

UPPER DARBY TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT



ABOUT UDPD

Established in 1906, the Upper Darby Township Police Department (UDPD) currently comprises 138 officers serving a township of approximately 87,000 residents.

Spanning 7.9 square miles, Upper Darby is located along the western border of Philadelphia and is known for its rich cultural diversity—so much so that its slogan is “The World in One Place.”

Since 2019, UDPD has been led by Superintendent Timothy M. Bernhardt.

SUPERINTENDENT TIMOTHY BERNHARDT

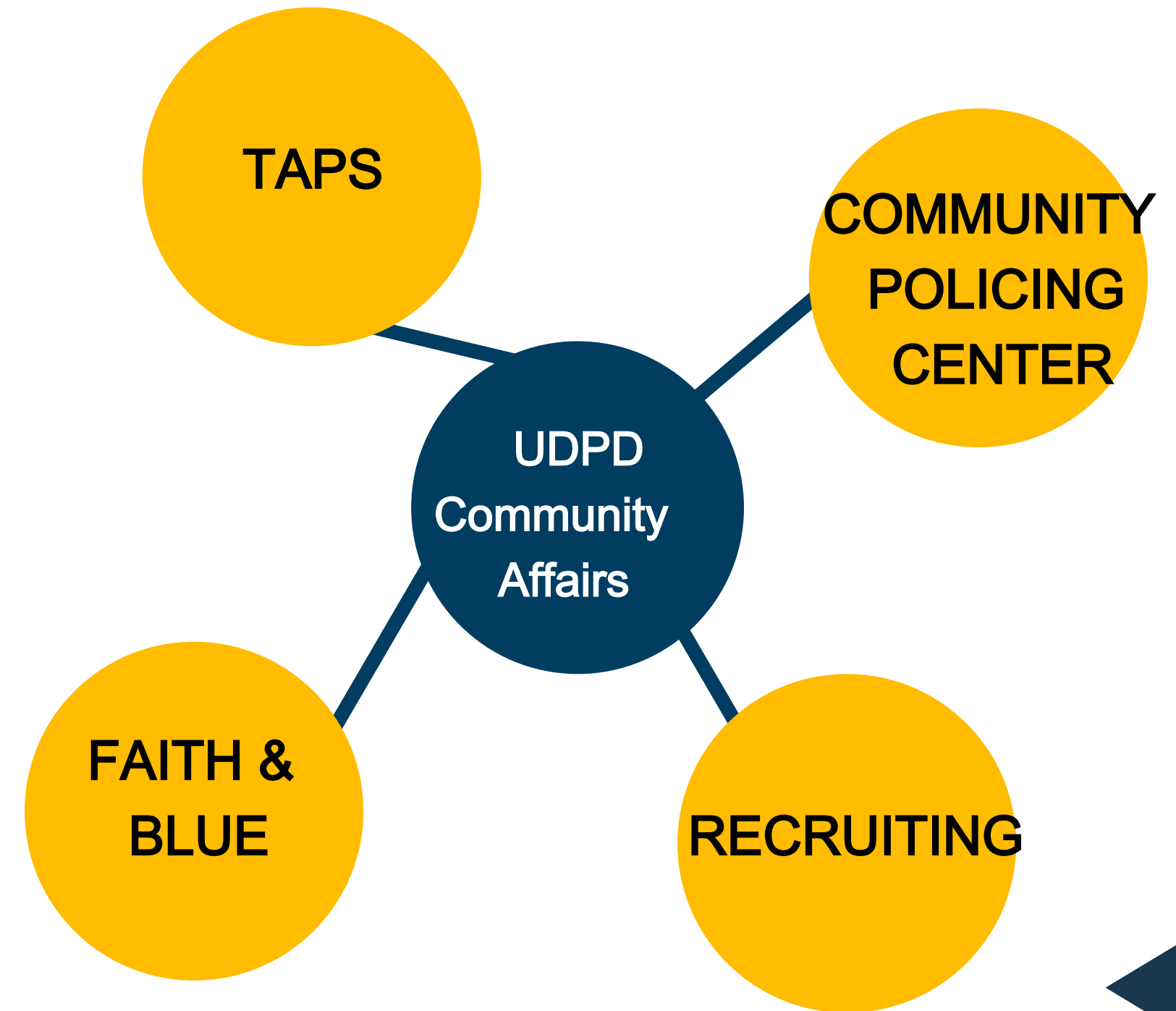


UDPD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2020 Vision for Modern Policing

