

Public Service



DEWARREN B. WATSON

Department of State Treasurer

Brandon Watson is the Banking Director of the Financial Operations division within the N.C. Department of State Treasurer. Watson has made a significant impact on many young men of color from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Watson is an active volunteer and leader. Through the Kappas of Durham Foundation, Watson started and has been leading the Brother2Brother initiative at R.N. Harris Elementary School. Brother2Brother focuses on mentoring and tutoring young men of color to foster their academic, social, physical, and emotional development.

Throughout the school year, a select group of fifth grade boys are provided opportunities to interact with positive male role models. The children learn valuable people skills, such as how to give a firm handshake and making and maintaining eye contact. The children also engage in hands-on experiences that cultivate a strong team dynamic. For example, Watson led a team-building activity where students were able to build bridges out of materials that were not typical. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, Watson managed to connect students virtually to a myriad of professionals locally and nationally.

At the end of each school year, Watson coordinates a field trip at no cost to the children. In past years, they have visited the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and the International Civil Rights Center and Museum in Greensboro, N.C. The trips are coupled with enrichment activities such as dressing for success and etiquette classes.



Watson's tireless efforts, coupled with the Kappas of Durham Foundation's committed involvement in the education of local minority males, form a network of peer support for school success and positive social development. The State of North Carolina is honored to have a public servant that models a spirit of excellence through dedicated volunteerism to lift up his community.