

# Black Horse Pike Regional School District Spotlight on Alumni (March 2020)



## **Jason Christy, Highland Regional HS, class of 2008**

*Nominator: DJ Gore, School Counselor, Highland Regional HS*

Supervisor of Registration, Enrollment and Summer Programs, Art Alessandroni, interviewed and discussed life after Highland Regional High School with Jason Christy. Here's what Jason had to say about his Tartan experience:

- 1. AA: If you attended a college/university, what school(s) did you attend and was your major?**

*alumni: Upon graduation, I attended the Gloucester County Police Academy.*

- 2. Describe your career/profession today?**

*alumni: Today, I serve the community as a patrol sergeant with the Berlin Police Department.*

**3. AA: What impact Highland High School have on your career path/profession?**

*alumni: During high school I spent a decent amount of time in my Vice Principal's office and had a few interactions with our school recourse officer. I figured, if I can't beat them, I might as well join them. All kidding aside, I had family in law enforcement, and it was always something I wanted to pursue. Highland presented a wide range of students that attended the school with different types of social, economic, and religious backgrounds. I was always interacting with everyone, and it helped shape my social and communication skills which are strong tools to have in law enforcement.*

**4. AA: Was there a teacher, coach, counselor, administrator, secretary, etc. that had the biggest impact on you while in school, and if so, how?**

*alumni: I honestly don't even know where to start. There were numerous teachers, counselors, administrators, and coaches that had a direct impact on my life during school. Just to name a few **Christine Dziczek, Jan Johnston, Jay Senft, Joanne Fudala, Frank Plefka, Ken Schoudt Chris Bennett, and Robert Hoelke**. But the person who had the biggest impact on me is **DJ Gore**. He saw something in your "average Blackwood kid" that need a little extra guidance that others didn't care or even bother tackling that project with me. He taught me many life lessons, and he instilled core values in me that are the foundation of the life I live today. I can't thank him enough for the things he has done for me over the years. Almost 16 years later now, he is one of my best friends, and I am thankful for that every day.*

**5. AA: Which clubs, sports, activities, etc., if any, did you participate in while at HHS?**

*alumni: During my time at Highland, I played football, baseball, and I wrestled. I graduated with 11 varsity letters. I was also a part of Teen Pep, which if you knew me during my time at Highland you would have never thought that I would ever been a part of. But ironically enough, it had the biggest impact on me on a personal level than I could have ever imagined.*

**6. AA: Do you have a fond/favorite memory from high school you'd be willing to share?**

*alumni: There was a lot over the four years, but some of the best memories I had were on the football and baseball fields, and on the wrestling mat. Playing football on Friday nights, the weekend and overnight trips during wrestling season, the week long trips to Florida during baseball season are the memories I'll never forget. The friendships that were created during those times have stayed strong over the years. Now we all have kids ourselves, so when we all get together it is pretty awesome to see and think about where those friendships started and where they are today.*

**7. AA: What advice would you give to our current student body?**

*alumni: Be open minded and learn to be able to take corrective criticism. I know as a teenager we all had it figured out. But the people in that building everyday do care about you, and want you to succeed. Embrace changes, stay focused on your goals, and believe in yourself. You only get one shot at this thing they call life, make the best of it, and remember if you want something in your life, it's not always just given to you, you have to work for it and earn it.*