Our distinct program and commitment to excellence attracts, engages, and retains individuals who are passionate about teaching.

These teachers have access to the tools and the resources they need to be energetic, informed, and creative educators, and positive influences in the lives of our 21st century learners.

They inspire, shape, and impact each student in meaningful ways that extend well beyond the classroom.

They cultivate awareness and originality, instill confidence and model leadership—making the BCD experience one that prepares young people to become critical thinkers, creative individuals, and exemplary citizens of the world.
Katharine Allentuck
Science, Biology, Math, Athletic Director, Ninth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 1992

Katharine is teaching in the Grade 1-2 for a second year. She taught Grade 4 at BCD from 1997-2002 and was the lower school reading teacher while assisting in Grade 2 in 2008. She received her Master's in Deaf Education from Smith College and Clarke School for the Deaf. Both her children attended Berkshire Country Day School. She enjoys yoga, hiking, and rowing.

Grace Barlow
French, Eighth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2014

Grace joined BCD last year as a full-time French teacher and is excited to take on the role of eighth grade advisor for the coming school year. Grace is experienced with teaching beginning French students with the Rassias method, and she has worked as a teaching assistant at Bryn Mawr College. She received her A.B. and M.A. degrees, with Cum Laude Honors, from Bryn Mawr. She has studied at the Institut d'Etudes Françaises d'Avignon and l'Université Paris VIII in France, The Governor's Academy in Byfield, MA, and Pudong Foreign Language School in Shanghai, China. Grace's other interests include live music, ice hockey, and learning new languages!

Susan Benner
Science, Biology, Math, Athletic Director, Ninth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 1992

Susan Benner teaches Upper School science and sixth grade math at BCD, is the ninth grade advisor, and oversees and directs our athletic program. She is also the coordinator of the Grade 9 French trip and the Grade 8 Everglades trip. Susan's interest in microbiology is evident, as over the years she has taught microbiology at both Sacred Heart University and Fairfield University, and has run microbiology labs at Butler Hospital and Bridgeport Hospital. She is also involved in many different sports, including skating and tennis, and plays the piano.

Ned Douglas
History Department Chair, Math
joined BCD in 1983

A beloved veteran teacher, Ned practices the Socratic teaching method, eliciting knowledge from his middle and upper school students. He likes to see a student's smile when he or she gets the problem or sees the relationship of an idea. His students say he is "funny, demanding, and fair." "He challenges me to be a better student." "I have to work extremely hard in his history class and I love it!" "Mr. Douglas makes learning fun!"

Ben Evans
Ceramics
joined BCD in 2014

Ben teaches Ceramics to students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 as well as an Arts Block class in ceramics for Upper School students each trimester. Ben has been the Ceramics Studio Manager at IS183 Art School in Stockbridge, MA for the past eight years. There he has taught Wheel Working, Hand Building, Tile Making, and Slip Casting, and has been the Summer Camp Ceramic Instructor. His other teaching experience includes working as an after school art teacher at Morningside Elementary School and Taconic High School in Pittsfield, as an art club teacher at Richmond Consolidated School, and as a teaching assistant for Jeff Zamek at the Penland School of Crafts in NC. Ben lives and has a studio in Richmond, MA. When Ben is not making pots, he enjoys spending time outside on his bike or skis.
Eugénie Fawcett
Classics Department Chair
joined BCD in 1971

Eugénie Fawcett, who came to BCD in 1971, teaches Latin and coordinates the School's schedule. Each year, Eugénie prepares students for the annual PVCA Classics Day and the National Latin Exam. She has delivered numerous papers and conducted workshops at teachers' conferences, including the American Classical League.

Jim Fawcett
English Department Chair
joined BCD in 1978

Jim has chaired the English Department at BCD for more than thirty years, and teaches English to students in seventh through ninth grade. He crafted, and helps to fine-tune each year, the excellent literature curriculum that is the backbone of BCD's English program. Jim lives with his wife in Tyringham.

