

Our Mission... We will honor the sacrifices endured by our fallen soldiers and their families.



Gold Star Families Memorial Monument

A Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy Capstone Project



Greetings,

My name is Adam Wallace, an 8th grade student at Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy (BPA) in Tampa, and I am writing on behalf of my classmates. During the past school year, the Franklin BPA student government worked on obtaining approval to build a monument on school grounds. This monument is named "Gold Star Families Memorial Monument" and it will be constructed to honor the sacrifices endured by our fallen soldiers and their families.

The "Gold Star Families Memorial Monument" is a nation-wide initiative started by Hershel "Woody" Williams, a Medal of Honor Recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima. His goal is to see one of these monuments built in every state of this great nation. Currently, there is one in West Virginia, and one being planned in Georgia. We want Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy to be the location of Florida's first "Gold Star Families Memorial Monument." The School Board of Hillsborough County approved the project and authorized us to begin fundraising to pay for construction.

This strikingly beautiful, granite monument will represent our mission to honor the sacrifices endured by our fallen soldiers and their families. There will be four images of our choosing on the monument, representing homeland, family, patriotism, and sacrifice. It will be conspicuously located adjacent to the flag pole at the front of the school. We also intend to restructure sidewalks, add benches, and make the overall area visitor-friendly.

The cost of the monument is approximately \$40,000. The expenses will be covered through donations from individuals, families, businesses, and other organizations interested in helping. We ask that you allow us 10-15 minutes of your time to share our vision with you. We are flexible and willing to work around your schedule. We appreciate any additional help you can provide raising funds, gathering materials, or expanding our network of supporters.

We hope to have the monument completed by the end of 2014. With your help and that of others, I know we can make this happen. Thank you so much for your time and kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Adam Wallace
Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy
BPA Student Government Leadership Council
8th Grade Student