

Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame



Joseph Battiato
English Teacher, Advanced Placement Director

Joseph Battiato spent 35 of his 40 years as an educator at Watchung Hills Regional High School. In addition to teaching English on all grade levels, and to students of all ability levels, he also served as acting English Department Chairperson. He coordinated, developed and directed one of the largest Advanced Placement (AP) programs in New Jersey. His outstanding achievements in these areas earned him the Advanced Placement Recognition Award from the College Board as well as designation as an AP National Teacher Scholar.

At Watchung Hills, Joe designed the World Literature Program, including course mapping, and coordinated curriculum development for sophomore and junior English programs. He participated in the Education/Business Partnership Programs, engaging sophomores in business transactions as they related to English, and organized workshops with business leaders. He instituted the model English AP Program that he had developed for the College Board at Watchung Hills, as well.

Joe was the recipient of the New Jersey Governor's Teacher-of-the-Year Award in 1995 and was named Outstanding Teacher of Reading for Somerset County in 1996. He was selected to represent Watchung Hills Regional High School along with the principal and vice principal at the Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony hosted by President Clinton in 1996. Joe received the Princeton University's Distinguished Teacher Citation in 2002 and was nominated over 30 times for "Who's Who among America's Teachers".