Susan Gebhard
Associate Head of School
joined BCD in 2015

As the Associate Head of School, Dr. G oversees the academic program for BCD's students. During her thirty-two year career in education, she has served in a number of school roles including as an elementary classroom teacher, a reading specialist, a Lower School English and History Department Chair, and as a Head of Lower School. She has taught at the college level as well, as an Instructor of Education at Slippery Rock University, as an Assistant Professor of Education at The University of North Carolina, and as the Director of Teacher Education and Graduate Studies at Salem College. She has also been an Instructional Design Consultant in the Greensboro area.

Tim Gore
Science Department Chair, Eighth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 1987

Tim has been with BCD for twenty-eight years. He teaches Middle and Upper School science, coaches soccer in the fall, and in the spring he coaches lacrosse. Tim enjoys all outdoor activities, including hiking, biking, swimming, and cross-country skiing. Before joining BCD, he worked for the U.S. Forest Service. He lives in Lenox with his son.

Gail Heady
Physical Education
joined BCD in 1978

Veteran gym teacher Gail Heady is known for her two-word, no frills philosophy that stays with students long after their BCD years are over: “Keep trying.” In sports ranging from basketball to soccer to volleyball and beyond, she champions the girls to stay right in step with the boys—and to never give up. She is an advocate of lifetime sports, taking the students kayaking, cross-country skiing, and hiking on the campus. She has served as a coach for almost every sport offered. Now a grandparent, Gail lives with her husband, Merritt, in Great Barrington, MA.
Amy Hilliard
Music
joined BCD in 2010

Amy Hilliard teaches general music to students in Preschool through Grade 9. Amy has a wealth of experience, including as a music teacher at the elementary and high school level, as founder of the Learning Through Music program, as a song leader with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and as a private voice and piano teacher. She received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Applied Voice and Music Education and a Masters Degree in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music. Amy also oversees our private instrumental music program.

Joe Katz
Woodshop
joined BCD in 2012

Joe Katz has over twenty years of experience teaching students in Grades 4 through 12. In addition to teaching woodworking, Joe has experience working with students in such areas as metalworking, ceramics, jewelry making, and architectural design. Joe has operated his own woodworking and cabinetry business for ten years, was a member of the Peace Corps in both Ethiopia and the Marshall Islands, and taught at Waldorf schools in Vancouver and New Zealand. He received a B.S. in Industrial Arts Education from Millersville University and a B.A. in Art from Westfield State University.

Sara Katzoff
Theater
joined BCD in 2014

Sara Katzoff joined the faculty last year as the Theater Director and leader of the Theater Program in Grades 1 through 9. Sara is also the co-artistic director of Bazaar Productions and The Berkshire Fringe. A theater maker, writer, and performer, Sara has spent the last decade devising, developing, and curating new work for the stage. Her original plays include The Scissor Tango Variations, The Stalk, R. Stiltskin, and PASSAGE. Sara has worked with students of all ages, elementary through college. She is a founding company member of Kickwheel Ensemble Theater. A graduate of the Dell’Arte International, she also holds a B.A. in performance studies from Bard College at Simon’s Rock.

Jilly Lederman
History, English, Fifth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2010

Jilly Lederman is the Grade 5 advisor and teaches Grade 5 history, English, and writing. Prior to teaching at BCD, she was the recipient of two Grinspoon Awards for teaching excellence in 2009, and taught fourth and fifth grades at Sinai Academy of the Berkshires. Jilly worked as a teaching consultant at the University of Virginia, and was on the faculty at Nazareth College of Rochester and Rochester Institute of Technology. She received a B.A. from Syracuse University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. She also did graduate work at Kazan State University and Moscow State University, both in Russia, as well as at the University of London. Jilly recently received her Massachusetts certifications for Elementary Education and Moderate Disabilities. She has one son at BCD and another who graduated last year.

Paul Lindenmaier
Head of School
joined BCD in 2008

Prior to joining BCD in 2008, Paul was Head of Lower School at Moses Brown School in Providence, RI, an independent coeducational day school, where he had been since 1999. He spent six years as Head of School of The School in Rose Valley in Pennsylvania, and before that in an elementary education teaching position at Germantown Friends School, an independent day school in Philadelphia, PA, and at a public school in Vermont. Paul, who lives in Stockbridge with his wife, Margaret, and their two children, is an avid music fan, plays guitar, and enjoys hiking, biking, and the cultural offerings in the Berkshires.
“I never really liked English at my other school. Then, when I went to BCD, my teacher helped me to uncover many talents and interests I never knew I had. She helped me to look at life in a different way. Now I think that life might be a giant storybook that someone might enjoy reading, just as much as some people enjoy reading Harry Potter.”

