

Finding My Calling
Weekly Report 08/22/17 to 08/28/17

After first hearing of the ISM program at the end of freshman year, it seemed like an irreplaceable opportunity that I had to take part in, but I had no idea how. Later, as a sophomore, I was told more about the program and began reviewing my areas of interest. When I found out I was accepted into ISM, my dream of making the world a better place for people in need suddenly seemed accessible. Then, for a moment, I froze in shock of how overloaded my schedule for junior year would be with such a challenging class as this. I sat for a moment second-guessing myself, but then remembered the reason why I applied in the first place; I wanted to pursue my field of interest, occupational therapy, as soon as I possibly could.

Recently, Ms. Julie Martin Leslie generously gave a presentation meant to inspire people to figure out what their dream really is and “put it to the test.” The most impactful thing she said was the question, “What would you do if you had unlimited resources and you knew you couldn’t fail?” I spent all weekend thinking about that statement... it not only inspired me in recreational spheres of life like figure skating and playing the violin, but it helped me to realize that with enough effort, heart, and determination, I really can have unlimited resources. Next, I thought, “how can I guarantee that I won’t fail?” I came to the conclusion that if I really love what I am doing, it will not matter if I fail. I will have fulfilled my life’s purpose by following my calling.

Now, at the beginning of my ISM journey, all of my goals for high school are starting to make sense and I feel that I am ready to begin a life-changing journey to discover what my calling really is, keeping in mind that my goal in life is to improve the livelihood of those in need.

In the coming week, I plan to research possible mentors involved in my topic of interest and brainstorm what I will bring up in my interviews with mentors so that I can be better equipped for the year to come.