Benjamin Franklin
ELEME NTARY SCHOOLS

PARENT HANDBOOK

SCHOOL HOURS

Playground Opens .................................................. 8:00 a.m.
First Bell ............................................................... 8:20 a.m.
Tardy Bell ............................................................. 8:25 a.m.
Monday through Thursday Release at ..................... 2:55 p.m.
Friday Early Release at ......................................... 2:25 p.m.

Franklin at Alma
1313 W. Medina Ave.
Mesa, Arizona 85202
(480) 472-3900

Franklin at Brimhall
4949 E. Southern Ave.
Mesa, Arizona 85206
(480) 472-2600

Franklin East
1753 East 8th Avenue
Mesa, Arizona 85204
(480) 472-6500

Franklin West
236 South Sirrine
Mesa, Arizona 85210
(480) 472-5400

Mesa Public Schools

Revised June 2016
Benjamin Franklin

It is our hope that each child at Franklin School will become a student of our school’s namesake, Benjamin Franklin. From time to time, students have an opportunity to share with others interesting facts about this most remarkable man. Just a few of the facts surrounding his life are included below:

He was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 17, 1706.
He attended school for only 2 years until the age of 10.
He continued his studies on his own and learned 5 foreign languages.
He served as an apprentice to his older brother and learned the art of printing.
He published the Pennsylvania Gazette.
He married Deborah Read in 1730 and they had 3 children.
He was the only man to sign the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, and the constitution of the United States.
He was the oldest delegate to the Constitutional Convention.
He published Poor Richard’s Almanac.
He was one of the first men to experiment with electricity and invented the lightning rod.
He died April 17, 1790 and was buried in Philadelphia.
PHILOSOPHY
The philosophy of Benjamin Franklin School is to emphasize the teaching of basic skills and information. Its purposes are to:
- train the intellect
- teach skills
- instill a sense of pride in and respect for self, others, and country
- equip students with the necessary skills to become decision makers and problem solvers
- prepare students for the world outside by challenging them to compete for achievement of standards in the classroom
- develop an atmosphere of tolerance and acceptance of all students regardless of physical appearance and culture
- coordinate home and school effort in providing a solid education foundation for students

HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION
Benjamin Franklin Elementary Schools are a part of Mesa Public Schools and parent choice schools open to all students on a first come, first serve basis. The original Franklin campus opened its doors at 236 S. Sirrine to approximately 400 students August 28, 1978, more than two years after discussion began to establish such a school. The concept of the school was suggested by a citizen’s group called People for Basic Education. Starting in January of 1978, parents and school staff worked together to develop proposals for all aspects of Benjamin Franklin School.

The original facility, currently Franklin West, was built in 1949 as Webster Elementary School which served for a time as the social studies/science building for the original Mesa High School and was also a holding school for various elementary schools under construction until 1975 when it became a neighborhood school. The name Benjamin Franklin was assigned to the building after the razing of the original Franklin School near Mesa Drive and Main Street. The original location for Mesa Public School’s basic alternative school was to be the current Irving school site. The school board decided to shift the location to the Franklin site on Sirrine to avoid concern from parents in the area who did not wish to send their children to an alternative program.

In response to parent interest, the Governing Board voted to expand the Franklin program in 1982, by adding additional classes for kindergarten through sixth grade to accommodate 520 students. Further expansion of the school occurred in May of 1983 which paved the way for more than 800 students to attend Benjamin Franklin Elementary School during the 1983-84 school year.

As a result of a decision by the Governing Board, Franklin School was moved to 1753 E. 8th Avenue in 1991. Twelve new classrooms were constructed and fourteen more were renovated on the Parkway campus. Parkway School had been a separate special education school since 1977. To accommodate the students on the waiting list, the Governing Board voted to reopen the original Sirrine site, creating the West Campus. In August 1992 another 500 students began experiencing the Franklin program. In 1994 and 1995, the program was expanded again to offer 7th grade and 8th grades on a smaller campus on South Lewis near Franklin West.

The Franklin program was again expanded by the Governing Board in 1997 when the decision was made to open the Northeast campus on Adobe and Power Roads in Mesa: kindergarten through 7th grade with a subsequent addition of 8th grade. Franklin West became a kindergarten through 6th grade program when the students from the Lewis campus joined the West campus. The bussing of students to the three Franklin campuses began in August 1997.