Kay Lindsay

Grades 1 - 2
joined BCD in 2015

Kay has over ten years of teaching experience at the Kindergarten and First Grade levels, most recently as a First Grade teacher at Town Hill School in Lakeville, CT. In addition, Kay worked for five years as a Junior Kindergarten program developer and lead counselor at a summer program hosted by Renbrook School in West Hartford, CT. Kay is an experienced lacrosse player and basketball coach, and she is looking forward to being involved in BCD's co-curricular programs. She received a B.A. from Wheaton College.

Robert Oakes

English, Yearbook, Sixth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2014

Prior to joining BCD last year, Robert Oakes received a B.A. in English from Montclair State University, where he was awarded the McGee Scholarship, the English department's highest award for excellence in literature studies. He has worked as a writer and editor for North Jersey Newspapers, AAA, Canyon Ranch, and Dr. Mark Hyman, and has served as an on-call substitute teacher for both BCD and Lenox Public Schools. Robert is also a singer/songwriter, performing and recording as part of the Berkshire-based folk duo Oakes and Smith.

Andrea Patel

Kindergarten
joined BCD in 1995

Andrea began teaching at BCD in 1995, serving as Early Childhood division co-coordinator for four years. Prior to BCD, she taught in public schools in Massachusetts, including several Berkshire County one-room schoolhouses. Andrea is the author and illustrator of on that day, a children's book featured on the PBS show “Reading Rainbow” on the first anniversary of 9/11. She loves to read, bake, and kayak. Andrea and her husband live in Sheffield, MA. Their son is a BCD alumnus.

Geoff Perkins

Math, Sixth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2000

After graduating from Connecticut College in 1988, Geoff served a one-year math internship at the St. Thomas Choir school under renowned math educator, Gordon Clem. For the past twenty-five years, he has primarily taught Middle and Upper School math and coached a variety of athletic teams. During that time, he pursued a Masters in Elementary Education and led a self-contained classroom. He has been a member of the BCD faculty since 2000. In his spare time, Geoff enjoys spending time with his family and taking advantage of the many outdoor activities that the Berkshires have to offer.
“Teachers at BCD know each one of their students as whole people. They are coaches, mentors, advisors, role models, and educators who want every child to reach their full potential.”

Sarah Pitcher-Hoffman
History, Geography, English, Seventh Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2002

Sarah is a Grade 7 homeroom advisor, teaches Grade 6 geography, as well as Grades 7 and 8 history and English. She also coaches Varsity Girls soccer. Sarah’s previous professional experience includes teaching fourth grade at Trevor Day School and in the Katonah-Lewisboro School District, third grade at The Dalton School, and pre-k at Phoenix Head Start. In her spare time she enjoys cooking, hiking, and gardening. Sarah lives in Richmond with her husband and two children.

Chris Renkert
Humanities, Math, Fourth Grade Advisor
joined BCD in 2014

Chris Renkert joined the faculty last year as an advisor and teaches Grade 4 humanities, integrated studies, and math. With seventeen years of teaching experience in both independent and public schools, Chris taught in a self-contained fourth grade classroom at Indian Mountain School for six years. He also served as a dormitory parent, led an annual sleepover trip to the Boston Science Museum, and supervised off-campus trips for boarding students in grades 6 through 9 at IMS. Chris worked at the St. Andrew the Apostle School in Virginia for five years where he taught fifth grade, literature, science, social studies, and served as chair of the Social Studies Department and the school’s five-year curriculum development plan.

Gill Romano
Third Grade
joined BCD in 1996

Gill started teaching Grade 3 at BCD in September of 1996. She received a B.S. from Elmira College in Elementary Education and a M.S.Ed. in Special Education from the College of Saint Rose. She enjoys identifying students’ learning styles and developing strategies to help students reach their full academic potential. Her leisure activities include golfing, painting, and knitting. Gill lives with her husband, Alan, in Lenox Dale, MA.

