



## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AT BDS

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### BELMONT DAY

#### **Parents' Association** Volunteer Opportunities

The parents' association plans and sponsors many activities each year. The number and type of events vary, depending on the needs and interests of the community. The following list describes our current activities and ways to get involved. **If you are interested in volunteering, please email the PA Executive Ambassador team at [bdspa@belmontday.org](mailto:bdspa@belmontday.org).**

##### **Committees**

###### **Baby Welcoming**

The baby welcome committee coordinates the donation of baby books from the community for members of our faculty and administration who become parents.

###### **BDS Connections**

This committee collaborates with the school to organize small and informal ways to meet and get to know other BDS parents and families.

###### **Book Group**

Parents gather monthly to discuss a book they chose together.

###### **Book Fair**

With help from the school's library committee, the parents' association sponsors an annual fall book fair designed to spark students' interest in reading, add to the Erskine Library's catalog, and raise money for the PA.

###### **Cradles to Crayons**

Each spring, the school hosts a collection of new and gently used children's clothing, books, toys, and other items for the children served by Cradles to Crayons. On a weekend morning in May, a community sort is held on campus to prepare the items for donation.

###### **Enrichment Assemblies**

The PA sponsors four or five programs to enrich students' educational experiences. In the past, this has included visits from animal trainers, hip-hop dance troupes, and the Boston Ballet.

###### **Erskine Library Committee**

The library committee meets several times a year to organize various projects supporting the library, including ongoing book shelving, inventory, and book cleaning. The committee also coordinates with book-related parent groups, such as the book fair and parent book group.

###### **Faculty and Staff Appreciation Luncheon**

Toward the end of every school year, the PA hosts a luncheon to celebrate, honor, and thank the faculty and administration for their hard work. The committee organizes and solicits donations of food, flowers, and decorations for this luncheon.



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#### **Family Fun Event**

The PA organizes this event as a fun social gathering for all Belmont Day families. Activities have included a concert, a square dance, Bingo, a movie, and organized games and relays.

#### **Friday Night Lights/Hoops/Scoops**

Every season, the girls' and boys' varsity teams face off against friendly rival The Meadowbrook School. The varsity soccer teams play evening games at Harvard Stadium under the lights in the fall. In winter, the varsity basketball teams play evening games on campus or at Meadowbrook, and in the spring, varsity lacrosse teams compete. These are fun occasions to bring our BDS community together and to watch our athletes compete. The PA organizes refreshments for the events.

#### **Lost and Found**

The PA helps with sorting and organizing lost and found items and finding their owners.

#### **Lunchroom Flowers**

This committee chair coordinates the supply of centerpieces for lunchroom tables throughout the school year. This involves soliciting parent volunteers to provide new centerpieces every month. An online volunteer sign-up is shared in the Scoop and grade parent newsletters.

#### **Music and Ensembles**

This committee supports the music department. Activities may include soliciting volunteers to help chaperone field trips, communicating information to families of participating students, coordinating the logistics of social gatherings and concerts, greeting at community service performances, and welcoming families new to ensembles.

#### **Pumpkin Patch**

The PA creates a Pumpkin Patch outside of Coolidge Hall, which sells pumpkins and mums, and typically has a candy guessing/pumpkin weight guessing contest.

### General Volunteer Opportunities

#### **Grade Parents**

Every grade has two to four parents who act as BDS ambassadors to our new families, are an important link between teachers and parents, and help to disseminate information from the PA and classroom teachers to their grades. They are also responsible for coordinating the events specific to their grade.

#### **Erskine Library Volunteers for Shelving Books**

Parent volunteers are needed regularly to help with the re-shelving of books. This is a great volunteer opportunity for people who need flexibility and like to work quietly and at their own pace.



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#### Admissions Volunteer Opportunities

Please email **Judy Bright** at [jbright@belmontday.org](mailto:jbright@belmontday.org) to learn more.

