

Spotlight on our Seniors!

I sat down today with two Franklin seniors, Jenni Camhi and Simeon Gibson. Both Jenni and Simeon have been with FSI from our start.

We talked about two aspects of the Senior year experience- the Senior Project and the college application process. The FSI Senior Project includes a research paper, a 40-hour internship, and 20 hours of community service, culminating with a public presentation in May.

Jenni is well-known for her interest in English and writing. She originally sought an internship directly related to writing, but found that narrowed her options. She has tutored throughout high school, and often hears she should be a teacher. As Teaching Intern for Mr. Lynn, Jenni is gaining direct experience in a potential career field. She's learned that grading requires a lot of patience, and teaching is even more work than she thought. She's also learned that it can be fun! She noted, "Anyone who knows Mr. Lynn knows he's a fun person. He really has good connections with students. When you see that mutual respect, you can see the potential. It's so cliché, but teaching can be a way to make a difference."

Simeon has known he wants to go into sports management for as long as he can remember. An internship in this field was a no-brainer, and he hit the jackpot when he emailed the Director of Marketing & Fan Engagement at UNCA. Having completed 40 hours of interning, he's now working in a paid position. As Assistant to the Director, Simeon helps scheme up ideas to get fans to the game, and keep them excited once they are there. The most important thing he's learned is a broader understanding of what sports management can be, and how to manage his time effectively. He's also developed useful connections in the sports management world.

Both Simeon and Jenni credit FSI's college counselor, Ms. Tager, along with Ms. Jaben and their teachers for helping them through the college application process. As Simeon noted, "having Ms. Tager available 24-7 made an intense process manageable". Jenni and Simeon exemplify what it means to be FSI students and they say they wouldn't have wanted to go anywhere else. It's been such a pleasure to watch them learn, and I know their futures are bright. Warmly,

Important Dates

Wed, Dec 6, 6 - 7pm

High School @ FSI: Special Info Session for 8th graders & parents

Fri, Dec 8, 5 - 10 pm

Franklin Flurries Dance @ Fairview Community Center

5 - 7 pm MS; 8 - 10 pm HS

Mon, Dec 11, 4- 5 pm

School Improvement Team

Tues, Dec 12, 6 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

Thus, Dec 14, 5:30 - 7 pm

Info Session for Prospective Students & Families

Wed, Dec 20 - Tues, Jan 2

WINTER BREAK - No School

Tues, Jan 2

Teacher Work Day -No School

Wed, Jan 3

Students return to school

Mon, Jan 8

Open Enrollment for 2018-19 - New Students Only

Tues, Jan 9, 6 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

Thurs, Jan 11, 5:30 - 7 pm

Info Session for Prospective Students & Families

Funding Our Future...Together! Annual Fund Campaign

This year's Annual Fund campaign kicked off on Giving Tuesday, and runs through January 31, 2018. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed! Our goal for the Annual Fund is 100% participation of families, staff, and Board of Directors. ***Every gift matters.***

Why is it important to support our Annual Fund? As a public charter school, Franklin receives funds for each student who attends. These funds cover the basic costs of running the school. But the school does not receive any capital funding -money for things like buildings and buses. This gap makes it hard to provide the programs we all want for our students - strong arts programs, field work and adventure education trips,, EL Education training and support for our teachers. The Annual Fund bridges that gap.

[Make your gift today!](#)

What a Night! Benefit Concert & Basket Raffle

Cary Cooper's Benefit Concert was such a special evening! The concert & basket raffle raised over \$4,000 to support the arts at FSI. More importantly, it was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our talented faculty and students. Walking into the theater that evening, the first thing you noticed was the feeling of community, a safe and welcoming space where every performer was able to give their best.

Many thanks to everyone who made the evening successful, and to everyone who came, bought raffle tickets, or contributed to our baskets. Special thanks to Cary Cooper, for graciously sharing the spotlight, to Gary Jules for a very special performance, and to Bryan Clendenin for outstanding back up on the mandolin! And to our student performers, for modeling what it looks and sounds like to take a risk: Nikki Forbes, Rain Lupia, Skyelar Habing, Jori Spencer, Anna Dayton, Bella Vandersall, William Hove, and all members of the high school chorus. To our parent basket raffle team -Ann-Marie Breen, Elizabeth Burnworth, Bevin McGahey, Gina Gatts, Sarah Dickson, and our staff support - Beth Rhatigan, Andi Morrell, and Erinn Otten - you all rock! Thank you for being visible and valuable.