In 2020, Superintendent Bernhardt met with all department supervisors to outline his vision for modernizing the Upper Darby Police Department. His priorities included:

- Expanding existing community-based programs
- Strengthening partnerships with local organizations
- Evolving the Community Affairs Unit into a self-sustaining entity, operating independently from the department



VISION & MISSION

VISION

Superintendent Bernhardt's Vision for Community Relations

Superintendent Bernhardt aims to expand community affairs to foster stronger relationships between law enforcement and the community.

This vision aligns with the Teens and Police Service (TAPS) program, created by criminologist Dr. Everette Penn at the University of Houston in 2011 through a Department of Justice grant.

The TAPS program was developed to bridge the social distance between law enforcement and youth, especially following incidents of social unrest, supporting Bernhardt's goal of improving community relations.

MISSION

In 2021 Upper Darby Police Department joined the TAPS family with the help of Dr. Penn. We have been able to engage with over 300 youth in ways we never have before. The goal of TAPS to reduce the social distance between youth and law enforcement in Upper Darby is thriving.

2021 UDPD TAPS

In 2021, the Upper Darby Police Department established key community partnerships to implement the TAPS (Teens and Police Service) program.

Collaborating with the Upper Darby Library System and Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast High School, UDPD launched an 11-week TAPS Academy at the high school, along with monthly TAPS Summits hosted at the library.

In December 2021, the department proudly graduated 32 students from the program.



2022 -2023 UDPD TAPS

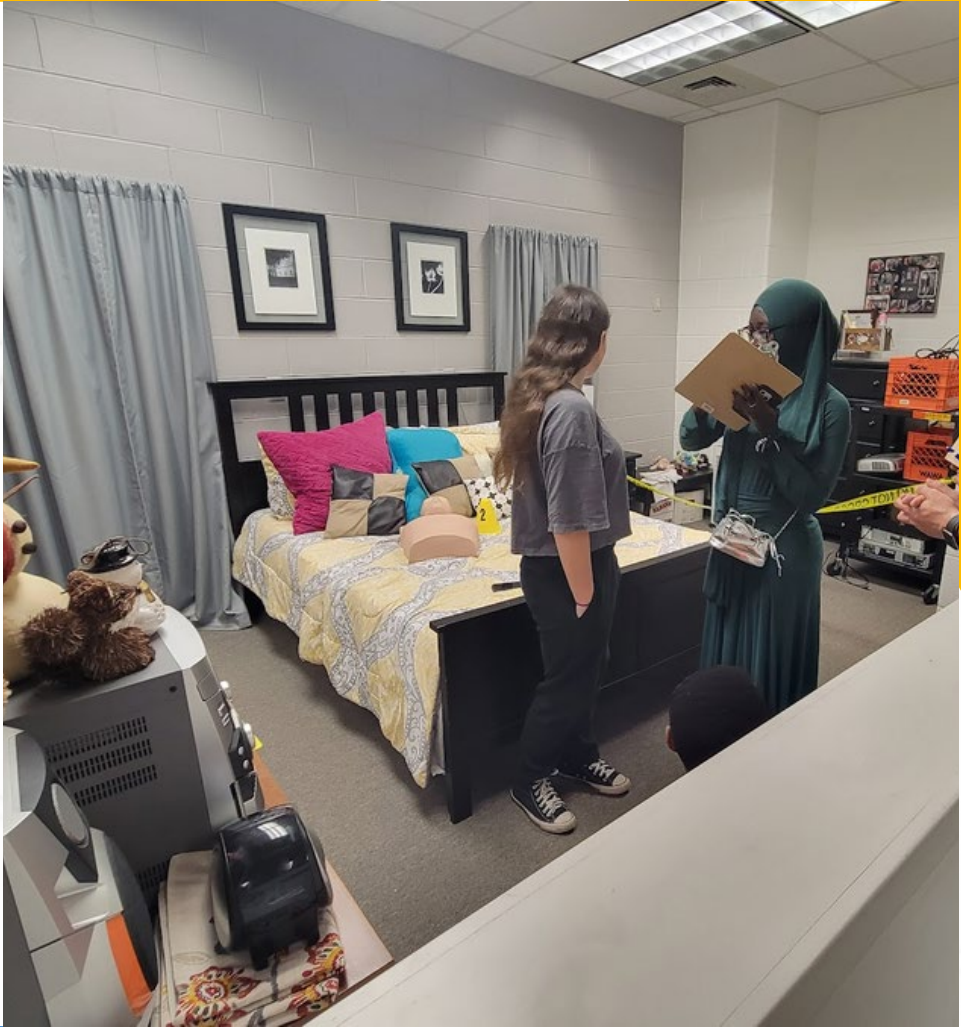
Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast High School invited the Upper Darby Police Department to return for the 2022–2023 school year, expanding the program to run throughout the entire academic year with two TAPS classes held each day.