##### **Tour Guides**

The admissions office taps into our amazing parent/guardian community to give weekly school tours. This is a great role for those who can commit to at least one 45 to 60-minute tour each week from October through December break. (Tours are not offered during breaks.) There is flexibility regarding your availability, and subs are available if needed. Tour guides receive training from the admissions team.

##### **Interviewers\***

Admissions interviewers join the admissions team to conduct virtual interviews for prospective parents/guardians. As ambassadors of our school, those in this role are crucial in ensuring that we continue to welcome families who share our vision for fostering a nurturing and academically rigorous environment with joyful learning. The hours are flexible, and training is provided. Interviews are conducted from October to February. Direct experience with interviewing is helpful, but we will also consider related skills and experience.

*\*This is a paid position.*

##### **Event Support**

The admissions office hosts several events throughout the year, including the fall open house, prospective student visit day, and the “Say Yes to BDS” event in the spring. From helping with setup to assisting at registration to being a greeter and chatting with prospective families, there are many ways, big and small, to help. The admissions team will reach out throughout the year to request your help with a specific event, but there is never an obligation. If you find that a particular day will not work with your schedule, it's no problem.

##### **Event Panelists**

Current parents can serve on a panel at certain admissions events. Prospective parents ask panel participants questions about their experiences at Belmont Day. Brendan Largay typically moderates these panels. Volunteers from all grades and both new and veteran families are welcome.

##### **Informal Chats with Prospective Parents**

Prospective families often seek to connect with current Belmont Day families. If you want to chat on the phone (or perhaps meet for coffee) with prospective parents to share your BDS glory and story, this is a great role for you. We need many volunteers in this role, and we will be in touch intermittently throughout the year to invite you to help.

##### **Buddy Family**

A buddy family is a current family paired with a newly enrolled family. With direction and support from the admissions team, buddy family volunteers will reach out with congratulations, schedule a meet-up over the summer/before the start of the school year (in-person or virtually), and be a point of contact for the first few months of school. Volunteers will be paired with one incoming family or more if interested, usually in the same grade. Buddy families help new families feel welcome and keep the excitement going throughout the summer until school begins. Bonus—you and your child might even make some new friends!



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### **Gift and Mailer Support**

Many hands make light work. Volunteers are needed to help assemble mailers for accepted students during the first week of March. Assembly typically happens after drop-off or before pick-up.

### **Digital Outreach Team**

We're looking for parents to join our small but mighty band of digital outreach ambassadors. Powered by a shared mission, you'll spread the word about our upcoming admission events and share what you love about BDS with your peers via local listservs, parent groups, NextDoor neighborhoods, community newsletters, LinkedIn, and social media.

### **Development Volunteer Opportunities**

Please email the development team at [development@belmontday.org](mailto:development@belmontday.org) to learn more.

### **Fall Fest**

Fall Fest is an annual community event for students, parents, and faculty that features fall-themed music, games, arts and crafts, snacks, and more. About thirty volunteers are needed for event setup and cleanup, managing arts and crafts tables, and overseeing the snack table.

### **Grandparents and Special Friends Visits**

The school hosts morning visits for grandparents and special friends to join students in the classroom. Each grade prepares special and engaging activities to foster a connection to the school curriculum. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate the outreach, mailings, and gifts in preparation for the event. On the event day, we have volunteer hosts for each grade.

### **Spring Party**

The Spring Party, led in collaboration with members of the parents' association and the advancement team, is a biennial fundraising event for parents and faculty. It is the largest adults-only social event the school hosts, bringing the community together for a fun-filled evening to support the school.

### **Stewardship and Engagement**

Volunteers assist the development office by reaching out to and expressing gratitude for neighbors and supporters through mailings, delivering gifts, and fostering strong relationships throughout the year.

### **Communications Assembly**

Volunteers are needed to assemble development mailings. For example, we will prepare and mail a special message and magnet to grandparents in November. Assembly will likely happen after drop-off or before pick-up.