

Introducing our Peer Support Council

This past week our newly-elected Peer Support Council members - 30 strong - took part in 2 days of mediation training. In the training, facilitated by Asheville Mediation Center, students learned a process to help resolve conflicts, and practiced skills in listening, brainstorming, asking good questions, respecting others, and negotiation.

The Peer Support Council serves an important role in developing a school culture in which students feel safe and valued, and where respect and kindness become norms. Council members help resolve conflicts before they get out of control. They also hold Circles, helping restore relationships when conflicts occur.

This is our 3rd year using peer mediators in school. We've learned a lot! Last year's mediators wanted a more proactive role, so this year, we've expanded the Council. We're working to make Council members more visible. Students and teachers can ask any Council member to help them resolve a conflict, with confidence that our student mediators will be respectful and non-judgemental.

It's rewarding to watch students take ownership of their school community, and to see them taking leadership and action to create the school they want. I look forward to seeing what they accomplish!

2017-18 Peer Support Council Members

Middle School

Amelia Kabat	Rowen Bettencourt	Jasper Ankeny
Caleb Black	Adyen Stewart	Wyatt Turner
Rowan McMullan	Maya Hannon	Mira Niemas
Dylan Johnston	Morgan Metzger	Saxton Tickle
Gabby Borum	Isaiah Trull	Bhaerava Sculthorp

High School

Michaela Kabat	Bella Vandersall	Connor Phillips
Saraia Bradshaw	Salvadora Ward	Althea McMinn
Kaya Lemire	Kaity Azamghavami	Adrian Rhatigan
Francesca Hattaway	Etienne Phillips	Sarah Reed
Zander Parry	Jenni Camhi	Megan Northrup

Warmly,
Michelle Vruwink, Executive Director

Important Dates

Nov 14, 6:00 pm

Board Meeting - Parks Building

Nov 21

School Photos - 9th & Make Up

Nov 22 - 24 - NO SCHOOL

Fall Break

Nov 28, 5:30 - 7 pm

Info Session - Prospective Students

Nov 30 - 7:30 pm

Benefit Concert @ the Altamont!

[Tickets & Info here](#)

Dec 6, 6:00 pm

High School @ FSI - for FSI 8th grade parents & families

Dec 9, 5:30 - 7:30/ 8 - 10 pm

School Dance!

Dec 11, 3:45 pm

School Improvement Team

Dec 12, 6:00 pm

Board Meeting - Parks Building

Dec 14, 5:30 pm

Info Session

Dec 20 - Jan 2

Winter Break - No School

Fall Benefit Concert, Nov 30, 7:30 pm

We are getting excited for our 1st big event of the year! On Nov 30, our music teacher & singer/songwriter in residence is holding a CD Release Party to benefit arts programming at Franklin. You do not want to miss this event! Cary will be joined on stage at The Altamont Theatre by some of our talented students and faculty members. The title of her CD, "Case of the Hopefuls", captures Cary's unending optimism and believe in others, a gift she shares with our students. Tickets & information can be found here: [Tickets & Information](#)

Our energetic Events & Fundraising Crews are busy gathering donations for our 2nd annual Basket Raffle, held in conjunction with the benefit concert. We are asking parents (or students) to ask for or purchase donations to fill our baskets. You can donate items to your student's grade level basket and/or to any basket where you might have a lead. **All donations should be brought to school and delivered to the appropriate classroom by Monday, November 20.**

Basket Theme

Where to bring donations

Basket # 1: 5th/6th Grades - Family Night

5th: Ms McKay 6th: Mr. Keller

Basket # 2: 7th/8th Grades - Sports/Outdoors

7th: Mr. Burns 8th: Mr. Holm

Basket # 3: 9th/10th - Spa

9th: Mr. DeFiore 10th: Ms. Padfield

Basket # 4: 11th/12th - Chocolate & Coffee

11th: Ms. Parton 12th: Ms. Bubacz

Donation Suggestions:

Family Night: Games, movie tickets, gift cards (restaurants, ice-cream, events), fun snacks

Sports/Outdoor Adventure: gift cards, sports jersey, tickets, books, equipment, water bottles, healthy snacks, cooler, sunscreen, trail maps, compass, ropes courses, zipline, etc.

Spa: candles, aromatherapy, yoga class, art, massage, acupuncture

Chocolate/Coffee: anything with chocolate, gift cards, cookbooks, candy-making supplies, coffee, mugs, gift cards, coffee themed books, flavor syrups, coffee press, milk frother

Raffle tickets are on sale now, and were sent home Thursday.

The grade selling the most raffle tickets wins a Pizza Party!

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 programs 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! Mark your calendars, and be sure to join us!



Volunteer Corner - Spotlight on the Grounds Crew!

Have you noticed the gardens popping up around campus, and how much better things look with a fresh layer of mulch? Send a shout-out to the hard-working volunteers on our Gardening & Grounds Crew, and Crew captain Ann-Marie Breen! If you like a little dirt under your fingernails, or just enjoy the satisfaction of physical work and camaraderie of like-minded folks, this may be the Crew for you! This year, in the spirit of "We're all Crew, not passengers", we're ramping up our efforts to give everyone the opportunity to be involved in supporting the school. It's a great way to meet other Franklin families, and build a strong community!

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

Thanks to Coach Burke and our amazing coaches, we had a great fall athletics season!

A very special thank you to our coaches:

Dennis Berndt, MS Boys Soccer

Tony Freeman, MS Flag Football

LeAnn Moffitt, Cross Country

Teshale Byan, HS Boys Soccer

Thanks also to Ann-Marie Breen, for great assistance with Cross Country, and to Joe Ayala for his help with HS soccer.

Basketball will be starting up soon! Be sure to come on out to support our athletes, and show your school spirit! All events are listed on our school calendar, which you will find on our website, [HERE](#).

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.