Meanwhile, monthly TAPS Summits continued at the Upper Darby Library, allowing the department to engage with both home-schooled students and those attending Upper Darby public schools.

The program's growing impact caught the attention of the Upper Darby School District. In April 2023, UDPD was invited to present the TAPS program to the Upper Darby School Board.



2023 -2024 UDPD TAPS



SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS

• Grant Writing to Support the Community – \$1,000 “Awesome Project” Award
Initiatives funded through this grant included:

- Creating and distributing care packages for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Writing and delivering inspirational letters to the homeless
- Organizing a community coat drive
- Hosting a food drive and distribution event
- Volunteering to stock shelves and organize clothing at a local nonprofit



MEET OUR TAPS TEAM

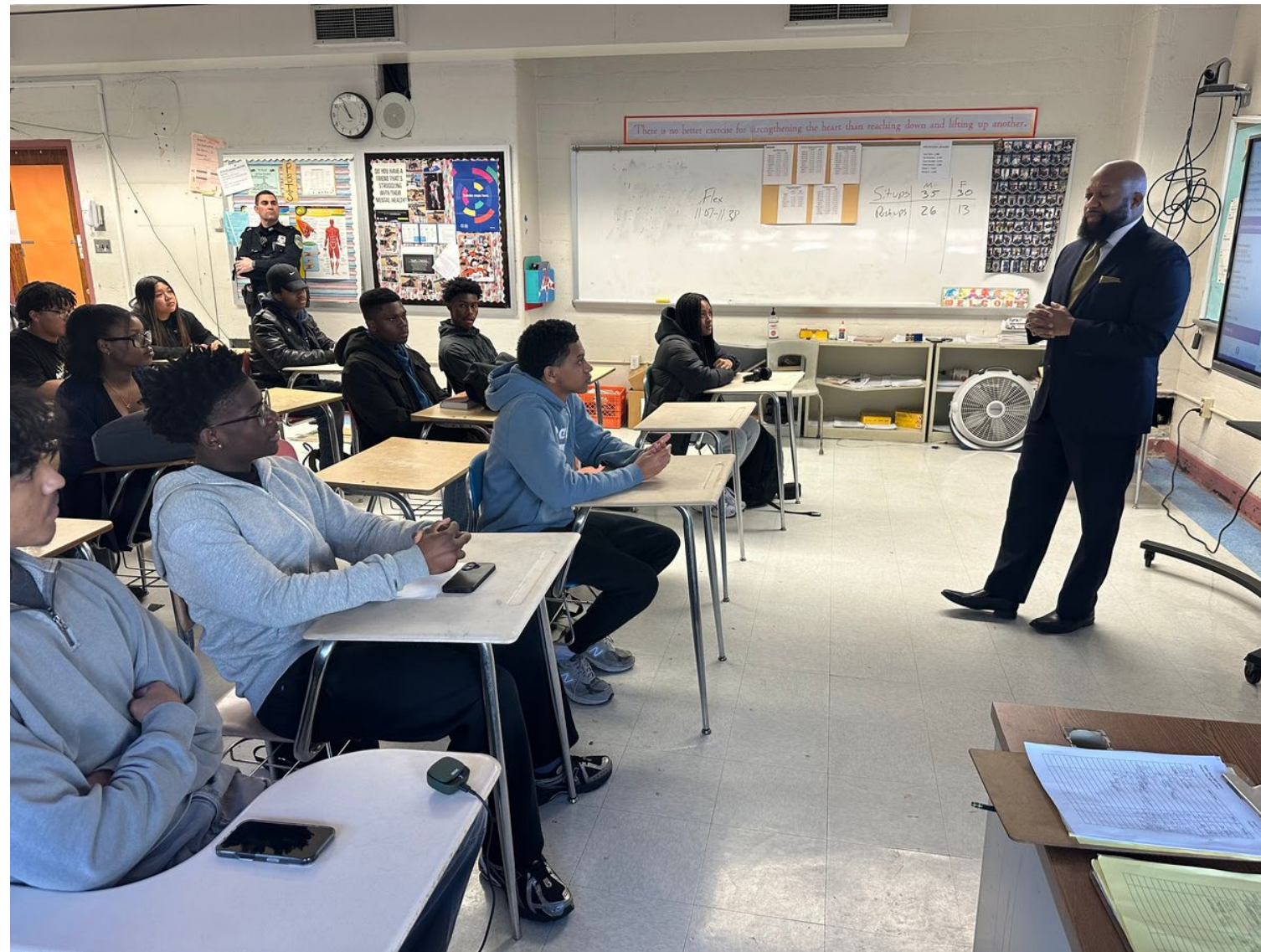
LT. LAINA STEVENS

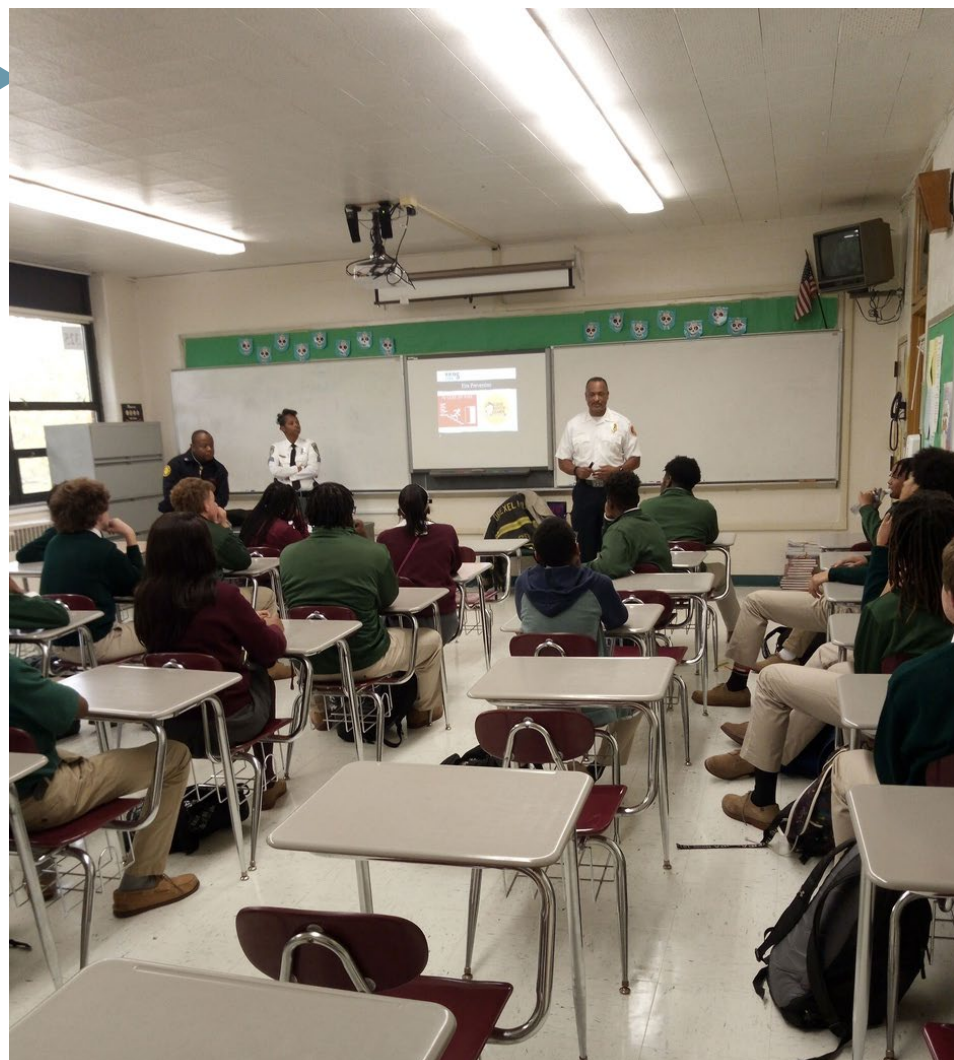


OFC. ANTHONY BATEMAN



MEET OUR VILLAGE - UPPER DARBY TOWNSHIP MAYOR ED BROWN





MEET OUR VILLAGE - UPPER DARBY FIRE DEPARTMENT



SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS



Advocacy to State
Representatives with trip
to Pennsylvania capitol of
Harrisburg



MEET OUR VILLAGE - UPPER DARBY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY



DR. JEAN KOSHA



MEET OUR VILLAGE - DOMESTIC ABUSE PROJECT OF DELAWARE COUNTY



MEET OUR VILLAGE - DELAWARE COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES



