# **HOW AMBASSADORS CAN ANSWER**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Why all boys?

Now more than ever boys need the support of a community to help them navigate the challenges and opportunities of a complex world. Our all-boys environment allows us to focus on issues unique to boys, to create an environment where boys thrive, and to prepare boys to succeed in college and beyond. BRS is also a place where boys have the freedom to discover their true selves without undue pressure from society.

## Isn't boarding school only for the wealthy?

Every year Blue Ridge School provides more than \$2.5 million in tuition assistance to approximately 50% of our students. We work with families from a wide variety of socioeconomic backgrounds to shape a diverse student body.

#### How can I stay involved in my son's life if he is away at boarding school?

Parents are active partners in their son's life at Blue Ridge School. Not only do parents chat with their sons regularly, so do teachers, advisors, and coaches. Parents are invited to campus twice a year for classroom visits and teacher conferences, and they are also welcome to visit campus whenever they like.

#### Is Blue Ridge School accredited?

Yes. BRS is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. It is also a member of the Virginia Association of Independent Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, and The Association of Boarding Schools.

#### My son wants to play athletics in college. How are the sports?

Blue Ridge School has three "top tier" sports: football, basketball, and lacrosse. Student-athletes from those programs regularly go on to play at the highest level of college sports. Additionally, many students from across the board go on to play at some level in college. This year, Chase Faser '13 played on the Premiere Lacrosse League Champion team Chaos and two alumni joined the NBA: Aamir Simms '17 to the New York Knicks and Mamadi Diakite '15 to the National Champion Milwaukee Bucks and now to the Oklahoma City Thunder.

### Isn't boarding school for bad kids?

No. Blue Ridge School is home to many outstanding boys. And while all boys are prone to make mistakes as they grow, we know the value of a measured response and of working with students to improve. Every year, we see boys emerge as leaders among their peers. We see them become academic and athletic all-stars. All of our students are growing from boys into young men, and each student is doing so at his own pace. We recognize and embrace that fact.

#### Is Blue Ridge a "second chance" school?

No. Students come to Blue Ridge School for a wide variety of reasons, but it usually boils down to wanting something that they are not getting at their local school. Some students need a small class and more teacher attention; others need to develop independence or leadership skills. Some students want to play multiple sports throughout the year. Some boys are looking for more challenging classes or more academic support. Blue Ridge provides all of this and much more.



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