High School at FSI: An Evening for FSI 8th Grade Students & Parents

Dec 6 - 6 pm

Do you have questions about what high school looks like at Franklin? Join us on Wednesday, Dec 6, 6 pm for an opportunity to hear about our high school program. Meet our College & Career Counselor, and learn how our program prepares students for life after high school, and how we support students through the college exploration and application process. Find out about Honors, AP, and dual enrollment courses, and how they fit into our program. Hear from Franklin high school students about why they chose FSI. Learn more about our service opportunities, and our Senior internship projects. It's a special evening open just to our 8th grade students and families, giving you the chance to get answers to all your questions! Don't miss out!

Book Fees & Beyond the Bell - what are these invoices?

This year, we have transferred to using online Quickbooks, which allows us to invoice more efficiently. It took longer than we expected to get the new system up, and to learn to use it well! We understand people may not remember what our fees are for. You may receive an invoice for the following:

Book Fees: Your student received a planner and books for their personal use. The book fee partially covers the cost of these items.

Beyond the Bell: Any student who arrives BEFORE 7:45 am or stays AFTER 3:45 is part of our Beyond the Bell program. Beyond the Bell provides before school care, after school care and a variety of clubs, programs and special events. In order to ensure experienced staff and quality programs, all of these services are fee based. There is also a one-time registration fee that is required for use of all BtB services.

Morning care is from 7 - 7:45 AM and costs \$1 per day.

After school care begins right after school until 6:00 PM and costs \$12.50 per day.

There is a late fee of \$3 for students picked up after 3:45 PM (2:20 PM on Wednesdays).

Volunteer Corner - The Events & Fundraising Crews

The Benefit Concert and Basket Raffle were a huge success, thanks to the hardworking members of these Crews! Planning is underway for additional events, including a February "evening out", and the annual Founders' Day and Filthy Franklin Mud Run. Our student-directed Community Council is also busy planning a series of fun events for students, including this week's Franklin Flurries. They'll be in need of adult support as they work to create the social opportunities and school spirit that's so important for a great middle and high school experience! If you like being part of an energetic, upbeat, and fun-loving Crew, one of these Crews may be the best fit for you!

If you haven't signed up to be Crew, complete [this survey](#) and sign up today. Our Volunteer Crews include Gardening & Grounds, Marketing & Outreach, Fundraising, Teacher Support, & Community Events. There's something for everyone!

Thunder Bolts! Athletics

The basketball season is underway and we hope you'll come on out to support our athletes, and show your school spirit! Game schedules are here:

[HS Basketball Schedule 17-18](#)

[MS BBall Schedule Thunder HL '17-18](#)

[MS BBall Schedule Bolts '17-18](#)

Reminders - Check Here for News You Missed!

Visit our [Website](#)

Did you know you can keep up with school events, teacher work dates, sports, and more on our school calendar? Need a school form for something (student driver, campus leave form, medical forms...)? Want to check something in the school handbook? You'll find all this, and much more, on our website! If you ever miss a monthly newsletter, we are posting them to the website, under the "Parent" tab.

From time to time, we'll feature blog posts with updates on what is happening at Franklin. If you have suggestions on ways we can communicate better, please reach out.

How to Use Canvas

There are two options for using Canvas as a parent.

1. Use the Canvas App for Parents

- Download the Canvas App for your device (it is free)
- Create an account. You will enter your email address, and select a password
- You will be prompted to add a student. Search for The Franklin School of Innovation. You will then be asked for your student's UID and password. All students have been given their UID and passwords, and have received training on how to log on. Ask your student!
- If your student does NOT know how to log into Canvas, we can help. Please check with your student before you email for help. Email me if your student cannot help you log on.

2. Log onto Canvas (you will find a [link to Canvas](#) on our website!) with your student - you can create a parent account, but you will need your student's log in information to create your account. Log on with your student and ask them to show you their courses, assignments, and grades. You determine how often you want/need to log on with your student.

If you have a question about your student's grade in any specific class, please reach out to that teacher. They can best help you understand how your student is doing.