

Franklin Virtual Academy Student of the Month

Travis Swanger, senior, will complete his graduation requirements through Franklin Virtual Academy and will graduate in May. Travis is the FVA Student of the Month for February. He was chosen as this month's SOTM for his perseverance to his academics while maintaining full-time employment.

Travis attended Faust through the ninth grade. In 2013, when Travis entered CASHS, he began to struggle to connect to his education.

"Travis chose to be a teenager who skipped school a lot and his only alternative was to attend Manito. Neither one of us liked that option for Travis's educational path. Travis brought me a pamphlet for FVA and we found that this academic path was a lifesaver and the perfect fit for Travis and me," said Gina Swanger, his mother.

Travis chose FVA, with his mom's approval, because he wanted freedom from a strict schedule. "I wanted to make money to work on cars and still be able to work toward my diploma," Travis explained. FVA provided that flexibility since Travis could do his daily assignments at any time, seven days a week.

Due to choices that Travis made in his early high school years and due to his desire to work, Travis needed one additional year to complete graduation requirements. Travis has been able to work at Burger King and has elevated to a manager position. His future goals are to "work hard" and "become a mechanic of some sort."

"I first met Travis in the fall of 2015 and viewed him as a typical teen. As I began to develop a relationship with Travis, I could see that he had a great work ethic toward making money and that together we needed to extend that work ethic toward his academics!", remarked Gail Schuyler, FVA/CASD district liaison. Ms. Schuyler continued, "I worked individually with him a few times and then connected him to FVA's support and general testing sessions." Through the support of his instructors, Travis began to show great strides and also began to see the benefits of hard work.

When asked what advice he would give to other high school students exploring a cyber-education, Travis states, "It is a great transition. It's self-paced in a way and everyone you meet through FVA is friendly and help you have a successful education." Travis' words of wisdom to future FVA students are, "Just get it done and don't fall behind. It is so worth it in the end to finally graduate."

"I'm 100% for cyber-education; it may make the difference in your child's life between receiving a diploma or quitting school. The administrators, staff and instructors of FVA are awesome to work with and will respond to any and all questions in a timely manner. I love all of them!" said Gina.

