

## **Hello Rising 10th Graders and Families,**

Welcome to 10th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation! We are excited to partner with you and your family as we begin another year of learning, growth, and discovery.

During the first week of school, your student's teachers will introduce classroom expectations, routines, and course-specific information. In the meantime, we wanted to share a few important details to help your family prepare for the start of the school year, including supply needs and general information for each core academic class.

The Franklin School of Innovation collects a one-time \$15.00 Consumables Fee for all students. This fee helps cover the cost of instructional materials used throughout the school year, including expedition supplies, science laboratory materials, supplemental reading books, workbooks, and other classroom resources. Like many schools across North Carolina, we continue to face limited funding for instructional resources. Your ongoing support throughout the school year will help us provide creative, engaging, and well-structured supplemental materials, hands-on learning experiences, and enriching classroom activities for our students.

Field trips may require an additional fee. Information about each field trip, including the cost, itinerary, and payment deadline, will be provided as opportunities are scheduled. Families will receive an email with the trip details, and any applicable fees will be invoiced through MySchoolBucks. Payments may be made online through MySchoolBucks or by cash or check at the school.

We look forward to a fantastic year of learning and partnering with you, our students, and your parents/guardians to support your success. Please review the course supply lists below, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

We can't wait to welcome everyone back to campus on Monday, August 24! Before the first day of school, we hope you'll join us for Meet the Teacher on Thursday, August 20 (Middle School: 5:00–6:00 p.m.; High School: 6:00–7:00 p.m.). It's a great opportunity to meet your teachers, explore the campus, and get ready for an outstanding school year!

## **Core Subject Classes**

**Biology - Julia Adams ([jadams@thefsi.us](mailto: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 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. I hope 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](mailto:slaws@thefsi.us)) Welcome to Civics!** This course explores the origins of the United States and the foundations of our government. Students will gain an understanding of the institutions that shape American society and how they differ from those in other parts of the world. The course covers the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, the structure and functions of federal and state governments, and the constitutional principles that guide them. Students will also analyze key Supreme Court cases that have influenced the interpretation of the law and impacted daily life.

**English II - Reid Coffey ([rcoffey@thefsi.us](mailto:rcoffey@thefsi.us)) Welcome to English II!** English II builds upon students' reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills through the study of a variety of literary genres, including novels, poetry, drama, nonfiction, and graphic novels. Students engage with works that celebrate diverse perspectives and provide meaningful insights into the human experience. Throughout the course, students explore themes such as identity, justice, resilience, and empathy while strengthening their ability to analyze texts, develop evidence-based arguments, and communicate effectively through writing and discussion. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions, complete analytical and creative writing assignments, and collaborate on projects that deepen their understanding of literature and language. As part of North Carolina graduation requirements, students will take the state-mandated English II End-of-Course (EOC) assessment, which is administered during the fourth quarter.

**Math - Jeff Readman ([jreadman@thefsi.us](mailto:jreadman@thefsi.us)) Welcome to Math 2!** This course challenges students to solve problems, answer questions, and make informed decisions using mathematical reasoning. Key topics include transformations, symmetry, congruence, geometric constructions, proofs, geometric figures, similarity, trigonometry, quadratic functions, variation, square root functions, and probability. Instruction will include class presentations, notes, projects, and online resources. While there is no NC End-of-Course Test for Math 2, students will complete a final exam to demonstrate their understanding and mastery of the material.

**AP United States Government and Politics- Sonya Laws ([slaws@thefsi.us](mailto:slaws@thefsi.us))** This course is open to students in grades 10–12 and fulfills the required Civics graduation requirement. AP United States Government and Politics introduces students to the key political ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that shape the political culture of the United States. Through the study of significant political concepts and themes, students develop disciplinary reasoning skills, examine the causes and consequences of political events, analyze political data, and construct evidence-based arguments. The course also examines the United States legal system, with an emphasis on landmark Supreme Court cases and their continuing influence on American government, public policy, civil liberties, and society. As an Advanced Placement (AP) course, students engage in rigorous college-level reading, writing, discussion, and analysis while preparing for the AP United States Government and Politics Exam. AP exams are administered during the first two weeks of May.

# Required Materials: 2026-2027 School Year

**Biology Supply List:** 1 binder (1.5") with 10 pocket dividers to hold assignments, 1 composition notebook used **only for biology**, plenty of pens, pencils, and highlighters, 2 glue sticks, scissors, at least 200 notecards (500 would be ideal)

**Civics Supply List:** 1 binder (1.5"), loose leaf paper, highlighters, pencils, pens in a few colors.

Optional: 8 tab dividers for the binder, small sticky notes, coloring pencils or markers .

**NOTE:** Binder should be used only for Civics.

**English 2 Supply List:** 1 composition notebook or journal of your choice for class journals, 1 folder or binder designated for English class, loose-leaf paper, pens (blue or black ink) and/or pencils.

Optional: highlighters, tab dividers, small sticky notes, coloring pencils, markers, or crayons.

**NOTE:** Binder should be used only for English II.

**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:** Notebook should be used only for Math II.

- *The materials on this list do not need to be new—gently used items in good, working condition are perfectly acceptable.*
- *Students are encouraged to reuse supplies from previous school years whenever possible.*
- *If you are able, please consider donating extra school supplies to help support students and families who may need assistance. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps ensure that every student has the resources they need for a successful school year.*

**Additional 10th Grade Team Members:**

Mackenzie Arnold, French ([marnold@thefsi.us](mailto:marnold@thefsi.us))

Tom Cartier, Exceptional Children (EC) ([tcartier@thefsi.us](mailto:tcartier@thefsi.us))

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