

**Franklin Public Schools  
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

**Action Required**

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**Subject:**

Out of State/Overnight Travel

**Date:**

September 12, 2023

**Dept:**

High School

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**Reason:**

Past practice of the Committee  
requires a vote to allow  
students/staff to travel outside  
of the State/Country

**Enclosure**

Yes

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**Background**

**Recommendation:**

Vietnam/Cambodia/Thailand Trip - Chris Penza

I recommend approval of the request of Chris Penza to take FHS students to  
Vietnam/Cambodia/Thailand in April, 2025 as detailed.

**Action Requested of the School Committee:**

Majority vote of the Committee is required.

<u><b>Vote Tabulator</b></u>	
C. Bernstein:     Y / N	D. McNeill:     Y / N
D. Callaghan:     Y / N	M. Whitmore:     Y / N
Al Charles:     Y / N	D Spencer:     Y / N
E Stokes:     Y / N	Action: _____

A scenic view of the Angkor Wat temple complex in Cambodia. The temple's five iconic towers are visible in the background under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a group of Buddhist monks in bright orange robes stand on a rocky shore next to a calm pond. The water reflects the temple and the monks. Lush green palm trees and other vegetation surround the temple grounds.

# *Travel Tour*

**Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand • April 2025**



*Experience colorful history, exotic landscapes, and captivating spiritual traditions of Southeast Asia*

Thriving Hô Chi Minh City provides a thought provoking perspective on Vietnam's tumultuous 20th century. The temples of Cambodia are spellbinding monuments to ancient Buddhist cultures. Bangkok's culture comes alive on the Chao Phraya River and the Thonburi canals known as klongs.





