

“If you think you can do a thing or think you can’t do a thing, you’re right!”
- Henry Ford

CLASS OF 2018:

- Visual Arts Comparative Study due by Dec. 22.
- Service hours available for working food donations at Busch’s grocery store. Most donations come directly to FHS Food Bank. See Weber.

Livonia Franklin High School International Baccalaureate
THE LIGHTNING BOLT

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Our IB juniors are learning to work with paint.

Balancing Everything That Needs To Be Done

By: Sunshine Weber

As the leaves begin to drop from the trees and the weather turns cooler, it is time to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. We are rapidly approaching the end of the first marking period. Many of our juniors have adjusted quite well to the pace and independence requested of them in the program. Most of our seniors have already applied to college and have been accepted into many. I highlighted the quote from Henry Ford this month because this next marking period is the point in the year where many students want to give up and fail to push through. For our juniors, many have had it fairly easy up until now. We’ve raised expectations for all of them. For our seniors, they see the end of this pathway and would like to close up shop early. That’s just not possible for them. I truly believe that for most of our students the material is not beyond their grasp. Balancing priorities, keeping up with homework, and making the commitment are often the hardest tasks.

This past week the IB students had the opportunity to visit the Henry Ford Museum to tour the new Mathematica exhibit, explore the museum, and view the movie, *Dream Big*. They were enthralled by many items there. The Mathematica exhibit was interesting; however, I’ve gotten the most feedback on the Rosa Parks bus and the Civil Rights exhibits. The seniors made connections to the colonization of their current unit of *Heart of Darkness* and Walcott poetry, while the juniors tied it to the repression of women as we’ve been reading about in *House on Mango Street*. Additionally, it’s hard to ignore that these are issues that are

making headlines in the United States even today. It’s always good to see how issues were handled in the past and to learn from these experiences. The other big takeaway was the price of the food! Funny how they get used to parents paying for things! Once they were on their own, they were shocked at the prices. That alone is a good experience for all teenagers.

Our students are being asked to work the Busch’s grocery store Seasons of Sharing event. During the weeks of November 13-22, our students are being asked to stand outside the store with their FHS gear on and hand out flyers or provide information related to the event. Most of the food and money donations are given right back to Franklin’s Food Bank. Please consider having your student donate an hour or two of their time. You’re welcome to join them! This is a great way to earn service hours. There are hours available during the weekdays from 3-8 and on the weekends from 10-8. We appreciate anything that you can do to give back to our community.

As our students enter college in less than a year (or two) from now, they will not have the teachers prodding them, the parents reminding them, or the constant nudge from their peers. It is our goal to develop these habits and mindsets now so that they do not find themselves in trouble off at college. We’re going to push them, but with love.

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- Service hours available for working food donations at Busch’s grocery store. Most donations come directly to FHS Food Bank. See Weber.
- Input CAS hours (if you haven’t already). Many students have entered hours into our ManageBac program already.



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 3 End of 1st Marking Period
- Nov. 7 No School
- Nov. 8 EE Rough Draft Due
- Nov. 9 Report Cards shared with parents
- Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 15 EE Updated Rough Draft Due
- Dec. 23 Winter Break Begins