Franklin South located at 5005 East Southern was opened in August for the 1999-2000 school year to an additional 400 students. The Governing Board made a decision to focus on elementary education and phased out the Franklin Junior High programs until 2009 when the junior high was reinstated next to the Franklin Northeast campus.

Franklin at Alma was opened in August of 2010 as part of the Governing Boards’ Defining the Future measures. Franklin Northeast, Franklin South, and the Franklin Junior High were consolidated and relocated to form Franklin at Brinhall and Franklin Junior High School August 2012. Students are enrolled at the Franklin Junior High based on their elementary school history, recommendation from their sixth grade teacher, and standardized test scores.

THE PARENT ORGANIZATION
The Franklin Parent Organization is a very important element of each Franklin School. All parents become members of the Franklin Parent Organization and voluntarily pay annual dues. This provides funds for the organization to ensure the smooth ongoing operation of the school. The Franklin Parent Organization has an elected board of Directors, called the Parent Council, which meets monthly to act and provide insight and advice on matters of policy and concern. Appointed representatives are added to the council as needed. All parents of Franklin School students are invited and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. Meeting dates are published in the school newsletter. Please feel free to contact members of the Franklin Parent Council.

Revised June 2016

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ATTENDANCE
If your child is ill, or for any other reason will not attend school for the day, please let the school know as soon as possible. It is very important that your child be in attendance every possible day. Absences create major obstacles for teachers and inhibit academic growth for both those absent and those who have to have learning delayed because of makeup instruction being given. Parents are expected to plan family vacations during school vacation time. Please do not use children for babysitting during the school day or schedule student health appointments during school time.

DAILY SCHEDULE
THE FIRST BELL RINGS 5 MINUTES BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS. Your child should be at school before the first bell. Children are not to be at school before 8:00 a.m. unless they are participating in a school activity.

All students are dismissed 30 minutes early on Friday. Minimal supervision is provided before and after school.

Parents must pick up their students immediately after school.

STUDENT CHECKOUT
For their protection, students are not allowed to leave campus without being released through the school office. Parents must sign students out of the office if children must leave during the day.

Ill students need to be seen by the school nurse before going home. Students are not allowed to call home using the school or a cell phone to ask parents to pick them up. Only the nurse may call home for a sick student.

CAFETERIA
Lunches may be purchased daily or by the week. Students bringing their lunches may also purchase milk. If your child buys lunch, please check regularly to be sure that there is a lunch ticket or lunch money available. Parents are welcome to eat with their children anytime.

CELL PHONES
Students are not to have cell phones on campus. These may be confiscated and turned in to the office. Confiscated cell phones will only be released to a parent or guardian at the end of the school day.

All other types of electronic equipment or expensive personal items must be left at home. We cannot be responsible for theft or damage. These items are a distraction to learning.

SCHOOL VISITS
We encourage parents to come to school frequently to visit their child’s classroom and be actively involved by volunteering. For reasons of safety and to help us keep track of campus visitors, we ask parents to report to the office for all visits to the school or classroom. This is especially important if you plan to observe your child’s class for any length of time. While on campus, we expect parents to adhere to the same standards of dress and behavior as that of the students.

During these observations small children need to be left at home since young children may distract students. We also ask parents to avoid conversations with the teachers during such visits, so the teacher may conduct class as usual. Siblings or non-Franklin students are not permitted to attend class with Franklin students.

PHONE CALLS TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL
If you find it necessary to talk with your child’s teacher during the day, please call before or after school, or leave a message on their voice mail.

REGISTRATION
To register your youngster in a Mesa school for the first time, you will need a certified copy of the student’s birth certificate or other reliable evidence of identity and age, such as a baptismal certificate.

Children should be 5 years old before September 1 before enrolling in kindergarten. To enter first grade, a child should be 6 years old before that date.

The school maintains health records on each child. An immunization record must be completed and in our files before a child may attend school.

HEALTH SERVICES
Through health services, in addition to medical care, students receive instruction in nutrition, cleanliness, dental care, and basic safety and health rules. If at any time your family is faced with an unusual health situation which could affect your child’s performance in school, please notify the school nurse.

