



# Black Horse Pike Regional School District Alumni Spotlight – OCTOBER 2020



## Joey Ucci, Timber Creek Regional High School, 2016

*“Joseph is an outstanding young man. Once he graduated from Timber Creek he ventured off to Drexel University. Joseph is majoring in business where he excelling. He will be graduating this year. He will be taking a full time position with Amazon in Seattle, WA to work in their sales department. Joseph has always been an outstanding student, so focused and driven. He always inspired others to succeed as well.*

*Joseph recommended that we get DECA at the school. I looked into it and the year that he was here we couldn't sign on. However, because of him we looked further into getting the club. He is truly an Alumni to honor.” ~ Ms. Verna Karim*

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

**Joey:** *After graduating from Timber Creek, I decided to attend Drexel University in Philadelphia to get my Bachelor's degree in marketing. I chose Drexel because of their awesome co-op program where I have had the opportunity to work at some amazing companies, living in a city with tons to do, and still being able to return home to Sicklerville.*

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

*Joey: I would not have done anything different. Getting my Bachelors and attending Drexel has given me so many amazing opportunities and connect me with tons of experience that has shaped my student life and career.*

**3. AA: Describe your career/profession today?**

*Joey: After graduating this December, I will be relocating to Seattle, Washington to pursue a career at Amazon HQ. I will be working with Amazon Web Services as an associate account executive. In this role I will help companies, large and small, make the journey from on-premise data and storage centers to the AWS cloud.*

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

*Joey: I think a lot of the work ethic and skills I learned from high school classes and assignments allowed me to succeed in college and in my career. Being engaged with high school by participating in so many clubs and activities pushed me to do the same in college. A lot of those clubs I joined in college connected me with internships and my full time career.*

**5. AA: 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? If so, who were those professionals and describe how they helped you along your HS journey.**

*Joey:*

*Jennifer Pavelik; Pav was basically my rock for junior and senior year. Pav helped me learn a lot and was a big support for some personal things I was going through.*

*Lauren Griffin; Griff was always there for me when I needed a laugh and is a part of a lot of my best high school memories.*

*Lisa Draper; Draper was always so supportive of my high school endeavors and helped me find some amazing opportunities.*

*Verna Karim; Karim had such a positive outlook on everything and truly cared about me doing well and being successful.*

*While the list goes on, some additional shout outs include **Melissa Hernandez, Mary Dressel, Mary Dressel, Dina Galdo Tomczak, and Kaitlin Wong.***

- 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?**

*Joey: I was very involved at Timber Creek. Aside from playing soccer and tennis, I was a part of Transition Project, Teen Pep, History Club, and on the Class of 2016 Executive Board. I think joining Transition Project and Teen Pep really helped me develop better leadership skills as well as public speaking skills. I remember putting on skits with some of my friends and the awesome lessons we got to teach to freshmen. Being on the executive board for the Class of 2016 allowed me to meet so many people from my grade and plan super fun and exciting events for everyone. I can't wait to start planning our 10-year reunion!*

- 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?**

*Joey: Even after 4 years of college, some of my favorite memories still happened in high school at Timber Creek. All of the club field trips, pep rallies, football games, and dances have some of my best memories. Getting involved is very important and can have a lasting impact about your high school experience and some of your old friends that you no longer get to see.*

- 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?**

*Joey: My biggest advice would be to try and plan ahead as best as you can. I think I saw a lot of success from myself and my peers who actively started exploring post-grad opportunities that they wanted to be a part of. Whether it be college or not, be sure to learn about the different paths a high schooler can take after they graduate and see what could be best for you. I don't think I would have done anything differently if I could turn back time but definitely thank myself for working as hard as I did. I think a lot of the work ethic and skills I learned from high school classes and assignments allowed me to succeed in college and in my career.*

