



Our First Graduation!

It's been another year of firsts, and a year of lasts for our seniors! On Friday, June 8, we celebrated our first graduation, in a heart-warming, tear and laughter-filled evening! We have learned so much with and from these young men and women. While we are very excited for them, we also know school will feel a little empty in August when we return without them!

Small in numbers, this class has always been big on personality. Their paths after high school are a reflection of their unique characteristics and life goals. While the majority of our students are headed for college, several are pursuing a gap year prior to continuing their education, and a few are headed straight into the workforce.

For a small class, it's an impressive list of college acceptances! Our students were accepted to UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, Western Carolina University, Elon University, Guilford College, High Point University, Catawba College, Montreat College, Carson-Newman

Important Dates

Tues, July 10, 6:00 pm

Board of Directors meeting
(teleconference only)

Mon, Aug 13

New Teacher Orientation
begins

Tues, Aug 14, 6:00 pm

Board of Directors meeting

Thurs, Aug 16

All Teacher Orientation begins

Thurs, Aug 16, 6:00 pm

New Student Orientation, Bent
Creek Baptist Church

Thursday, Sept 6, 5:30 - 7 pm

MS Back to School Night

Thursday, Sept 13, 5:30 - 7 pm

HS Back to School Night &
College Planning for Seniors, 6 -
7 pm

University, Gardner-Webb University, Brevard College, Savannah College of Art & Design, City University of New York, Belmont University, Anderson University, College of the Albemarle, Digipen Institute of Technology, University of Kentucky, University of Central Florida, Kenyon College, Ohio State University, Saint Louis University, Berry College, Ithaca College, University of Maine Farmington, United Planet (gap year), and AmeriCorps NCCC (gap year)

Graduation was a milestone for our students and our school. We are excited to now officially have alumni! Congratulations to the Class of 2018 - we can't wait to see where you go and what you do. Make us proud! And come back to visit - we'll be here with open arms.

Warmly,
Michelle Vruwink, Executive Director

2018-2019 First Day - August 23!

The 2018-2019 School Year begins Thursday, August 23, 2018. The first day is absolutely essential! Not only it is important for students to get off to a good start, as a charter school, the first day is especially important. As most of you know, we receive public funding for students enrolled in our school. Our funding for the year is based on the number of students who attend Franklin during the first 20 days of the school year. Students do not "count" as enrolled at Franklin until they come for their first day of school. This is true even for returning students.

So what does that mean? Let's say you plan a family vacation and your child misses the first week of school. Your child will not be counted as a Franklin student until they are in attendance. Instead of receiving the full funding for your student, we will receive 75% (15 out of 20 days). While this week may not seem like a big deal for you or your student, not only will they miss out on lots of important culture-building and expectation-setting, the school will miss out on approximately \$1,750 in revenue.

The first day is the most important day. After that, excused absences do not count against the school. We look forward to full attendance on August 23, and the start of a terrific year!

Final 2017-2018 Report Cards

Report cards were sent electronically on Friday, June 15. If you did not receive your student's report card, please let us know! You can call our main number (828 318 8140) or email Erinn Otten, eotten@thefsi.us.

If your student took End of Grade or End of Course exam(s), scores were mailed last week. If you have not received the scores, please let us know.

Summer Reading, Assignments, and Supply Lists

Be sure to check our website for [summer reading, required summer assignments, and supply lists](#)! All students are strongly encouraged to choose books and keep reading this summer. Note that some high

school courses - especially AP courses - have mandatory summer assignments. Check your grade level list so you can get off to a great start! Pack a book with you as you head to the beach, or swing in a hammock, or wherever your summer adventures may bring you.

In our English classes, we want students to learn how to annotate texts to support the practice of close reading. In order to ensure that all students have copies of books when they begin each unit, and to simplify the process for families, we purchase these books and distribute them to students. Because the books are for the personal use of students, we ask families to make contributions to help offset the cost of the books. We do not collect books from students after the use. The suggested contributions per grade level are noted below. **Contributions may be mailed (via check payable to FSI) to the school, paid in cash at the school office, or paid online via our online store on the school website.** Please note that students read additional texts for all courses. The suggested contributions only cover the cost of the books purchased for individual use. Students keep their copies of these books at the end of the course.

Middle school (all grades) -suggested contribution \$20

We use the EL Education ELA curriculum modules, which includes between 2 and 4 books per grade.

High School:

English I - suggested contribution \$25

Books will include: *The Alchemist* by Paul Coelho, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, *The Little Prince* by Antoine Saint-Exupery

English I Honors - suggested contribution: \$35

All of the English I books + *The Stranger*

English II (standard and Honors)- suggested contribution: \$30

Books will include *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

English III - suggested contribution: \$30

Book will include: *A Streetcar Named Desire* or *Death of a Salesman*; *Julius Caesar* or *Othello*, *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.

Book club books → *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, *Wild*, *Columbine*

AP Lang. - suggested contribution: \$50

Books will include: *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond, *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie,

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates, *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

Book club book → *Zeitoun*, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, *Wild*, *A Walk in the Woods*

English IV - suggested contribution: \$30

Books will include *Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth* or *Hamlet*, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

AP Lit. - suggested contribution: \$50

Books will include: *Hamlet*, *A Doll's House*, *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*

AP and Dual Enrollment Courses

Did you know that FSI students can complete college-level courses while enrolled at our school? We often hear students say they don't know about our advanced course options!

For the 2018-2019 school year, we are expanding our AP offerings to include five courses, including AP Language, AP Literature, AP European History, AP Government, and AP Calculus. Both AP Euro and AP Gov are open to students in grades 10 - 12; other courses are offered based on completion of prerequisites.

In addition, many students have enrolled in Dual Enrollment courses through AB Tech. These courses allow students to earn high school and college credits at the same time, with no tuition cost. Popular courses with our students include psychology, sociology, mathematics, and computer programming, but there are many course options.

Finally, this coming year we are continuing and expanding a partnership with North Carolina School of Science and Math (NCSSM) for their distance-learning program. Qualifying students can enroll in two Honors-level courses, Forensics and Aerospace Engineering. These courses are taught by an NCSSM master teacher, using interactive video conferencing in which students interact with their teacher and students from across the state in real-time. We believe this partnership is an excellent way to extend our course offerings and provide high-level courses for our students.

For more information about AP courses, dual enrollment opportunities, or our partnership with NCSSM, please contact our College & Career Counselor, JaneAnne Tager, at jtager@thefsi.us.

Orientation & Back to School Nights

You are invited to join us for **Orientation on Thursday, August 16, 6:00 pm** at Bent Creek Baptist Church. While Orientation may be particularly helpful for new families, returning families are welcome! We will have information on volunteer opportunities, Beyond the Bell, athletics, and our school counseling program, as well as important information for a successful school year.

We will also host Back to School nights for both middle and high school. This will be an opportunity to meet your student's teachers, Crew leaders, and other school faculty, and to visit classrooms.

Thursday, Sept 6, 5:30 - 7:00 pm: Middle School Back to School Night

Thursday, Sept 13, 5:30 - 7:00 pm: High School Back to School Night

JaneAnne Tager, our College Counselor, will host a special College Planning Session for high seniors and their parents/guardians from 6 - 7 pm