Parents must complete an Emergency Medical Referral card for each of their children. Tell us how to contact you or another responsible, agreeable adult if your child becomes ill or is injured at school. List health problems, including allergies to food, medicine, and insect stings. Please let us know if your address, home phone, business phone, or emergency phone number changes during the school year.

Like you, we want to do what is best for your child. If we cannot reach you in an emergency, we will call paramedics who may decide an ambulance should be called. The cost of this service is the parent’s responsibility.
School Policies Section

School personnel are often asked to administer medication to students. When it is necessary for the student to take medication during school hours, school personnel may cooperate if the following conditions are met:

1. Whether a prescription drug or an over-the-counter drug, the medication must come in its original container. The pharmaceutical label must be on the container of any prescription drug.

2. The parent must provide written direction to the school that the medication be administered.

3. For students on campus, medication shall be kept in the health office. Where necessary, students may carry asthma inhalers if written permission is provided by a medical doctor and a parent.

Generally, health-services staff administers any necessary medication with the exceptions made for such things as field trips or community-based education.

INSURANCE
The district does not carry insurance for students’ medical or dental costs if they are injured during school activities. Parents are responsible for their child’s insurance. An optional school-day or 24-hour accident policy is available at school through a private agency for a very nominal cost. Information on the policy goes home with each child in the fall. Parents may pick up additional forms and purchase the insurance anytime throughout the school year. In an emergency, the school may call paramedics, who may decide that an ambulance should be used. These services are paid for by the parents.

BICYCLES
A parking rack is available for students who ride bicycles to school. To prevent bicycle thefts, parents should make sure children have and use bicycle locks. For the children's safety, we recommend that students in second grade and under not ride bicycles to school. In past years, the more serious bicycle accidents involving Mesa Unified School District students generally involved younger students. Students are not permitted to ride bicycles on the school campus. We also encourage children to wear helmets as a standard safety precaution.

TRANSPORTATION
Mesa Public Schools provide transportation to Franklin Schools on a limited basis. It is a parent’s choice to use this service. Each year a parent’s guide to transportation services will be provided at orientation. The following guidelines serve as the Franklin Transportation Behavioral Policy. Please discuss these expectations in your home each year before your child uses school transportation.

At the bus stop Franklin students:
1. are polite and courteous to all.
2. wait patiently in safe, appropriate areas.
3. use soft voices to communicate.
4. use appropriate language.
5. are respectful of all property.
6. walk in a safe manner.

On the bus Franklin students:
1. cooperate with the bus driver.
2. are polite and courteous.
3. respect others property.
4. ride in a safe, appropriate manner.
5. use soft voices to communicate.
6. use appropriate language.

The consequences for student misbehavior are as follows:
Level One - Warning from the bus driver
Level Two - Principal discipline
Level Three - Suspension of bus privileges up to 6 weeks and probation for the rest of the year.
Level Four - Suspension of bus privileges for the rest of the year and probation for the following year.

P.E. EXCUSED ACTIVITIES
If your child's P.E. activities need to be restricted for more than a week, we will need a doctor's statement. For less than a week, a note from you will do.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS
Students' birthdays are recognized by the school, however, no other treats or birthday recognitions are permitted. Please be sensitive to the feelings of other children on campus and do not pass out party invitations on campus. Balloons, flowers, etc. are not to be delivered to students at school. Such practices are very disruptive to the instructional process and foster disappointment and resentment. The school recognizes the fact that families care deeply for their children, and we encourage you to show that care in an appropriate manner by celebrating your child’s birthday away from school outside of school hours.
LOST AND FOUND
Please put your child’s name on clothing and all other personal belongings brought to school. Lost items are stored at school until their owners claim them. Please check with us if your youngster loses something at school. Periodically, when the “lost and found” becomes too full, we donate everything to a charitable group.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Benjamin Franklin School students have an opportunity to participate in a wide variety of programs. Band and orchestra are offered before and after school. There may also be sports programs offered afterschool.

The Franklin Parent Organization may provide such programs such as chorus, arts and crafts, computers, drama, foreign languages, etc., providing there is enough support to staff these programs and sufficient interest to hold the class before or after school.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Benjamin Franklin school has an organized student council. Parent permission and teacher recommendations are necessary for students to be involved in student government. Check with your individual school for further information.

