



Dear Parents,

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 child's best school year yet. In the coming days, we will be sending information on how you can access classroom info 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 is a one-time expedition fee of **\$25.00/student**. During our Water is Life Expedition there are a total of 9 off campus field trips. These fees help to cover bus transportation as well as equipment that has to be replaced each year.

Each student is expected to pay a **\$10.00/student** science and math lab fee for consumables. We spend a lot of money during the first nine weeks in science doing chemistry. Calculators and pencils are constantly being replaced in math.

These fees can be paid together in one cash payment or check. Checks should be made out to FSI and can go directly to the front office.

### **English-Language Arts with Mr. Holm**

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts and the start of a brand new school year! I am very excited to join the Franklin team this fall. Together 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. It is my belief that students best learn about themselves as readers and writers by honing their craft through various learning styles. 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 a difference in opinions. I look forward to meeting all of you!

### **Social Studies with Ms. Dulaney**

Prior to teaching at Franklin, I taught 7th and 8th grade Humanities at a Montessori school in Durham. I love this age group and am thrilled to be returning to FSI next year! Our 8th grade SS curriculum focuses on both United States and North Carolina history. The course will be organized thematically, rather than chronologically, and students will have the opportunity to explore six specific units of study in depth. My passion as an educator is 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. I am wholeheartedly committed to your student's growth and am eager to partner with you in ensuring his/her success.

### **Science with Mr. Lynn**

On behalf of the Franklin School of Innovation, I would like to welcome you to my classroom. Below, you will find helpful information to help you navigate this class successfully. My classroom has an open door policy which means you are welcome to attend anytime! The 8th grade science curriculum focuses on chemistry, life science, and the Earth's systems. Emphasis is placed on matter, energy, evolution of the earth, environmental awareness, and the cycles that circulate energy and material through the Earth system. More specifically, we will look in detail at matter, properties of matter, and what initiates changes in matter. We will look at the energy on Earth and how it is conserved through cycles. We will look at the processes and systems occurring on Earth and how those processes drive continuous cycles to maintain equilibrium on our planet. We will study the Earth's hydrosphere, with respect to our watershed, and learn how water drives life on our planet both locally and globally. It is going to be a great year!

### **Math with Mr. Myers**

Welcome to 8th Grade Math and Math 1. I am looking forward to having you in my class, and sharing one of my passions with you, mathematics! 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.

*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. It's going to be an exceptional year.

All best,

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### **Required Materials for 2017-2018 --**

#### **Crew Supply List:**

1 Three-ring binder (3" size)

#### **SS Supply List:**

2 string bound composition journals, highlighters, pencils & handheld pencil sharpener, glue stick, scotch tape

#### **Science Supply List:**

2 string bound composition journals. 2- black Sharpies, 4 rolls of clear scotch tape, colored pencils and a ruler

**Math Supply List:**

2 composition books, 4 rolls of clear scotch tape, graph paper, pencils, calculator (8th grade math: TI-30 XIIS recommended; Math 1: TI-83 or TI-84 recommended but strongly encouraged)

Helpful tip Math 1 graphing calculator: Go to pawn shops around colleges and universities or second hand stores/websites. Students will often sell them once they are done with whichever course they were required for.

**ELA Supply List:**

2 composition books, 1" 3-ring binder, 3-hole punched lined paper for binder, 3 dividers, pens, highlighters

**Lit Lab Supply List:**

1" 3-ring binder

**Music/Songwriting:** Ukulele (purchased at any music store for around \$40) and "snark" tuner (under \$20 at any music store)