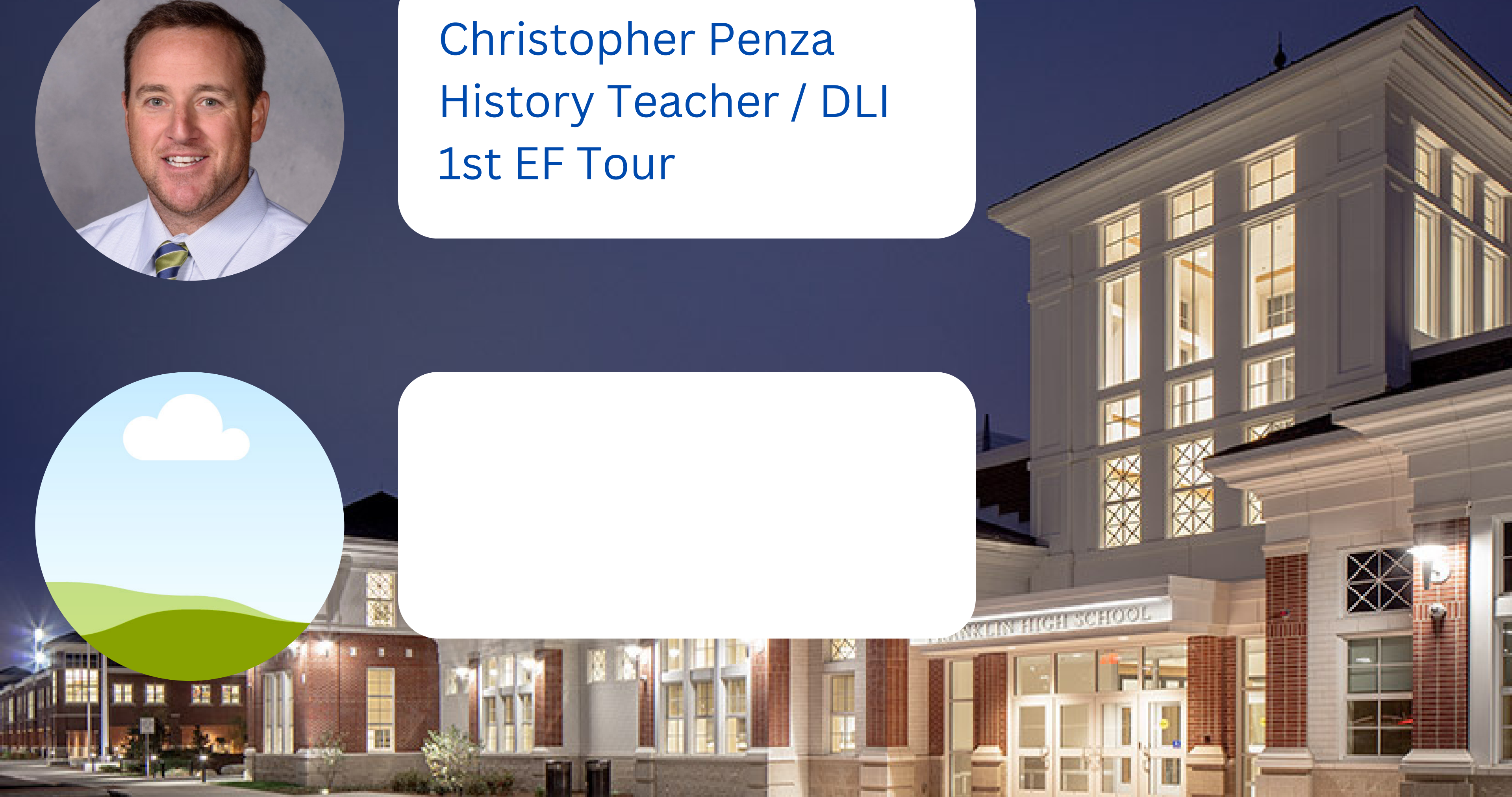
# *Agenda*

- 1 Trip Advisors
- 2 Why travel?
- 3 Where & When
- 4 FPS partnership with EF Tours
- 5 Tour Itinerary





Christopher Penza  
History Teacher / DLI  
1st EF Tour





# Why Start Planning Now?

- Planning now makes travel significantly more affordable with low manageable monthly payments.
- Allows time for students to fundraise
- Presenting trip information now provides enough time for students and guardians to determine feasibility.





# ***Educational Tours***

## Our Travel Partner

- World Leader in International educational tours
- 50+ years of experience
- Worked with over 500 schools
- Offices in 53 countries
- Guaranteed lowest price
- Best insurance policy in the business

### YOUR TOUR

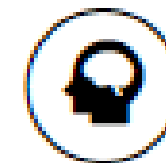
### TEAM & SUPPORT



Full-time Tour Director



Expert Local Guides



Personalized Learning Support



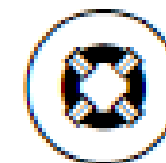
Continuous Support



Worldwide Presence



24-hour Emergency Service



Peace of Mind Program



# Let's Talk Safety!

EF Tours provides our group with:

- 24/7 Tour Director
- Local presence
- 24-hour emergency line
- Peace of Mind Policy
- Support for FPS safety policies

FPS will provide your students with:

- Excellent chaperone to student ratio 6:1
- Strict enforcement of school safety policies and expectations.
- No drinking or drugs







# Book With Confidence

## Peace of Mind Program

This benefit is built into every EF tour. It provides groups with flexibility to change the dates and destination of their tours in uncertain times.

## Global Travel Protection

Available to all travelers, this plan provides both pre-departure and post-departure benefits.

- \$165 for base insurance option
- Additional \$295 for enhanced "cancel for any reason" option





# *About this trip*

**April 18 - 28, 2025**

Tentative

## **Includes:**

- **Travel Insurance**
- **Airfare & Transportation**
- **Hotels**
- **Regional-style Meals**
- **Guided Sight-seeing**
- **Entrance fees to museums**



# Student Voices

"Life changing experience  
- saw things and did  
things that I would not  
experience in the USA"

"Most memorable 2  
weeks of my life.  
Do it when your young  
so that you remember it  
longer."

"An experience that will  
last a lifetime. The  
educational component  
was extremely strong..."

Write your  
agenda point

DAY 1

Fly overnight to Vietnam

DAY 1: Fly overnight to Vietnam

DAY 2: Hồ Chí Minh City

DAY 3: Hồ Chí Minh City

DAY 4: Hồ Chí Minh City

DAY 5: Hồ Chí Minh City • Siem Reap

DAY 6: Siem Reap

DAY 7: Siem Reap

DAY 8: Siem Reap • Bangkok

DAY 9: Bangkok

DAY 10: Bangkok

DAY 11: Depart for home

# Itinerary

[Link](#)





# Trip



Vietnam War Remnants Museum



Mekong Delta

# Highlights



Angkor Wat



Grand Palace



# What's Included

- ✈ Round-trip airfare
- 🏨 Safe, quality hotel rooms
- 👤 24/7 bilingual Tour Director
- 🚌 On-tour transportation
- 📅 Educational itinerary
- 📷 Guided tours and activities
- 🍽 Breakfast and dinner daily
- 🛡 24/7 on-tour assistance
- 👥 Traveler Support Team
- 👉 Tour Donation Page

- 🎓 weShare online education platform
- 📱 UnCommon App college essay toolkit
- 🎒 Travel backpack
- 🌐 Global Travel Protection Plan

**(And a few things you'll need to cover)**

- 🌐 Passport and visa fees
- 🛫 Airport baggage fees
- 🍽 Lunches and snacks
- 💼 Spending money
- 💵 Tips





