



## Welcome to 5th Grade!

Summer 2018

Dear Parents,

*Welcome to 5th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation!* We are excited to get to know you and to introduce you to how we do school at Franklin. For those of you with older students attending Franklin, you may recognize two familiar faces on the 5th grade team, Ms. McKay and Mrs. Lapinski. Beyond introducing ourselves and saying, "Welcome!" we also want to take this opportunity to overview some expectations we have for our students and families, and in turn let you know what you can expect from us.

**From students**, we expect everyone to help contribute to a positive classroom culture. A positive classroom culture is one where we speak and listen respectfully, maintain a growth mindset, arrive prepared to work and learn, and take care of our campus and materials. We expect students to follow the dress code and guidelines of our school handbook, and to show every adult at school the same respect they show their classroom teachers.

**From our parents**, we ask for your patience and support as much as you can offer it. We are entirely committed to the success of every child, but while you have one son or daughter in our class, please remember that we have almost fifty sons and daughters to work with each day. Please remember that when you approach us about conflicts, concerns, or the needs of your child, that our goals are the same as yours: we want the best for him or her! Let us show students that we are working together towards our common goals, and provide a model of cooperation through this process.

**From your teachers**, you should expect us to know your child as an individual. We will strive to make personal connections with every student, to know all of their strengths and weaknesses, and to push every student towards academic and personal growth. You can expect us to make decisions based upon your child's best interest and to get timely communication from us when a concern arises or if you email or call us with a concern of your own. You can expect us to help, to guide, to encourage, to model the values and behaviors we teach, and to push students to do more than they ever thought they could.

We are very excited to kick off what we hope will be the best year yet at Franklin. Below you will find a brief introduction from each of your core teachers.

### **English-Language Arts & Social Studies with Mrs. Lapinski**

Students in Mrs. Lapinski's ELA and Social Studies class can expect to be challenged daily to analyze, describe, compare, revise, develop, organize, collaborate, and reflect. Students will read and write daily in addition to participating in classroom discussions and activities. In reading, we will emphasize the concepts of reading deeply, gathering evidence, and analyzing text. The content standards for 5th grade ELA and Social

Studies create many opportunities for cross-curricular instruction and projects. Social Studies content builds on previous studies of state and local government/history and transitions to a broader understanding of those topics on the national level. Students can expect to participate in several intentionally connected ELA and Social Studies projects this year, thus deepening their understanding of U.S. History through reading and writing. Aside from content specific activities, students in Mrs. Lapinski's classroom will focus heavily on FSI's Habits of Scholarship, organization and communication skills. A student's grade will be a culmination of assessments, homework, projects and the contents of their notebook/binder.

### **Science and Math with Ms. McKay**

Fifth grade junior scientists will do the work of scientists by forming evidence-based explanations and designing and conducting experiments. Students can expect to apply their growing knowledge through projects and labs, often working collaboratively. Our curriculum explores life science, force and motion, and weather. We will build a foundation of inquiry skills that students will expand upon each year at Franklin. In fifth grade math, students will build on previous mathematical knowledge and investigate new topics. A major emphasis of fifth grade math is multiplying and dividing with multi-digit numbers, decimals, and fractions as well as adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. Students will regularly apply their mathematical knowledge to real world problems and learn multiple ways to solve equations. Students will frequently use math to better understand science concepts. For example, we will investigate the use of place value and decimals by using the metric system to collect data and use graphs to analyze experimental results. In addition to content, students will practice FSI's Habits of Scholarship to develop lifelong learning skills. In math and science, students' work will be assessed through their notebook/binder, daily assignments, homework, tests, and projects.

### **5th Grade Readiness**

The research is clear that many students will experience a decline in their academic growth while on summer vacation. To ensure that our students start school prepared for another year of learning it is important to keep students engaged in academic material. We would encourage rising 5th graders to read every night. Reading a variety of genres, reading aloud and talking about what they're reading will help keep their minds engaged. It is essential for students to arrive the first day already knowing their multiplication tables, they should practice them daily this summer to be prepared to build on this skill throughout fifth grade math.

**Finally**, thank you for choosing to entrust our team with your child's education. We can't wait to get to know them and to watch them grow. Please feel free to be in touch with us as needs arise and we will do the same. There is also a school supplies list attached. It's going to be an exceptional year!

All the best,  
Katie Lapinski  
Peggy McKay

**5th Grade School Supply List  
2017-18**

**Required - for individual student use:**

- 5, **1”** binders, one for each class: science, math, social studies, ELA, Lit Lab,
  - Please select binders with the plastic sleeve on the outside
- 1, **3”** binder for crew (students will use this throughout middle school)
- 6 sets of 5 binder dividers for core classes, Lit Lab, and crew
- 5 composition notebooks, for each core class and guidance
- Pencil pouch
- 24 # 2 pencils
- Blue, red, and green pens (for editing and revising work)
- 1 highlighter
- 1 12-pack markers or colorful sharpies
- 1 12-pack colored pencils
- scissors (youth or adult)
- TI-30 XIIS calculator (optional)
- Handheld pencil sharpener (optional)

**For Classroom Use (shared):**

- 3 boxes of kleenex/tissues
- 1 bottle hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant wipes
- colored copy paper
- 4-pack of whiteboard markers
- Glue sticks
- Transparent (Scotch) Tape
- 4 x 6 Index cards - 1 pack white

**Wish List - OPTIONAL**

- construction paper, cardstock
- post-it notes
- whiteboard cleaner
- plastic forks and spoons