

WELCOME TO BOLLES RESIDENT LIFE



RESIDENT LIFE WELCOME PACKET | 2024-25

 **BOLLES**
resident life

An impressionistic painting of a building, likely a tower or bell tower, with a terracotta roof and arched windows. The scene is surrounded by lush green foliage. The style is soft and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and a warm, slightly hazy atmosphere. The text "A HOME AWAY FROM HOME" is centered in a bold, dark blue font.

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

WELCOME TO BOLLES



Tyler Hodges
President and
Head of School

On behalf of the Bolles community, I want to welcome you to The Bolles School and congratulate you for making what I promise will be a lifechanging, life-enriching decision. The education, experiences and relationships you build at Bolles will most certainly expand opportunities in your life and open your mind to new possibilities.

This is an exciting time for you, and we look forward to you exploring *All Things Possible* at Bolles. Faculty, staff and students are eager to deepen their own understanding of the world through their friendships with you. Bolles is a robust community of learners from all over the world, and we hope you will add your own experiences and perspectives to the mix for the benefit of all.

The Resident Life program has been a cornerstone of our School since its beginnings in 1933, when most students lived on campus and came to Jacksonville from cities across Florida, the United States and nearby countries. You are continuing a wonderful tradition of boarding life at Bolles and we can't wait to see how you will carry this legacy forward.

We are so pleased to welcome you to the 2024-25 school year. I have every expectation it will be a year of learning, growth and new friendships.

Welcome to Bolles!

Respectfully,
Tyler J. Hodges
President and Head of School

Goals for Resident Life students to prepare you for college and life are:

- learn to independently manage your time and studies
- learn to live respectfully and responsibly with others
- become prepared to function confidently and competently in a less controlled college environment
- have fun

Meet the Resident Life Directors



Tranaé Robinson
Director of
Resident Life
RobinsonT@Bolles.org

Get to Know Tranaé

Full Name: Tranaé Robinson

History: Born in Landstuhl, Germany. Raised in Tampa, Florida. I am the middle child and youngest girl of 6 siblings.

Education: FIU and NSU Alum

Hobbies and Interests: Dance; playing video games — *Star Wars Jedi Survivor* is my favorite game; traveling to new countries and eating as much as humanly possible.

Favorite Book: *Ritual: Power, Healing, & Community* by Malidoma Patrice Somé

Favorite Movie: *Kung-Fu Hustle*

Favorite Music: Favorite Artist is Victoria Monet and favorite song is “What you won’t do for love” by Bobby Caldwell

Favorite Quote or Saying: “That person who helps others simply because it should or must be done, and because it is the right thing to do, is indeed without a doubt, a real superhero,” — Stan Lee, *Spiderman: Into the Spider-verse*

Message to Parents: “I am happy to be a part of your child’s journey here at Bolles!”



Jessica Mechoso
Associate Director of
Resident Life
MechosoJ@Bolles.org

Get to Know Jessica

Full Name: Jessica Mechoso

History: Native of Jacksonville, Florida

Education: Flagler College Alumnus; Degrees in Education and Deaf Education; Certifications in English Speakers of Another Language (ESOL), Reading and Cross-Cultural Communications

Hobbies and Interests: I love exploring the outdoors with our cute puppy named Rio! I am an Avid Concertgoer (any and all genres). I am bilingual in English and American Sign Language and I am a dedicated Miami Heat Fan.

Favorite Book: *What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo

Favorite Movies: *The Proposal* and *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*

Favorite Music: Dave Matthews Band — so much so that my children’s names are inspired by the band!

Favorite Quote or Saying: “The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it.” — Thich Nhat Hanh

Message to Parents: “Life at Bolles is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I look forward to nurturing every possible opportunity for your child alongside you and our wonderful Residential Life Team!”

