Brian Eyer has been the principal at Digital Harbor High School for five years. He started his career as a medical student, but then transitioned into teaching. Eyer taught for eight years and served as an assistant principal for six years in Pennsylvania before coming to Baltimore as a principal in 2005.

Digital Harbor is an innovative, technology-focused high school located in the historic Federal Hill section of Baltimore, overlooking the Inner Harbor. Digital Harbor is a highly desired school that does not have any entrance criteria; students are chosen by lottery from communities across Baltimore City. The school’s mission is to prepare students for college, careers in technology and responsible citizenship.

Opened in 2002, the building underwent a multimillion-dollar renovation to support high-tech programs. Students list the following top 10 reasons for attending Digital Harbor: computer technology pathways, honors/AP program, modern facility, diversity, safety, location, sports, clubs/activities, faculty and reputation.

In the 2009-2010 school year, the National Academy Foundation moved out of Digital Harbor, allowing the school to serve more students. Digital Harbor’s theme is to improve student learning and prepare students for the modern workforce. The school seeks to infuse technology throughout the curriculum as much as possible to engage students in learning. There is a heavy emphasis on teacher collaboration and working as a professional learning community to ensure that students learn.

Digital Harbor entered school improvement in 2004, but exited in 2009, having made AYP in 2008 and 2009. In 2009, 75 percent of students at Digital Harbor were proficient or advanced in mathematics and 75.7 percent were proficient or advanced in reading. As of May 3, 2010, the school has an attendance rate of 91.3 percent. In 2009, Digital Harbor had a graduation rate of 80.24 percent and a dropout rate of 4.69 percent.

Digital Harbor strives to engage the community and parents in helping to educate students. According to City Schools’ 2009 Climate Survey, 83.5 percent of parents and 92.9 percent of staff feel that students are safe, and 73.4 percent of students feel they are safe. Students like to come to school because the environment is safe and the culture is nurturing and supportive. Additionally, 92.5 percent of parents are satisfied with Digital Harbor and 89.2 percent feel that they are welcome at this school.
Focus Groups for Digital Harbor:

Teacher Focus Group:
1. Beth Sappe – Math IST
2. Zach Jaffe – English IST
3. Beverly Feig – Science Department Head
4. Peter Heineman – Social Studies IST
5. Rochelle Skipper – Technology IST
6. Dr. Bowden – administrator
7. Valerie Allen – Guidance
8. Cheryl Colbert – Special Education
9. Elizabeth McCreary – 1st year Social Studies teacher
10. Keith Rudolph – 4th year media teacher
11. Shannon Mobley – 1st year assistant principal
12. Vickie Wolverton – World Classical Languages

Parent and Partner Focus Group:
1. Joyce Agresott – community member/parent
2. Rochelle Hazel – Parent
3. Ahmed Hazel – Parent
4. Keith Mitzner – Community Member
5. Steve Wolverton – Business partner
6. NiKole Divito – Internship coordinator

Student Focus Group:
1. Sharrieff Graham – Media pathway – Grade 9
2. Melanie Hooker – Media pathway – grade 10
3. Cecilia Ramirez-Espajo – Media Pathway – Grade 10
4. Hillary Bowman – Media Pathway – Grade 12
5. Ryan McCann – Programming – Grade 10
6. Alex Welch – Programming – Grade 11
7. Kia Johnson – Programming – Grade 12
8. Lilliam Mudrow – ISS – Grade 9
9. DeVante Wilson – ISS – Grade 10
10. Tracey Hunt – ISS – Grade 11
11. Adekola Olagunju – ISS – Grade 12
12. Thomas Fortman – Networking – Grade 9
13. Aaron Spence – Networking – Grade 10
15. Asia Logan – Networking – Grade 12
17. Tanelle Williams – senior Class President – Grade 12