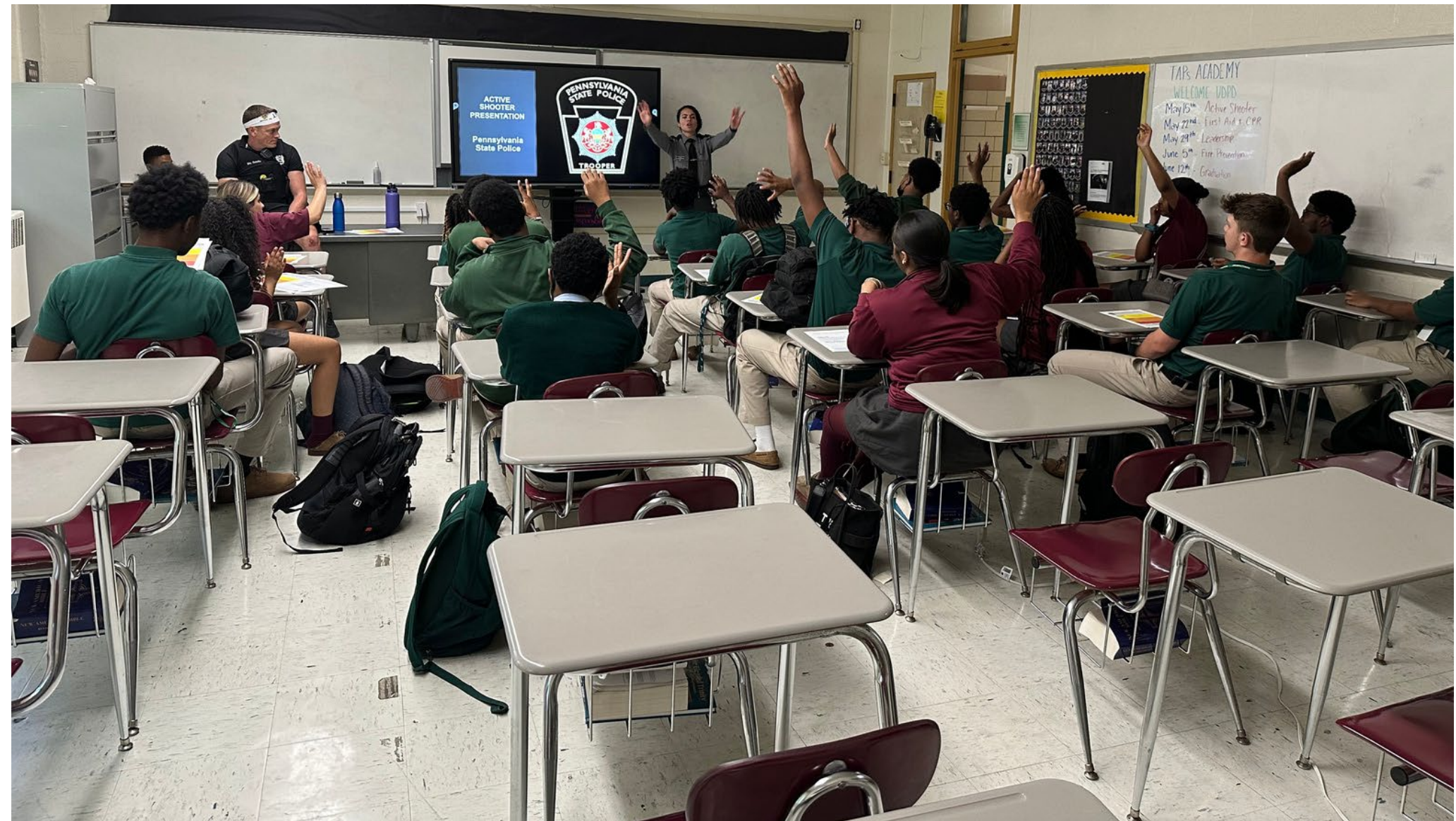
MEET OUR VILLAGE - DELAWARE COUNTY COURTHOUSE



