Dear Rising 10th Grade Families,

Welcome to 10th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation! We are excited to introduce you to our team and share some important information and expectations for the upcoming school year.

During the summer, you will receive information on how to access your digital classroom and assignments. In the meantime, here are some basics, along with a supply list, to help you get prepared for each of your child’s core academic classes:

**Fees:** The Franklin School of Innovation collects a one-time $15.00 consumables fee, which covers items such as expedition materials, science lab supplies, supplemental reading books, workbooks and other instructional materials. The school will send out invoices for the consumables fee via email at the beginning of the school year. Payments can be paid online, or by cash or check.

Field trips may require additional fees. The school will provide specific information on those opportunities if they are scheduled. Invoices for field trip fees will also be sent via email and can be paid online, or with cash or check.

**Core Subject Classes**

**Biology - Julia Adams (jadams@thefsi.us)** Welcome to the fascinating world of biology! In this course, we will explore the intricacies of life and its myriad forms. Together, we will delve into the fundamental concepts of biology, from the building blocks of life at the cellular level to the interplay of ecosystems on a global scale. Through engaging discussions, hands-on experiments, and thought-provoking activities, we will unravel the mysteries of genetics, explore the inner workings of organisms, and examine the remarkable diversity of life on our planet. By the end of this course, you will have gained a deep understanding of the principles that govern life, and how they apply to both the world around us and our own existence. At the end of the year, we will take a state-mandated End of Course Test (EOC) that will be taken in the final quarter of the year. My hope is that each student not only expands their knowledge but also develops a *lifelong curiosity* for the wonders of biology.

**Civics - Sonya Laws (slaws@thefsi.us)** Welcome! Civics is a course designed to teach students not only how the United States came into existence, but also to explain the governmental institutions on which our society is based. Our society and culture in the United States is very different from other parts of the world. This course offers some explanations for why this is the case. Students will learn about what rights and duties are a part of being a citizen. They will learn about how the federal and state governments work and the responsibilities that government has been entrusted with by the Constitution. Students will be required to examine several key Supreme Court Cases that have helped shape the interpretation of the law and
directly impacted their daily lives.

**English II - Justina Powell** ([jpowell@fsi.us](mailto:jpowell@fsi.us)) In English, students will explore various genres, including novels, poetry, drama, and non-fiction. We will focus on developing critical thinking, reading, and writing skills while engaging with works that celebrate diverse perspectives and offer unique insights into the human experience. Throughout the year, we will explore themes such as identity, justice, resilience, and empathy. Students are expected to participate in classroom discussions, produce analytical writing, and collaborate on creative projects. I look forward to a year of thoughtful discussion, meaningful learning, and a deeper appreciation for the stories that shape our world. [Donations toward our classroom library](mailto:pholmes@theysi.us) would be greatly appreciated!

**Math - Preston Holmes** ([pholmes@theysi.us](mailto:pholmes@theysi.us)) Welcome to Math 2! Throughout the course of the school year, students will learn how to answer questions, solve problems and make decisions using math! The main topics covered include: transformations, symmetry, congruence, constructions, proofs, geometric figures, similarity, trigonometry, quadratic functions, variation, square root functions and probability. In class presentations, notes and projects will be used along with online resources. There is no NC state End of Course Test for Math 2 but students will need to complete a final exam to showcase what they are capable of doing having completed this course.

**Required Materials: 2024-2025 School Year**

**Biology Supply List:** 2 string bound composition journals used only for biology, plenty of pens, pencils, and highlighters, 2 glue sticks, scissors

**Civics Supply List:** 1 binder (2”), loose leaf paper, highlighters, pencils, pens in a few colors. Optional: 8 tab dividers for the binder. **NOTE: Binder should be used only for Civics.**

**English 2 Supply List:** 1 composition notebook for class journals, 1 folder or binder designated for English class, loose-leaf paper, pens (blue or black ink) and/or pencils. Optional: Index cards, highlighters, post it notes, etc.

**Math 2 Supply List:** A composition notebook (either with graph paper or lined), pencils, and a graphing calculator (TI-83 or TI-84 recommended). A helpful tip for finding an affordable graphing calculator is to go to pawn shops or second hand stores/websites. Students will often sell them once they have completed courses for which the calculators were required.

*Note: Materials on this list do not need to be new, just in good working shape. Feel free to reuse materials from previous years that students already have. If you are able, please consider donating extra supplies for those in need of assistance.*