GIFTS FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF
It is recommended that students and parents express their feelings of appreciation for teachers and staff through thoughtful notes or home-made cards. Parents are encouraged to share feelings of appreciation for teachers and staff to the Franklin Parent Council, the principals, and the Mesa Public Schools district officials.

DAMAGE/LOSS OF SCHOOL PROPERTY
If a student damages or loses school property, parents will be billed for replacement or restoration costs. The school expects parents to teach their children personal responsibility by insisting on respect for public property.

TARDINESS
Each parent is expected to teach their children the importance of punctuality. The bell rings five minutes before school starts and children should be at school before that time. If a child comes to school after attendance is taken, the child must first report to the office to be removed from the absence list. This makes the child even later for class. Tardiness is disruptive to the learning process. It has a negative impact on the entire class, not just the child who is tardy. After a child has been tardy 12 times during the school year, it is evident that the tardiness is based on the lifestyle, choices or circumstances of the parents. Therefore all efforts toward correcting the problem will be directed at the parents. Those parents will be encouraged to find another school that will better accommodate their circumstances, or to develop habits of punctuality that reflect respect, courtesy, and the value of school and the education it offers to children.

DISCIPLINE AT FRANKLIN
Please teach your children that Benjamin Franklin School has a highly disciplined, tightly structured, calm and orderly atmosphere. Respect, courtesy, friendliness, and cheerfulness are expected. To ensure this, teachers establish and teach both school and classroom rules. Consequences for inappropriate behavior are clearly spelled out and enforced. Communication between home and school is an important part of an effective disciplinary program.

Under most circumstances the following is followed:
1st level- warning from teacher or supervisor
2nd level- teacher discipline
3rd level- teacher discipline, parent notified
4th level- mandatory teacher, parent, child conference
5th level- principal discipline
6th level- mandatory principal, parent, teacher, child conference
7th level- temporary suspension for less than five days (student, parent, teacher, principal conference required)
8th level- long term suspension (more than five days), due process procedures will be followed as prescribed in district policies.

Students are subject to the MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR which are provided at the beginning of each school year.

SCHOOL RULES
Parents are expected to teach the school rules to their children at home before the first day of class.
School rules are established by parents, teachers, and the principal. These rules cover vandalism, fighting, and punctuality as well as respect, honesty, courtesy, and proper language.

The teachers teach students these rules also, especially during the first week of school. The student government members also reinforce school rules by example in their leadership roles. The principal defines and enforces any rule not explicitly listed.
School Policies Section

The following is a list of Benjamin Franklin School rules.

**Benjamin Franklin students:**
- tolerate and accept physical and cultural differences among others.
- show respect to adults and fellow students.
- use only wholesome and courteous language.
- walk on the sidewalks.
- settle disagreements without fighting or threatening to fight.
- talk quietly while on campus.
- hold playground equipment when walking on sidewalks.
- play only in designated playground areas.
- show consideration of property and others by not throwing rocks and clods of dirt.
- play non-violent games. For safety reasons they do not play tag or any type of tackle games.
- are mannerly in cafeteria.
- behave properly when participating in assemblies.
- follow the school dress code.
- are on time to class and school activities.
- respect other's possessions and do not take items belonging to others.
- place trash in proper receptacles.
- help preserve school property by not writing on school walls and doors.
- get permission from the office before leaving the school grounds.
- leave candy, gum, toys, trading cards, and items that might disrupt school or cause injury at home.

**DRESS CODE**

Parents are to teach children that Benjamin Franklin students dress in a neat, attractive fashion reflecting pride in themselves and in their school. The dress code is established to help ensure an atmosphere conducive to study. Pride in student dress and personal appearance is one of the observable differences at Benjamin Franklin School. It is both the parents' and the child's responsibility to ensure compliance with the dress code. Personal appearance is expected to be non-disruptive to the learning atmosphere.

**Boys:** Long pants must start at the waist and be worn to the ankle. Tops must cover the shoulder with a seamed sleeve and meet the pant at all times. Earrings are not acceptable.