Sasha Sicurella
Art
rejoined BCD in 2014

Sasha Sicurella rejoined BCD last year as the Coordinator of BCD’s Visual Arts Program and as a K-6 arts instructor. Sasha is an arts education specialist, artist, and consultant. She is currently the Director of Education at Omi International Arts Center in Ghent, NY where she has spent ten years developing and implementing public, arts-based programming for people of all ages. Sasha is also the founding director of the I AM: International Foundation, a non-profit organization that works globally to provide opportunities for children to explore identity through art and self-portrait photography. To date, the I AM: projects have served more than 1,000 children in 15 countries across five continents. Her work has been exhibited in the United States and internationally at museums and art centers in Tel Aviv, Milan, Mumbai, Addis Ababa, Bratislava, Ulan Bator, Sao Paulo, and New York.
Vicky Sideropoulos  
**PreKindergarten**  
joined BCD in 2014

Victoria Sideropoulos joined BCD last year and is overseeing the PreKindergarten program this year. Victoria moved to the Berkshires from New York City where she taught in both assistant and associate teaching roles at The Spence School, Bank Street School for Children, and Village Community School. She has also taught at Stevens Cooperative School in Hoboken, NJ. Victoria received a B.A. from SUNY at Buffalo and a M.S.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from Bank Street College.

Max Spitzer  
**Art**  
joined BCD in 2014

Max Spitzer teaches art to students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 and a sculpture class during Arts Block for Upper School students. Max is experienced in a variety of media and processes, from mold making to oil painting to ceramics to woodworking. Max has taught art to students ages 5-13 as the Head Studio Instructor at Omi International Arts Center and at a summer camp in Vermont for four years. He has also worked as an Artist Intern at Salem Art Works in Salem, NY, as a Resident Artist at Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vermont, as an Artist Assistant to Tom Sachs and Gregory Barsamian, both in NYC, and a Junior Luthier at S.E. Spitzer Guitar Company in Kinderhook, NY. Max received a B.F.A with Honors in sculpture from Rhode Island School of Design, and also attended Brown University. Max lives and maintains a studio in Hudson, NY where he also works as a luthier.

Jon Suters  
**Music**  
joined BCD in 2001

Jon grew up in a musical family and began studying the violin and piano at the age of nine. He gravitated towards playing the string bass when he was eleven and the classical guitar at thirteen. He studied with renowned teacher Ed Flower of Ithaca College for five years and Richard Provost of the Hartt School of Music for a year at which point he joined a German rock group and toured the U.S. and Germany for two years. Jon has continued to study informally with Ben Verdery of the Yale School of Music, working on baroque and Balkan musical styles and his own compositions. He has appeared on numerous albums as a sideman, played for various productions of Broadway and off-Broadway musicals, and toured with several different groups. Jon currently lives in Great Barrington and continues to expand his musical horizons.

Ana Cristina Velez  
**Spanish**  
joined BCD in 2013

Cristina has been teaching Spanish for over 20 years and since 2013, BCD students in Grades 4 through 9 have been learning Spanish using the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency Response through Storytelling) method. Prior to BCD, Cristina taught at Colegio la Esperanza, Universidad Catolica Madre & Maestra, and Mount Everett High School. When not teaching, Cristina enjoys dancing, spending time with friends and family, and enjoying what life brings her every day.

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**Berkshire Country Day School’s Vision**

*distinct in program,*

*adventurous in spirit,*

*engaged in a changing world*
Administration & Staff

Paul Lindenmaier  
Head of School

Susan Gebhard  
Associate Head of School

Pia Norton  
Director of Admission and Financial Aid

Gwen Connolly  
Director of Finance

Emily Daigneault  
School Nurse

John Evans  
Counselor

Dan Lee  
Head of Maintenance

Joanne DelCarpine  
Development Office Coordinator

Jessica Provenz  
Development and Capital Campaign Associate

Chris Perilli  
Maintenance Assistant

Melissa Kruse  
Registrar/Office Manager

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Scott Schiff ’74
Alli Sheehan
Mark Smith
Berkshire Country Day School exists
to inspire the individual promise of every student,
that each may become an exemplary citizen of the world.