



Eitel Houedakor
Beurling Academy Alumnus, 2020
Assistive Technology Coordinator and Accessibility Consultant

Eitel Houedakor, a Beurling Academy graduate from the class of 2020, has made remarkable strides in his professional career. Eitel entered Beurling Academy as the first student in its history who was visually impaired. Through the encouragement and collaboration of the staff, Eitel was able to graduate at the top of his class. Today, he has a successful career as an Assistive Technology Coordinator and Accessibility Consultant.

Reflecting on his time at Beurling, Eitel shared, “Coming from my old school, although there were more students at Beurling Academy, there was a greater sense of community with the teachers, support staff, and students. I always felt supported.

The thing that I appreciated the most was that everyone was open minded, especially my teachers. It was the first time for my teachers to teach someone blind, and as the first ever blind student in the school, it was a lot of first times for everyone. But still, everyone kept an open mind on how things could be taught to me. They worked with me, and we tried to find ways that would make it work for me.”

Eitel fondly remembers his teachers at Beurling Academy for encouraging him to partake in school activities like extracurricular sports and drama, fostering his confidence and sense of community. His Phys Ed teacher suggested he join the wrestling team, which eventually led him back to judo, in which he is now a champion.

Today, Eitel continues to empower individuals through his work, teaching those with visual impairments how to use assistive technology to improve their daily lives. He has also started his own business focused on developing assistive technologies to promote digital inclusivity.

"Beurling Academy taught me that I was the expert of my situation, and I didn't have to wait for someone to give me advice on how I should be doing things. I have the ability to test things on my own and figure out what works for me," A quality that he carried with him throughout the rest of his studies and in his career today.

"I revisited the school recently and I still felt welcome. I still felt like I was part of the school. So anytime I have a chance to return, it's always a warm reunion."