

March 26, 2021 A.D.

Welcome to New College Franklin

Welcome, thank you all for taking time to visit New College Franklin. My name is Ashton Goolsby. I am a senior and member of the student guild here at New College Franklin, and wanted to share with you my journey that lead me to attend New College.

In elementary school I attended a small school called Artios Academy. It was started by several families, including my own, who were seeking to classically educate their children. Some of the teachers there included were Mr Henry Haffner, Mr Eugene King, and on the board we had Mr Greg Wilbur. Several years later, all three of these men along with Dr Johnathan Rogers, who's children were in my class, were involved in starting a college: New College Franklin. My uncle and father both did some work for New College early on, but even after that we kept in contact with people at the school. I even remember a couple times coming with my dad to collegium lectures.

Once I got into my junior year of high school, I had to start thinking about where I wanted to go to school. I wanted finish out the classical education I'd received up to that point, so my choices were New College Franklin or New Saint Andrews in Idaho. Eventually I realized there was no way I could afford to go NSA. I live in Nashville, and Idaho is very far, where as Franklin is only a forty-five minute drive. But also, after visiting New College I became enraptured with the community. Whenever I came the people I talked to seemed genuinely interested in me as a person. I still have notes from Elizabeth Dowdell, Josiah Patteson, and others telling me they enjoyed spending time with me, inviting me back, but also telling me that they were praying for me, in whatever school I chose, to make the right choice. I liked the educational model of the school, but I also desperately wanted to be a part of this community that cares for each other's needs before their own. I'm truly grateful that the Lord lead me to New College, and for the ways he has used it to shape my life for Him.