
Performing/Fine Arts	1	1	1
Computer Application	1	1	1
Electives	2	2	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>
Community Service	100 hours (25 per year)	100 hours (25 per year)	100 hours (25 per year)

### High School Course Offerings

#### BIBLE

Exploring the Bible<sup>1</sup>  
 Life of Christ  
 Marriage and Family  
 New Testament Survey  
 Old Testament Survey  
 Philosophy/Comparative Worldview  
 Philosophy Hon./Evangelism & Apologetics<sup>1</sup>  
 Practical Ministry/Discipleship  
 Principles of Leadership<sup>1</sup>

#### LANGUAGE ARTS

AP English Language & Composition  
 AP English Literature & Composition  
 American Literature  
 American Literature Honors  
 British Literature  
 British Literature Honors  
 World Literature I  
 World Literature I Honors  
 World Literature II  
 World Literature II Honors

#### MATHEMATICS

AP Calculus AB  
 Algebra I  
 Algebra I Honors  
 Algebra IA  
 Algebra IB  
 Algebra II  
 Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors  
 Business Math  
 Geometry  
 Geometry Honors  
 Pre-Calculus Honors  
 Statistics

#### SCIENCE

AP Biology  
 AP Chemistry  
 Biology  
 Biology Honors  
 Chemistry  
 Chemistry Honors  
 Earth/Space Science  
 Earth/Space Science Honors  
 Ecology  
 Environmental Science  
 Marine Science<sup>2</sup>  
 Physics  
 Physics Honors

#### SOCIAL STUDIES

AP European History  
 AP Psychology<sup>1</sup>  
 AP World History  
 AP United States History  
 American Government  
 American Government Honors  
 American History  
 American History Honors  
 Economics  
 Economics Honors  
 World History  
 World History Honors

#### TECHNOLOGY

AP Computer Science A<sup>2</sup>  
 Computer Applications I  
 Computer Applications II  
 Computing for College and Careers<sup>2</sup>  
 Computer Programming I<sup>2</sup>  
 Robotics  
 Web Design I<sup>2</sup>

#### PERFORMING/FINE ARTS

AP Music Theory  
 AP Studio Art: 2-D Design  
 Art I  
 Art Appreciation  
 Band  
 Chorus  
 Debate  
 Drama  
 Introductory Music Theory & Technology  
 Public Speaking  
 Yearbook

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE)  
 Individual and Dual Sports  
 Personal Fitness  
 Physical Education  
 Weight Training

#### LIFE MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Contemporary Living  
 Driver Education/Traffic Safety<sup>2</sup>  
 Health

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French I  
 French II  
 French III  
 Latin I<sup>2</sup>  
 Latin II<sup>2</sup>  
 Spanish I  
 Spanish II  
 Spanish III

#### TEST PREPARATION

PSAT/SAT/ACT Preparation<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dual enrollment option is offered in cooperation with Palm Beach Atlantic University on the campus of BRCS.

<sup>2</sup> Florida Virtual School (online) courses

<sup>3</sup> Petersen's Student Edge Online Software

Note: Dual enrollment courses are available in cooperation with FAU and PBSC upon approval by guidance department; students must travel to FAU and/or PBSC to take these courses.

### College Acceptance

Of the graduates of the class of 2011, 67% attend a four-year college and 23% attend a two-year college. Students of the BRCS graduating classes of 2003-2011 were accepted to the following colleges and universities: Arizona State University, Auburn University (including Honors Program), Aurora University, Aveda Institute, Azusa Pacific University, Baylor University, Belhaven College, Belmont University, Bethel University, Biola University, Broward Community College, Cape Cod Community College, Central Florida Community College, Chestnut Hill College, Clemson University, Columbia College, Concordia College, Cornell University, Covenant College, Dartmouth College, Drexel University, Embry Riddle University, Florida Atlantic University (including Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College), Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida Keys Community College, Florida State University (including Honors Program), Fort Lewis College, Gardner-Webb University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Southern University, Jacksonville University, Johnson & Wales University, Lambuth University, Lehigh University, Liberty University (including Honors program), Louisiana State University, Lynn University, Methodist University, Mississippi College, Mississippi State University, Moody Bible Institute, North Carolina State University, Nova Southeastern University, Ohio Northern University, Oxford College, Palm Beach Atlantic University (including Honors Program), Palm Beach State College, Pensacola Christian College, Purdue University, Rhodes College, Rice University, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rollins College, Samford University, Savannah College of Art and Design, Southeastern University, Spring Hill College, Stetson University, Tallahassee Community College, Taylor University, Tulane University, University of Alabama, University of Central Florida, University of Florida (including Honors Program), University of Hartford, University of Louisville, University of Miami, University of Mississippi, University of Mobile, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of North Florida, University of South Florida (including Honors Program), University of South Florida-St. Petersburg, University of Tampa, University of Tennessee, University of West Florida, Valencia Community College, Vanderbilt University, Virginia Intermont College, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Western State College of Colorado, Wheaton College, Wichita State University, Wilbur Wright College, and Wittenberg University.

### Leadership Team

**June Nilsen Bakke, Ed.D.**, Director of Technology/Master Teacher; **Virginia Braga**, Early Childhood Supervisor; **Greg Calder, M.S.**, Chaplain; **Clint Erickson, M.A.**, Assistant Middle School Supervisor; **William D. Hood II, M.A.**, Director of Development; **Eileen Travassos, M.A.**, Admissions Director; **Len Visser, M.A.**, Middle School Supervisor; **Ruth Weil**, Grades 3-5 Supervisor; **John White**, Athletic Director; **Joni Wiersum**, Director of Fine Arts; **Kim Woodford, M.A.**, Grades K-2 Supervisor; **Beverly Zielske**, Student Services Supervisor