



Black Horse Pike Regional School District Spotlight on Alumni Spotlight – OCTOBER 2021



Brandon Keller, class of 2013

“Brandon has a tremendous work ethic and insatiable desire to succeed. In addition to being a thriving New Jersey Real Estate Agent, Brandon has partnered with one of his former high school wrestling coaches, Nick Cottone, at American MMA and Wrestling. Brandon shares his extensive knowledge of a sport that he excelled in and his passion to want to give back to the community. He brings excitement not just to the business, but those around him. He finds true pride and joy in mentoring these young athletes. The impact Brandon's made on the young men and women he works with speaks volumes, in fact some of his high school aged mentees even rely on him for life advice.”

~ Lisa Casares, Vice Principal secretary, Highland HS

1. AA: Upon graduation, what post-secondary path did you take and why?

Brandon: Studied Business Administration with a minor in Accounting at Newberry College. Received my degree with honors in 2017. I went to college because I received a full scholarship, and I studied business/accounting because I always knew I wanted to be my own boss.

2. Looking back, would you have done anything differently and why?

Brandon: Played golf in HS so I don't suck so much at it now lol

3. AA: Describe your career/profession today?

Brandon: Real Estate Sales (Realtor), Home Renovations (Keller's Custom Renovations), and Gym Owner/Wrestling Coach (American MMA & Wrestling)

4. AA: What impact did your BHP high school have on your career path/profession?

Brandon: It taught me that the more work you put in the more successful you be.

5. AA: Was/were there specific teacher(s), coach(es), counselor(s), administrator(s), secretary(ies), or other professionals that had a major impact on you while in school, and if so, who were those professionals and describe how they helped you along your HS journey.

*Brandon: All the wrestling coaches (**Nick Cottone, Dave Ritz, Tyler Fruits, Paul Bauberger**). These coaches held me accountable and pushed me to be the best I could be. **Nick Cottone** is now my business partner at our gym, American MMA & Wrestling. The bond we formed as coach and wrestler helped us have the trust to go into business together.*

6. AA: Which school clubs, sports, activities, etc., if any, did you participate in when you attended your BHP high school? If so, were there any moments or experiences that you can recall that helped you become the person you are today?

Brandon: Wrestling. Winning my first region title as a freshman really showed me that I had the ability to be one of best wrestlers in the state. The confidence I gained through wrestling has helped me attack life without second guessing my business visions.

7. AA: Please share any other favorite memories of the Black Horse Pike Regional School District, your HS in particular, that would inspire today's youth?

Brandon: Success is contagious. Many of the sports teams were super successful while I attended HS. We wouldn't hate on each other. We always pushed each other and congratulated one another when the other won a big game/match/race.

Surround yourself with winners, and encourage each other so you and your people all win in life!

8. What advice would you give to our current student body? What would you have done differently in high school if you could turn back time?

Brandon: Read Rich Dad Poor Dad. Learn personal finance. Most people make money to spend money, and they live a never ending cycle of just getting by. Unless you learn how to invest your money you will always need to keep working. You don't need to make a million dollars a year to become a millionaire. Anyone can accumulate wealth over time with the right investing strategies. If you want to learn about investing in real estate, reach out to me on social media or call/text me anytime @ 856-261-2853.