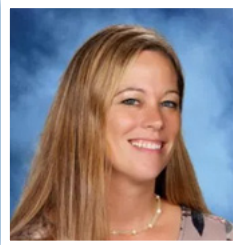
Meet the Resident Life Team



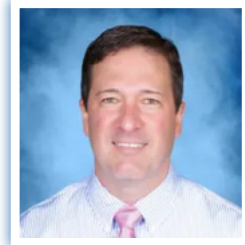
Mike Boswell
BoswellM@Bolles.org



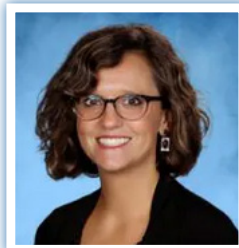
Brad Bullington
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Beth Curran
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John Curran
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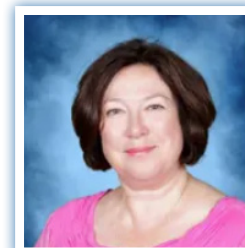
Carrie Ezzell
EzzellC@Bolles.org



John Ezzell
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Jake Gibbons
GibbonsJ@Bolles.org



Marie Kervin
KervinM@Bolles.org

Dorm Villages

As a part of the Resident Life program, all boarders are grouped into Dorm Villages headed by a member of the Resident Life team. The Dorm Village program provides students with a small and cohesive setting and for Dorm Village Heads to act as a residential advisor.

COMMUNICATIONS

We want to make sure you feel comfortable and are prepared when you arrive to Bolles — this handbook will offer you the information you need. If there is anything you have a question on, please email Tranaé Robinson at RobinsonT@Bolles.org or Jessica Mechoso at MechosoJ@Bolles.org.

It is our top priority to open communication and keep you informed of any updates. The first step in helping your family transition into the Bolles Resident Life community is to read the following information carefully.

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION

All parents are required to update their students' medical information through Magnus Health Student Medical Records (<https://magnushealth.com/>). These medical forms are accessed through the portal that you will receive through email from Magnus. If you do not upload the required documents by this date your child will not be able to access his/her schedule.

STUDENT DORM ROOMS

A majority of Bolles rooms are designed for double occupancy. Sharing a room with another student enhances development of life skills and independence. Student rooms quickly become home. New students receive their dorm room and roommate upon arrival to Bolles. All new students will have a roommate.

The rooms vary in size and layout and we will do our best to ensure all new students have a roommate. Each room is supplied with the below items which include the measurements:

- Bed Frame: 38" x 86
- Mattress: 36" x 80 — fits extra-long sheets
- Dresser Drawers: 30" x 19" — each student is provided with one set which includes three drawers
- Desk: 42" x 30" — one middle drawer, three side drawers
- Chair

It is our experience that parents and students like to do some summer shopping for things that will be needed during the school year. Please don't worry if you forget something, UPS and Amazon deliver to our campus. Please allow a few days extra for delivery.

Needed Essentials

(recommended you purchase upon arrival or have shipped)

- Extra-long twin sheet set, pillow, blankets and comforter
- Desk lamp, flashlight
- Plastic bucket for shower items
- Towels, wash cloths
- Headphones
- Laundry basket/detergent
- Umbrella, rain jacket with hood



Computer Items

- Required: Windows 10 Pro – Please review all Bolles BYOD Requirements online at Bolles.org/academics/byod-program

Suggested Items

(for larger items, it is recommended you purchase upon arrival or have shipped)

- Pictures from home
- Posters (no nails, putty only)
- Munchies (sealable containers to hold leftovers)
- Drinks like Gatorade or soda (we have a purified water machine on site)
- Micro fridge (we have a standard size community fridge for the students).
 - Dimensions no larger than: 22.24" D x 20.31" W x 32.06" H
 - Height to Top of Door Hinge: 32.06"
- Sunscreen and sunglasses (we are not far from the beach)
- Power strip
- International power adapter for those without american chargers
- Small safe or lock box for important or high-value items
- Items that will make the dorm room feel like home – pictures, throw pillows, blankets, candy, treats

Items Not Permitted in Dorm Rooms

- Candles, matches, lighters or incense
- Microwaves, toaster ovens, crock pots, coffee pots, electric tea kettles, popcorn -poppers, rice-cookers, hot places or space heaters
- Halogen lamps
- Firearms (including hunting rifles, ammunition, bows, arrows, knives, air guns or paintball guns)
- Fireworks or explosives
- Pets of any kind
- Drones
- Hoverboards



SCHOOL BREAKS & MAKING TRAVEL PLANS

Please plan ahead and purchase plane tickets now for any school breaks when your child will be traveling home (we have highlighted break dates in calendar below.) In order to travel affordably and without missing class time, airline tickets must be booked months in advance. When scheduling flights out of Jacksonville, please be sure to consider travel to the airport (allow 3 hours) and airline check-in requirements (allow 2 hours for domestic flights and 3 hours for international or holiday flights). Dorms close at 3 p.m. the day after classes end before break.

PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DORM OPEN/CLOSE DATES AND PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

2024	
ELLO Student Arrival (Fees Associated)	August 4
Early Athlete Arrival	August 4
New Student Arrival	August 10
Returning Student Arrival	August 11
First day of Classes	August 13
Labor Day Holiday - No Classes (Dorm will remain open)	September 2
End 1st Quarter Interim	September 12
End 1st Quarter	October 2
S.P.A.R.C. Day	October 10
Parent/Guardian Conference Day, No Classes (Dorm will remain open)	October 17-18
Fall Break - School Closed (Dorm will remain open)	October 21
End 2nd Quarter Interim	November 6
Professional Development - No Classes (Dorm will remain open)	November 8
Thanksgiving Break (fees associated to remain in dorm)	November 25 - 29
Students must return (Dorm opens at 9 a.m.)	December 1
Classes Resume	December 2
End 2nd Quarter/1st Semester	December 13
Dorms Close for Winter Break @ 3 p.m.	December 21
Winter Break	December 23-31
2025	
Dorms Open at 9 a.m.	January 5
Classes Resume	January 6
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - No Classes (All Dorm, No Travel Weekend)	January 20
End 3rd Quarter Interim	February 4
Parent/Guardian Conference Day, No Classes (Dorm will remain open)	February 14
Presidents' Day, No Classes (dorms remain open)	February 17
End 3rd Quarter	March 7
Spring Break (fees associated to remain in dorm)	March 10-14
Professional Development Day, No Classes/Dorms open at 9 a.m.	March 17
Quarter 4 Interim	April 15
Spring Holiday, School closed (dorms remain open)	April 18-21
Last Day of Classes/end 4th Quarter	May 16
Reading Day and Exams	May 19-23
Graduation	May 24
Dorms Close for the Summer at 3 p.m.	May 25



AIRPORT AND ACCOMODATIONS

Jacksonville International Airport (JAX) is the gateway to Northeast Florida. Located 15 minutes north of Downtown Jacksonville, JAX also serves as the region's airport for popular vacation destinations such as Amelia Island and St. Augustine. The airport is roughly 20 miles from the San Jose Campus. We make regular trips to the airport at the beginning, during and at the end of the school year.

We only provide transportation to the Jacksonville (JAX) Airport. We CANNOT pick-up/drop-off in other cities.

Local Accommodations

Embassy Suites by Hilton Jacksonville
9300 Baymeadows Road
Jacksonville, FL 3225
(904) 731-3555
<https://www.hilton.com/en/embassy/>

Four Points by Sheraton
8520 Baymeadows Road
Jacksonville, Florida, 32256
(904) 562-4920
<https://four-points.marriott.com/>

Hotel Indigo Jacksonville-Deerwood Park
9840 Tapestry Park Circle
Jacksonville Florida 32246
(904) 996-7199
<https://www.ihg.com/>

Unaccompanied Minor Transportation

Students designated as unaccompanied minors by the airline (generally students less than 15 years of age, but individual guidelines vary by airline) sometimes require special arrangements for transportation and check-in or check-out by a designated individual from the gate as they fly. We will be happy to help you with this, but appreciate plenty of advance notice to make proper arrangements. If your child will be flying as an unaccompanied minor, please contact Tranaé Robinson at RobinsonT@Bolles.org to make arrangements.



ACTIVITIES

There are a number of planned activities resident life students will have the option of participating in. Some trips and events offered regularly are:

- On campus cookouts
- Tubing
- Kayaking and boating
- Movie outings
- Bolles sport events
- Village dinners
- Birthday celebrations
- Holiday dinners
- Dinner outings
- Camping and hiking
- Outdoor community service activities
- Group dinners
- Theme Parks
- Shopping
- ...and much more!





