

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Student Achievement



NOOR RAHMAN

“Noor Rahman is one of my favorite students of all time. His maturity, passion, and work ethic are unmatched by anyone his age. He is a true student and genuine humanitarian.”

Joann Porto, College Counselor

Noor Rahman learned the value of hard work and perseverance from his father, who immigrated to the United States at the age of 14 and, despite not being able to speak English, went on to open a successful grocery store and purchase a home for his family. Noor learned that in order to be successful, one must maintain a positive attitude and continue to work hard, even in the face of adversity.

Noor's parents wanted a better life for him and recognized that education is a gateway to achieving one's goals. Entering school, Noor realized he would have challenges of his own to overcome when he was placed in a Special Education program for students who struggled academically. Noor focused his energy on improving his reading, writing, and math skills, aiming to convince his teachers he did not

belong in special education. His teachers took notice of his academic improvement and placed him in Collaborative Team Teaching classes, which are regular level classes with two teachers instead of one. Noor thrived in this setting and was eventually placed on the standard education track.

During his freshman year, Noor was introduced to the Overcoming Obstacles Life Skills Program, and the lessons on communication, goal setting, and self-confidence helped him realize that he would need to learn these life skills in addition to achieving good grades in order to be successful in life. Noor identified and strengthened his weaknesses, improving steadily throughout his high school years. In June of 2009, Noor graduated at the top of his class from Fort Hamilton High School.

Noor is currently attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Manhattan and hopes to major in law so that he can one day use his profession and the skills he learned through Overcoming Obstacles to help others overcome adversity and achieve their dreams.

