



Dear Rising 8th Grade Families,

Welcome to 8th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation! The eighth-grade team would like to introduce ourselves, our classes, and a few expectations we have for our grade level. We look forward to helping this be your student's best school year yet. In the coming days, we will be sending information on how you can access classroom information and assignments. In the meantime, here are some basics (and a supply list!) to get you started for each of your child's core academic classes:

Fees: There will be a one-time \$15.00 consumables fee, which covers things like expedition materials, science labs, supplemental reading books, workbooks, and other instructional consumable materials. The school will send out invoices for the consumables fee through email at the beginning of the school year, which can be paid online or by cash or check.

Field trips generally require additional fees, and we will provide specific information on those opportunities when we can schedule them. When these take place, the school will again send out invoices via email, which can be paid online or with cash or check. As a team, we will be fundraising to help offset the cost of field trips. If you have experience with fundraising, please let us know.

Every student is expected to come to school prepared with pencils and paper EVERY DAY.

English-Language Arts: Welcome to 8th Grade English Language Arts and the start of a brand new school year! In this class, we will practice the skills needed to communicate effectively and creatively; this means that each class will be filled with reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing. From independent to large group activities, students will have the opportunity to grow as individuals and team members. Students can expect to read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts, write for different purposes and audiences, and contribute to a classroom that respects differences in opinions.

Social Studies: The 8th grade SS curriculum focuses on both United States and North Carolina history. The course will be organized thematically, and students will have the

opportunity to explore units of study in depth. The course will provide many opportunities for interdisciplinary project-based learning, so students can expect to study primary documents as well as plays, photographs, novels, and poetry; to learn how to construct sound, logical arguments; to practice public speaking by engaging in debates, offering speeches, and conducting interviews; and to inquire about the world around them, investigating the ways in which history is relevant to our everyday lives.

Science: The 8th-grade science curriculum focuses on chemistry, life science, and the Earth's systems. Emphasis is placed on matter, energy, the evolution of the Earth, environmental awareness, and the cycles that circulate energy and material through the Earth system. More specifically, students will look in detail at matter, properties of matter, and what initiates changes in matter. They will explore the energy on Earth and how it is conserved through cycles. Students will look at the processes and systems occurring on Earth and how those processes drive continuous cycles to maintain equilibrium on our planet. Finally, students will study the Earth's hydrosphere, with respect to our watershed, and learn how water drives life on our planet both locally and globally. The 8th grade Expedition, "Water is Life", engages students in real work of scientists as they examine water quality issues in Hominy Creek and the French Broad River basin, and participate in service learning and field work.

Math: Welcome to 8th Grade Math and Math 1. Here is a simple breakdown of what to expect this upcoming year. 8th Grade Math will focus on three critical areas of mathematics: 1) Formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations. 2) Grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships. 3) Analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Math 1 will dive deeper into each of the three critical areas of 8th-grade math. We will explore the linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships between two variables. The class will investigate a variety of functions and how they are used to describe mathematical relationships. Lastly, we will analyze geometric patterns and relationships on the coordinate plane.

Social Studies Supply List: 2 composition journals, highlighters, pencils & handheld pencil sharpener, glue stick, scotch tape, colored pencils, blue or black pens.

Science Supply List: 2 string-bound composition journals. 2- black Sharpies, 4 rolls of clear scotch tape, 2 glue sticks, pencils, and a ruler

Math Supply List:

8th Grade Math: Pencils, colored pencils, protractor, graphing paper, and ruler.

Math 1: Pencils, composition book, colored pencils, graphing paper, expo markers, protractor, and ruler.

ELA Supply List: Each student will need 1 composition notebook, a package of colored pencils, 1 highlighter, 1 3-ring binder, a set of binder dividers, and a small package of pencils. Optional additional supplies for class use: tissues, package of loose-leaf, college-ruled paper, dry erase markers, index cards, glue sticks, and Sharpies.

***Art Supply List:**

- #2 pencil x 2
- white art eraser
- 2 or more fine-tip sharpies
- 2 or more broad-tip sharpies
- 1 container disinfectant wipes
- 1 roll paper towels

*These supplies will be combined with many other supplies and equipment provided by the school, such as clay, paint, pastels, papers, markers, and more!

Our Wish list if you would like to donate to help Visual Arts and families in need at FSI:

- Colored Sharpies
- Fine-tip black Sharpies
- Broad-tip black Sharpies
- Prismacolor colored pencils
- Ebony pencils
- Oil pastels
- Chalk pastels
- 11x17 copy paper
- white art erasers
- #2 pencils
- Micron Pens any size
- Facial Tissues
- disinfectant wipes
- hand sanitizer