STUDENT SERVICES

Campus Store

The Campus Store is located in the Bent Student Center which is on the San Jose Campus. The store carries a wide range of apparel, including polos which can be worn on Fridays. For more information and to access the Online Store, visit the website: <https://www.bolles.org/about-us/campus-store>.

Business Office and Money Matters

The Business Office offers services to assist with student finances. Students are issued a personal ID number that can be used for purchases around campus. Items purchased by the ID number are billed on the student's monthly statement. It is recommended that students do not bring large amounts of cash to campus.

Debit/Credit Cards

Students are required to have a debit or credit card.

Infirmary

Medical Assistant Kaleigh Toblin and Upper School Nurse Kristi Ruzanka, RN, BSN, CPN staff the San Jose Infirmery. We also have a board-certified Pediatrician from UF Health. Examples of services include COVID-19, flu and strep testing, routine physical exams, sick visits, medication administration and ordering/filling prescriptions if indicated. Should a student become ill during the night, they are advised to call the dorm phone. To be seen in the Infirmery during regular school hours students just need to stop by the infirmery in Bolles Hall on the first floor.

Counseling Services

Katie Cussen Director of Counseling Services and Lauren Genduso School Counselor provide support to day and boarding students. Their offices are located on the second floor of Bent Student Center. Any outside counseling that is needed or recommended is done jointly between nurse and counselor.

Mail

The Campus Store on the San Jose Campus, maintains mail facilities for the boarding community. They process incoming and outgoing mail via the US Postal Service, UPS and Federal Express. Students will be assigned a mailbox on their respected campus and be delivered daily.

If you wish to send something to your child, please address it according to the following format:

Student's Name
DORM
7400 San Jose Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Shipping and Storage Services

All students may begin shipping items to Bolles beginning Wednesday, August 3, 2022. The mailroom will receive and store luggage and packages until your arrival. During the summer months, each dorm has an assigned storage unit for returning boarding students to store their personal items (no electronics, please) for the next school year. However, each student is limited to 3 bins (provided by Resident Life) due to limited storage space. We cannot guarantee storage for monitors/TV's, personal desk/gaming chairs, or additional self purchased furniture.

Dining Services

Flik Independent School Dining, a food services company specializing exclusively in private and independent school education, provides food services for The Bolles School. This partnership ensures healthy food choices for our students, access to highly trained dietitians, internationally diverse menus, payment options and significant enhancements to dining facilities. Menus: <https://bolles.flikisdining.com/menu/>

MySchoolBucks

Money for purchasing items in the dining hall or canteen can be deposited into an account online using mySchoolBucks.com. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack are included in the resident student tuition but some items such as candy, bottled drinks, etc. may require additional purchase. Website: MySchoolBucks.com

Parents

We encourage parents to travel with their child if possible. Very often, this is one of the few times that our international parents visit campus. This is your chance to meet your child's dorm faculty, teachers and deans. It is also a great time to have all of your questions answered. Parents, if you need an invitation letter to obtain a visa, please let us know as soon as possible.

Children Traveling Alone to Bolles

If your child will be traveling alone, please let us know as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made for a Bolles resident life staff member to meet your child at the Jacksonville airport. All students who are arriving unaccompanied by parents MUST fly into the Jacksonville Airport. They will move onto campus upon arrival.

Banking

All international students are required to have a debit or credit card that can be used for purchases in the U.S. Parents may wish to locate a U.S. bank that has a branch in their home city or locate an online bank. Many United States banks have branches in major cities around the world.

Health Insurance

Every international student is required to purchase U.S. health insurance through the School. The provider is United Healthcare Student Resources. Students must have proof of health insurance to attend classes. Note: Students MUST have U.S. health insurance; travel insurance is not sufficient.

Cell Phones

We require that all students have U.S. phone numbers while attending school. Communication is important when traveling and everyday life.

Immigration Documents

Please be sure to bring all of your child's documents (original I-20 and passport with visa) with you to Orientation. We recommend that you make a copy of your child's passport, visas, I-20s, birth certificate, health insurance card, immunization records and any other official documents to keep at home.