# Pricing

**Student**

**\$4,629 or... \$239 / 20 months**





**Prerequisite**  
**Must be in good academic**  
**and behavioral standings**



**Reflective & Innovative  
Problem-solver**

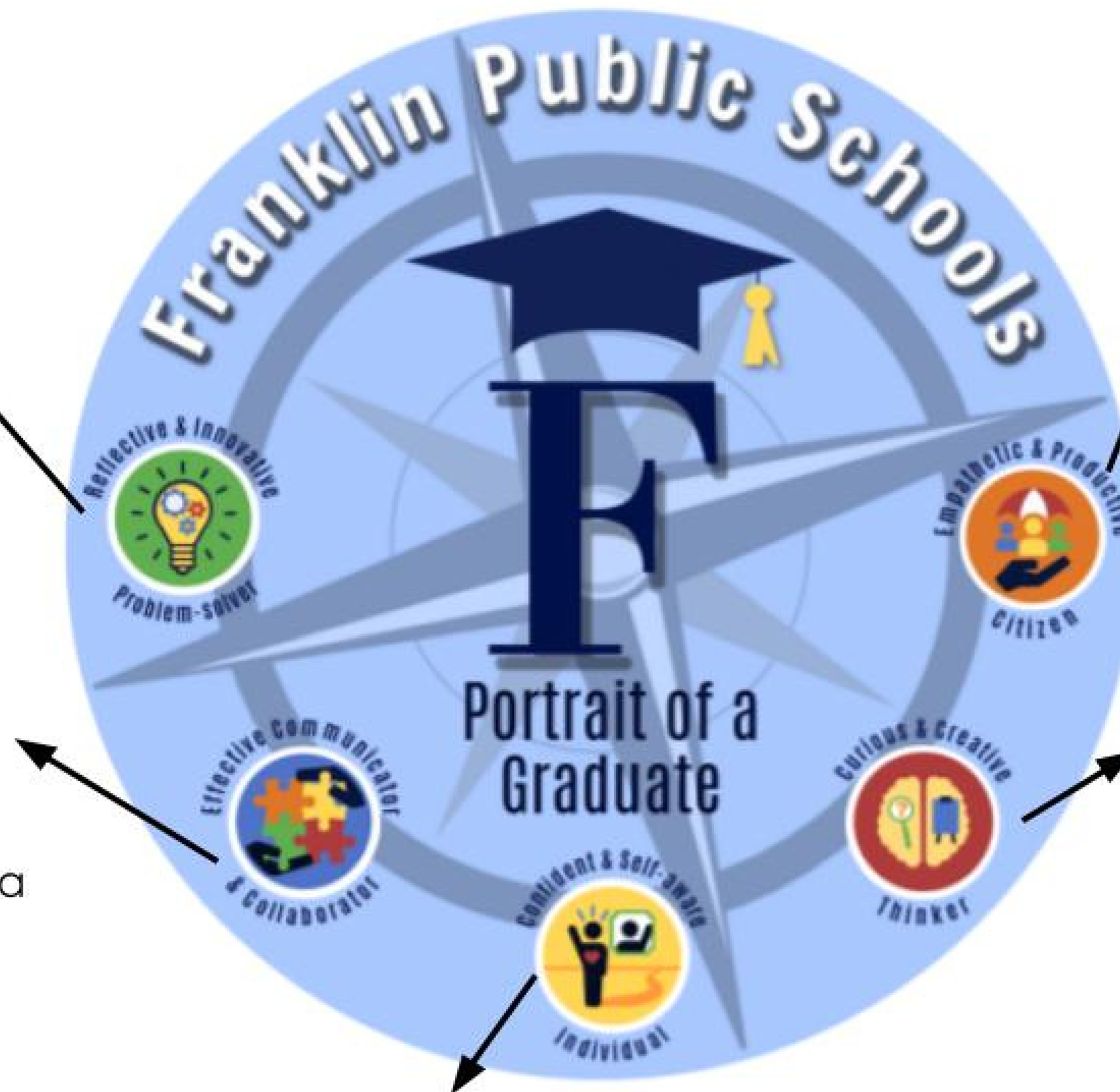
Reflective about our culture, country, food, etc. Travel will implore students to compare/reflect what they know to what they are seeing.

**Effective Communicator &  
Collaborator**

Students must challenge themselves linguistically and work as a team to navigate a new environment.

**Confident & Self-aware Individual**

Confidence is gained by travelling away from family, and self awareness is built for the same reason, as well as making sure they understand those around them.



**Empathetic & Productive Citizen**

Gives students a different perspective on cultures other than their own.

**Curious & Creative Thinker**

Builds curiosity in many areas such as: education, food, transportation, etc.

# Educational Opportunities

## College Credit

Option to earn 3 college credits by completing some college-level work based on the trip

## College Applications

Use your experience on the tour to inspire your personal essay. Students can access the "Uncommon App" through EF Tours to help structure their college essay.



An aerial photograph of terraced rice fields in a mountainous region. The terraces are filled with golden-yellow rice, and the surrounding landscape is lush green. A small wooden hut with a corrugated metal roof is situated on a hillside. Two people are walking along a path in the middle of the terraces.

*Thank You*

**For Questions Please Contact:  
Christopher Penza  
[penzac@franklinps.net](mailto:penzac@franklinps.net)**