

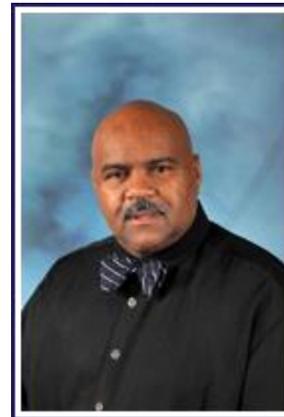
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SOIT Teacher is “His Brothers’ Keeper”

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A number of years ago, Mr. Charlie Batchelor, a School of Information Technology (SOIT) at Eastside teacher, decided to organize *My Brothers’ Keeper*, a youth mentoring organization at Eastside Campus. After years of observing male students with nowhere to go after school, Mr. Batchelor decided to launch the club in October of 2016 with the purpose of providing these young men with the necessary mentorship to develop their moral and character traits.



Unfortunately, in high school, many young men drop out because they do not have the support that they need. My Brothers’ Keeper gives young men reasons to stay in school. Mr. Batchelor credits his fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma, for aiding him in directing the group - showing them that life offers better options than the streets.

Consequently, Mr. Batchelor has become a role model for misguided young men. Reflecting on the club’s mission, Mr. Batchelor said that he “aims to provide the ninth and tenth graders with strong, enduring, group mentoring relationships that will change their lives for the better.” During club meetings, he teaches them life skills such as how to tie a necktie, how to make executive decisions, study strategies, conflict resolution skills and financial literacy. To provide concrete examples on how to succeed, he invites guest speakers with similar backgrounds to share their success stories.

Each year, he takes the boys to a *Male Empowerment Conference* located at various colleges throughout New Jersey. Attendance at these conferences offer the Eastside students opportunities to interact with other young men from different communities.

Mr. Batchelor plans to continue advising the club until he retires from teaching. At that time, he hopes to be able to hand the club over to another community-oriented colleague.

DHA and Army Engineers use STEM to “Eliminate the Box”



Dr. Hani Awadallah School (DHA) and the Picatinny Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Outreach Program have partnered for the purpose of promoting college and career readiness. The goal of this STEM education program is to increase the number of students selecting STEM careers and improve the technological competence of the overall U.S. population.

As part of this program, two engineers, Mohammad and Louis, from the US Army’s Picatinny Arsenal, visited with students in grades 3-8, as well as the building’s science teachers. They ignited curiosity and passion in the minds of these students while reinforcing the idea that anything is possible through engineering. These two engineers will be working with students, not only to get them “thinking outside the box” – but perhaps eliminate the “box” altogether! The DHA students will continue to work with the engineers throughout the school year on student-led, hands-on engineering service projects.



Mrs. Allan’s kindergarten class at School 9 had perfect attendance for the entire month of November. When asked what motivates them they responded, “We love to learn!”

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