All international documents will be collected by the Resident Life Office upon arrival for safe keeping.

My Backpack

Don't miss out on real-time access to your child's schedules, afternoon activities, calendars and other useful information. This is the primary communications hub for all parents, students and faculty.

Getting Started

Go to Bolles.org and click on "My Backpack" link under the "Quick Links" tab.

- Each Bolles parent has an individual and unique login. Not sure what yours is? Contact the IT help desk directly at itdesktopsupport@bolles.org
- After logging in the first time, you will be able to choose your own username and password.
- Under your profile name at the top right, click on settings, then click on notifications. This is where you can customize your options for all the news and information you would like to receive from Bolles and how you would like to receive that information (text, personal email inbox or both).

Throughout the year, you will find the following features useful:

- Assignments — On your child's Assignments page, you can view his/her past, current and upcoming assignments.
- Schedule — On your child's Schedule page, you can view his/her daily schedule and attendance. You can also click "View Full Schedule" to view your child's weekly and monthly schedule.
- School Directories — You can access the School Directories to search for other parents or students by class or by dorm. You can also search for faculty and staff email addresses and other contact information.

BOLLES KEY CALENDAR DATES**2024-25****2024**

New Student Orientation/Meet Teacher Day.....	August 13
First Day of School	August 14
Labor Day, School Closed	September 2
Middle and Upper School Quarter 1 Interim.....	September 12
Middle and Upper School Quarter 1 Ends.....	October 2
Lower, Middle and Upper School Conference Day, No Classes	October 17
Lower School and Middle School Professional Development Day; Upper School Conference Day, No Classes	October 18
Fall Break, School Closed.....	October 21
Middle and Upper School Quarter 2 Interim.....	November 6
Lower School Trimester 1 Ends.....	November 7
Middle School Conference Day; Upper School Professional Development Day; Lower School Work Day, No Classes	November 8
Thanksgiving Break, School Closed	November 25-29
Upper School Quarter 2 Ends.....	December 13
Last Day of Classes for Upper School Before Winter Break.....	December 13
Upper School Reading Day, No Classes.....	December 16
Middle School Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break and Quarter 2 Ends.....	December 17
Upper School Exams	December 17-20
Middle School Reading Day, No Classes	December 18
Middle School Exams	December 19-20
Last Day of Classes for Lower School Before Winter Break	December 19
Lower School Work Day, No Lower School Classes	December 20
Winter Break, School Closed	December 23-3

2025

Winter Break, School Closed	January 1-3
Classes Resume	January 6
Martin Luther King Day, School Closed.....	January 20
Middle and Upper School Quarter 3 Interim.....	February 4
Lower School Trimester 2 Ends.....	February 13
Lower, Middle and Upper School Conference Day, No Classes	February 14
Presidents' Day, School Closed	February 17
Middle and Upper School Quarter 3 Ends.....	March 7
Spring Break, School Closed.....	March 10-14
Lower, Middle and Upper School Professional Development Day, No Classes.....	March 17
Middle and Upper School Quarter 4 Interim.....	April 15
Spring Holiday, School Closed.....	April 18-21
Middle and Upper School Quarter 4 Ends.....	May 16
Last Day of Classes for Middle and Upper School	May 16
Middle and Upper School Reading Day, No Classes.....	May 19
Middle and Upper School Exams	May 20-23
Last Day of School for Lower School	May 22
Lower School Work Day, No Lower School Classes	May 23
Graduation.....	May 24
Memorial Day, School Closed	May 26





UPPER SCHOOL SAN JOSE CAMPUS



The Bolles Resident Life Program Mission Statement:

The Bolles School Resident Life Program is committed to providing an inclusive and nurturing environment in which all students are offered a breadth of opportunities and experiences that promote academic success and individual achievement, as well as the values of self reliance, social responsibility and a respect for diversity.

The Bolles School Mission Statement:

The Bolles School prepares students for college and life by inspiring excellence, courage, integrity and compassion in an academic community dedicated to nurturing mind, body and soul.



www.Bolles.org