**Girls:** Long pants to the ankle. Skirts and blouses and dresses are acceptable. Tops must cover the shoulder with a seamed sleeve and meet the pant or skirt at all times. **Dresses and skirts must be at least knee length.** Leggings, jeggings, or any knit fabric that adheres to the shape of the leg may only be worn under a dress or skirt that is knee length. Make-up and long dangling earrings may not be worn.

**All:** Close-toed and close-heeled shoes are required footwear and must firmly adhere to the foot. Sports/athletic tennis shoes must be laced and tied securely. Flashing tennis shoes may not be worn.

Hair must be well groomed and may not be worn in a style that covers the eyes. Hair that is dyed in unnatural shades is not permitted. Students may be excluded from class until hair is returned to a natural color. Hair must be uniform in color. Extreme hairstyles (mohawks, shaved designs, etc.) are not allowed.

All clothing must be clean, modest, in good repair, and worn with proper fit. Clothing with disruptive messages is not permitted. Fake tattoos are not allowed.

On P.E. days, shorts may be worn under school clothing and worn during the P.E. period. On field days, students may change into shorts for outside activities.

The principal will resolve dress code concerns.

**HOMEWORK POLICY**

Homework is a central characteristic of Benjamin Franklin School. It has three major purposes:

1. To teach personal responsibility and time management skills.
2. To keep parents informed about what their children are studying.
3. To provide additional academic growth and development.

**Parent responsibilities concerning homework are as follows:**

1. To provide a time and a place free from distraction for the work to occur.
2. To sign the daily homework sheets or papers (whether completed or not), review the child's work and provide words of encouragement, not correction.
3. To work closely with the teachers if problems occur.

Below are the minimum and the maximum time guidelines for homework for which parents should plan. The times by grade level are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>10 min.</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td>20 min.</td>
<td>45 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td>60 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td>75 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td>90 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td>90 min.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revised June 2016
School Policies Section

Parents should insist that the students dedicate at least the minimum amount of time to some academic study at home. Reading and vocabulary study is the recommended activity during that time if the homework from school is not enough to take up the minimum amount of time. Remember, the first purpose of homework is to help children learn personal responsibility and time management skills. Parents should also teach their children that if they do not finish their daily work in class, that work is in addition to the actual homework, and it is not part of the actual homework time. Therefore reports, themes, and unfinished daily work could account for some students spending more than the maximum amount of time stated. Student punctuality and personal responsibility will ensure that this does not happen.

All students receive homework four nights per week, Monday through Thursday. Homework will be directly related to daily instruction. Daily work not completed is not considered homework, but must be completed by the next day. Homework will be evaluated by the teacher or as a class assignment. Standards of neatness and accuracy are to be maintained regardless of the subject matter area. The homework grade is determined by the total percentage of homework completed per six week grading period. Grades 1-6 use the daily homework assignment sheets to assist in communication with the home. First grade uses homework assignment sheets at the end of the year.

Students should be taught regularly that they are responsible for their homework and that no one other than the classroom teacher should help them complete the assignments. This will help the students learn to concentrate during instructional time, as well as teach personal responsibility. Problems with incomplete homework may be referred for disciplinary action. (See DISCIPLINE on previous page)

All students are expected to read aloud or be read to for a minimum of ten minutes each night as part of their homework. Signing the daily homework log is a parental responsibility that should be a part of the daily home routine. This log lets you know exactly what the child is supposed to do and serves as a communication tool between home and school. Please support your child's education by doing your part. If students are absent, they are given two school days for every school day of absence to make up missed work. Classwork and homework will not be given to students, siblings, or parents before the student returns from an absence.

PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES K-6
Parent-teacher conferences are held the first six-week grading period and the week following the fourth six-week grading period. Students are dismissed earlier than the normal time that week. These conferences are designed to benefit the students, parents and teachers in working together to help each child be as successful as possible in school. The parent-teacher conference only involves the parents and teacher. Students are not included in the conference.

REPORT CARDS K-6
Report cards are issued every six weeks, taken home by the students, signed by parents and returned. The information on the report card includes letter grades reflecting student achievement in all subjects as well as an evaluation of the child's behavior.

STUDENT RETENTION
Moving automatically from one grade to the next is not always the best thing for a child. Some children have a better chance for success if they remain at a grade level for an extra year.

