

Planning Ahead for CDCS Budgets & Tuition

Each year around this time, we see a few families get caught off guard by how CDCS budgets and Capstone tuition timelines line up. CDCS budgets typically run on a 12-month cycle, and Capstone tuition does as well (August to August), but those cycles don't always align neatly with one another.

Capstone tuition increases each year slightly based on cost-of-living adjustments. When CDCS budgets are set without accounting for that increase, families can end up responsible for covering the difference later in the year.

As you look ahead to budget planning, we strongly encourage families using CDCS to build in some cushion for anticipated tuition increases. Planning ahead can help avoid surprises and reduce stress down the road. If you have questions about tuition timelines or want to talk through planning considerations, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Winter Weather & Community Travel

As winter continues, we want to share a reminder about how we make decisions around community travel during weather events.

Capstone follows Franklin-wide guidelines when it comes to closures. However, there may be occasions when Capstone remains open, but we do not drive in the community due to hazardous weather or road conditions. On those days, programming continues on-site. This includes Social Fridays.

When making community travel decisions, we think in terms of a stoplight system. Weather **watches** are typically treated as a green light, and we operate as usual.

During **advisories**, we proceed with caution and may adjust plans depending on timing, distance, and conditions. When a **warning** is in effect, we do not drive in the community until the warning is over.



These situations do not happen often, but safety for participants and staff is always the priority. Decisions are sometimes made day-of as conditions change, and we appreciate families' understanding and flexibility.

Social Fridays and Summer Overnights: A Small Change Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to next program year, we want to give families an early heads-up about a change to how Social Fridays and the summer overnight trips will work.

Historically, participation in Social Fridays and the summer overnight trip were bundled together for both participation and billing. Beginning next year, these will be separate sign-ups. Families will be able to choose to participate in Social Fridays (All or Half), the summer overnight trip, both, or neither.

This change reflects a few realities. Overnight trips are significantly more expensive than other outings due to lodging, meals, and transportation, and we also continue to see more alumni and returning participants who want to stay involved in social events but may prioritize one experience over the other. Decoupling these options allows for more flexibility and brings the cost of Social Fridays down, while making the true cost of the overnight trips clearer.

For families who choose to participate in both, the overall increase is modest (on the order of a few hundred dollars). We'll share specific details and timelines well in advance so families have plenty of time to plan.

With Sincere Appreciation
Michael Faeth
Director of Adult Education

January 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			No Programming	Winter Break!
			1	2
PRISM/ Sholom	Second Harvest / YMCA			Dave and Busters
5	6	7	8	9
PRISM/ DoubleTree Hotel	Second Harvest/ YMCA		TreeTrust Career Fair	Grand Slam
12	13	14	15	16
MLK Day- No Programming	Second Harvest/ YMCA		Something Rotten! Play Performance	MOA (Lego Store)
19	20	21	22	23
PRISM/ DoubleTree Hotel	Second Harvest/ YMCA			Thrift Shopping Extravaganza/ Video Game Tournament
26	27	28	29	30

