

Hi there!

I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the newly appointed "Camp Mom" for Bauercrest. In addition to being the mom of two current campers, I've also served on the Board of Directors for the past two years. I'm so proud of the work we've done and wanted to share some thoughts with you before the 2016 season is upon us.

As you know, parent surveys are routinely sent out at the end of camp. This year, much of the feedback we received centered around the "Parent Liaison" position. In response, the Board reevaluated, redefined, and re-named the position "Camp Mom." Both of my boys go to Bauercrest... Max is in fourth grade and Jaden's in second... so I know what it's like to drop off your child for the very first time, when neither of you is sure you're ready. I know how those first few days can feel like weeks while you're wondering if he's okay. I know what it's like to scour through online photos, hoping to catch a glimpse of his smile, and staking out the mailbox, hoping to hear some good news. What I would have given that first summer to have had a friend up at camp, someone "on the inside" to call or text, to put me at ease when the photos and letters simply weren't enough

In simplest terms, that's what the Camp Mom is for. In this role, I'll be your go-to person on the hillside. I'll help problem-solve; if there's an issue, I'll let you know how it's being resolved, and I'll welcome your feedback throughout the process. I will live at camp for part of the week; when I'm not there, I will have direct contact with the Head Counselor. When it comes to communication between camp and camper families, there is no "one-size-fits-all" solution. Some parents drop off their boys and all they need to feel comfortable is an online photo of their son, smiling and surrounded by his bunkmates. Others need a bit more reassurance that their children are acclimated and having fun. For those of you who need a little more from camp, please do not hesitate to reach out to me so I can address your concerns!

I became a part of the Bauercrest family through marriage: my husband Micah spent the best summers of his childhood on this hillside. It gives me chills when I think of our boys doing the same. During my time as a Board member, I was able to spend some time up at camp. I've experienced a Friday night service overlooking the lake. I've witnessed singing and dancing in the mess hall that would put any flash mob to

shame. I've seen campers and counselors sprawled out on the grass, laughing and playing cards. And I am convinced that magic happens here. But just because it's magic doesn't mean it's always perfect. If problems arise, we want to resolve them as quickly as possible, with open lines of communication. We know we can give these boys the best summers of their childhoods, but at the end of the day, we want to make sure that the parents who sent them have had an experience that's just as wonderful.

I am so excited to take on this role and share this journey with you. Please feel free to email me at stacy@bauercrest.org! And if you'd like to set up a time to talk or meet, just let me know.

I look forward to a great summer together!

Warmly,
Stacy