Local School Boards set standards consistent with state guidelines for promotion from grade to grade. The essential skills required by the Mesa Governing Board are available from your principal.

If the teacher thinks your child will benefit by staying in his or her current grade, you will be involved in meetings with the teacher, the principal and other staff members involved with your child's education. However, state law provides that the final promotion/retention decision is for the classroom teacher. If you choose not to accept the teacher's decision, you may request in writing that the Governing Board review the decision.

PREVENTION EDUCATION

POSITION STATEMENT
Franklin students are taught skills that help them know of the harmful effects of illegal drugs, tobacco and alcohol. The use of these substances are harmful and inappropriate. Parental example is the primary determinant of student behavior, therefore, we expect all Franklin families to support the school in its instructional responsibilities to the greatest extent possible. Information for home instruction in these areas of prevention are available to any and all parents through our library. We invite you to use these materials at your convenience.

Revised June 2016
Educational Program Section K-6

GRADES
Letter grades are given to reflect actual achievement.
A 94-100 %
B 86-93 %
C 77-85 %
D 69-76 %
F Below 69 %

CURRICULUM

Literature and Phonics - Literature selections include classics and literature sets with wholesome ideals. Each room has its own library, and teachers read to their classes daily. The "Open Court Series" is the foundation text for the reading program in the first and second grades. "The Writing Road to Reading" is the text used for phonics.

Mathematics - Mathematics is taught daily and receives a great deal of emphasis. The program uses oral drill and written practice sheets and stress memorization of math facts. Metric and modern math terms are included. The textbooks used are from Houghton Mifflin Mathematics.

Recitations - Each student memorizes and recites for the teacher, one selection of either prose or poetry at least once every six weeks. Students may also enter poetry recitation contests.

Penmanship - The Spalding handwriting program is taught in grades K-6, with cursive writing introduced in second grade and continuing through sixth grade. Neatness, precision, and legibility in penmanship are stressed through daily drill. In the upper grades an annual review of printing is conducted.

Spelling - The Spalding spelling program, which teaches the consistent application of spelling rules through a knowledge of phonics, is part of the language arts curriculum. The correct spelling of words is expected in all writing.

Language - The language program includes daily practice and drill fundamental English grammar, rules and usage. The Language text used is from "Harcourt, Brace and Jovanovich" publishers.

Composition - Each Franklin student is expected to develop the skill to express himself in written form in a grammatically correct manner that emphasizes clarity of thought and preciseness in spelling and penmanship. A variety of writing experiences are provided at each grade level, including participation in writing competitions.

History and Geography - This program emphasizes the study of history and geography. Memorization of important geographical and historical data is required. Current events are also presented. The textbooks used are from the "Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich" and "MacMillan" publishers.

Science - The science program includes concepts in physical, chemical, earth, and biological sciences. It is centered around the Scott-Foresman science series and the Mesa Unified School District's science kits.

Health/Safety - Emphasis is on good health habits, nutrition, general safety rules and first aid and life saving techniques.

Library - Library services are available to all Benjamin Franklin students. Children have an opportunity to check out books each week. It is important that students understand that they are responsible for books until they are returned. Library lessons are taught in every grade each week that help support the classroom curriculum.

Music - A structured general music and music appreciation program is taught in all grades. Band, chorus and orchestra are offered as extracurricular activities before and after school and have occasional evening performances.

Physical Education - Each child at Benjamin Franklin School participates in a structured physical education program at least twice a week unless excused for medical reasons. The physical education program is designed to teach your child important physical skill development that will carry over into day-to-day life and help promote good health.

Art - Art is a part of the basic curriculum. Art is used to emphasize holidays and seasons and is incorporated into other areas of study. Art activities are kept to minimum and emphasize traditional art concepts. The school also participates in the Art Masterpiece Program.

Computers - Franklin's computer curriculum supports our school principles and emphasizes the use of computers as tools to enhance classroom learning. Computer usage is aligned with Franklin's educational curriculum and goals.

Citizenship - Standards of courtesy, respect, honesty and the meaning of citizenship are taught and modeled as school expectations by teachers. Personal responsibility and respect are at the core of this instruction.