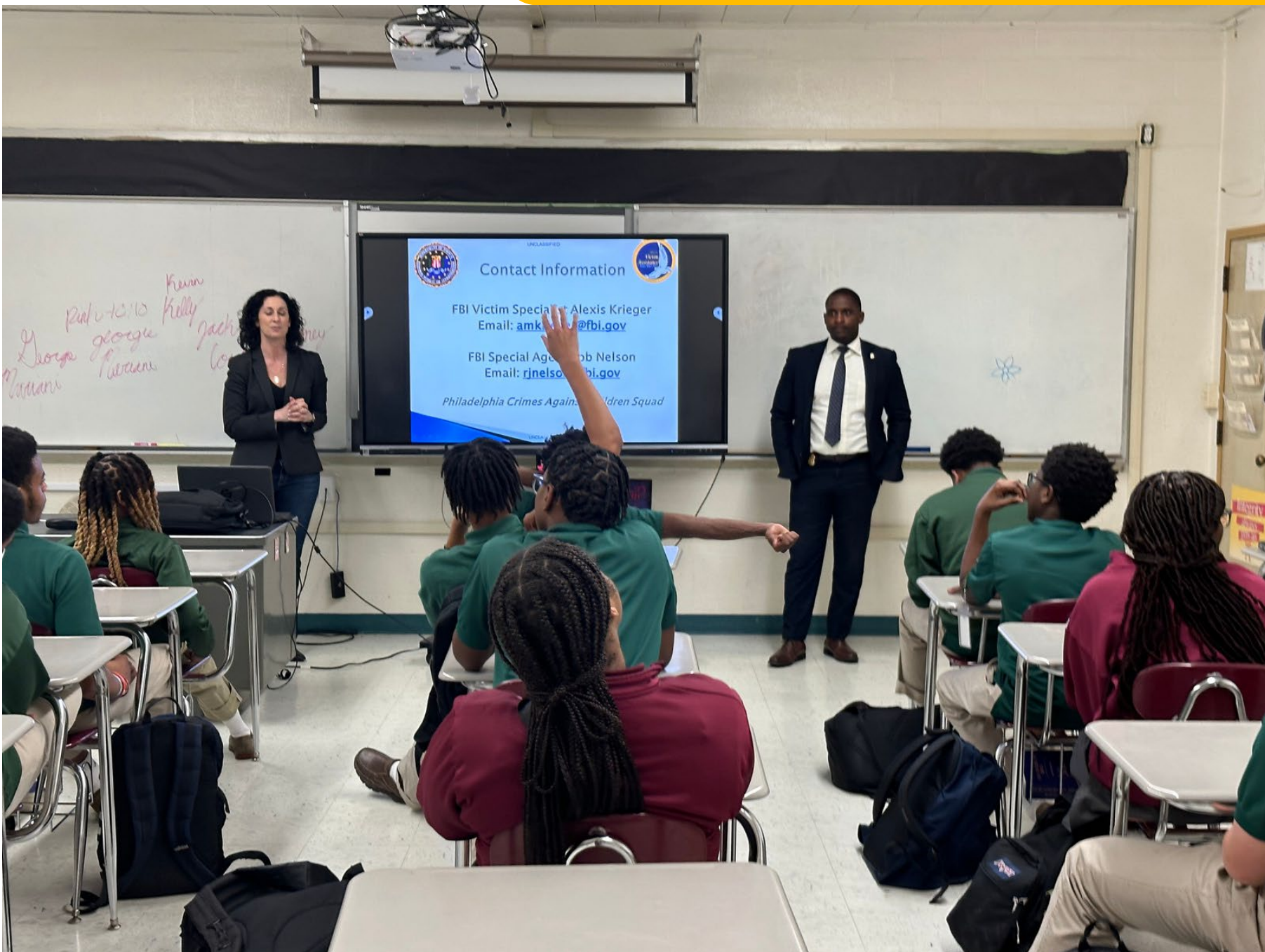
MEET OUR VILLAGE - DELAWARE COUNTY SHERIFF CHAPLAINS



MEET OUR VILLAGE - PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE



MEET OUR VILLAGE - FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



UDPD EXPLORERS PROGRAM

2024 UDPD Explorers Program

- Launched to support recruitment efforts and extend engagement with interested TAPS students
- Provides monthly opportunities for youth to learn about law enforcement
- Currently includes 13 Explorers gaining firsthand experience in what it takes to become a police officer in Upper Darby Township



MEET OUR VILLAGE - DELAWARE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

2023 Participant Leadership & Occupational Training (PLOT) Program

*Summer Youth Employment Initiative – Funded
through DCWDB Grant*

- Secured grant funding to provide summer employment for 20 youth
- Six TAPS students participated, earning \$15/hour
- Program offered valuable work experience and leadership development
- Community partners included:
 - Lansdowne YMCA
 - Tank & Libby's
 - Ramsey's Auto Center
 - Delaware County District Attorney's Office
 - Main Line Health
 - Various departments within Upper Darby Township



THE TAPS TOUCH

Since we started TAPS in 2021, we have been able to touch the lives of 300+ young people.

Parents have signed their kids up for our class and allowed them to travel with us on field trips.

Community partners have stated that the program needs to be in the middle schools as well.



GRADUATIONS

