Bob Behr’s Tutor Corps

Coach Behr was a passionate teacher both in the classroom and in the community.

In the English Dept. at Tower Hill School, he shared his love of literature and fostered critical reading and writing for 19 years;

for 17 of those years, he was the Head of the Department.

The Tutor Corps at Tower Hill evolved from Mr. Behr’s early involvement in a Summer Tutorial Program with the West Side Greater

Parish in Wilmington. In the school year of 1965-66, 24 tutors from Tower Hill met for an hour once or twice a week with under-served

students in the West End of Wilmington. The program ran from 1965-75. Behr wrote that the tutors related to their students “in the

friendly manner of a big brother or sister…love, kindness, and understanding made learning enjoyable…”

In 1966 Behr founded The Junior Humanities Program at Tower Hill. This summer of enhanced learning for inner city students led to the

admission of the first students of color at the school.

Mr. Behr’s interest in improving race relations led him in 1970 to edit *The Search for Black* *Identity,* an anthology used by over 100 schools.

His passion for reading and teaching continued during his years as an administrator at Williams College. In Williamstown he was active in the

Greylock A Better Chance Program, and in 2018 he founded Head Smarts, a program that offered free books to parents to encourage them to

read to their infants and toddlers.

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