

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.”

- Pele

CLASS OF 2018:

- All of their IAs will be uploaded to IB by the end of February. More boxes to check off!
- CAS hours NEED to be added and reflected upon.
- Extended Essay final drafts are due to their mentor by Feb. 15.

Livonia Franklin High School International Baccalaureate

THE LIGHTNING BOLT



Our students, on display, at the DIA!

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Overcoming Any Obstacle Set In Our Pathway

By: Sunshine Weber

The winter doldrums. That’s what my family always called it. We referred to that time of the aftermath of the holidays, the fatigue of the cold, ugly weather, and the lack of sunshine that falls over our great state. This can be the most challenging part of the year. That January to March push to keep up the fight for knowledge, compassion, and growth can sometimes feel like an insurmountable obstacle at times. Our students are fighting to overcome that obstacle in their pathway.

Seniors are beginning feeling that angst and excitement of leaving the comforts of FHS. They may show this anxiety by acting out in ways that go outside of the norm for their behavior. I try to remind myself that they don’t even know and can’t even really articulate the many emotions that they are experiencing right now. The push is on until June and things will get busier and busier as we lead into testing season. We need them to buckle down and not let the obstacles run them over in this

Our juniors have made it past the first semester. They know their teachers, their peers, and the expectations. Now is when we add more to the content requirements and begin to do real IB assessments. We have, in each course, Internal Assessments or IAs. These are assessments that are given, sent globally to be scored, and impact the final IB score for each course. They have at least one in history, English, and Spanish this semester. Additionally, they will begin preparation for IAs in their other courses. This is where students need to be checking their progress internally and making sure that they are keeping up with the work. IB students are expected to monitor their own progress (with some prodding from their teachers). We are looking to take their learning off-site again in March to the Holocaust Memorial Center. Learning and growing our brains is never an easy task, but it’s well worth the efforts.



Sofia tests out various weights on her bridge in physics.

last stretch. They have their CAS hours, their EE, and other various IAs due in the next marking period. Please help them fight through the tendency to sit back and cruise out the end of their high school experience.

Finally, I’d like to welcome Mr. Andrew Pesci to our principal position at Franklin High. Many of you have had personal conversations with Mr. Willenborg and realized his passion for the IB program. In meeting with Mr. Pesci, I’ve come to realize that he brings a new lens to our program but the same passion for learning, growth, and challenging students to achieve more than they believed that they could before. Therefore, we’ll continue in helping our students to persevere and achieve the goals that they set for themselves and that they are willing to work hard to accomplish. Together, we can overcome any challenge.



Our IB students earned CAS hours by attending Preview Night and helping speak to our incoming 8th graders. They did a GREAT JOB!



Our students got to experience immersion in art at the DIA this month. The students saw two pieces that they had discussed in class and then we aesthetically scanned a new piece to all of us.

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CLASS OF 2019:

- TOK is now on your student’s schedule. I will pull students out of other courses. There should be no additional homework in this course and it is NOT a 7th hour.
- IA is the IB term for Internal Assessment. Students will be completing these in each course with many doing one this semester.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan. 29 Second Semester Begins
- Feb. 19 No School—Mid-Winter Break
- Feb. 28 Half Day of School
- March 2 Progress Reports Due
- March 15 Parent/Teacher Conferences
Half Day of School
- March 20 Field Trip –Holocaust Museum
(TENTATIVE)