



The Founders Academy

A Public Charter School for Grades 5-12

September 15th, 2023

PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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From the Dean of School

Dean Hayes's Weekly Message



Dear Founders Community,

We are off to a great start to our school year. Thank you all for working with us as we navigate bus challenges, traffic adjustments, and a new SIS system!

Your support has been overwhelmingly positive and we appreciate it.

As of this afternoon, we do not have any updates on busing for our Manchester students. I know there have been buses coming to Founders but the communication we have from the district is that we do not have any busing at this time.

We do need to make some adjustments to our before and after school offerings. Students can be dropped off as early as 7am free of charge and picked up as late as 4:30pm free of charge. ANY STUDENT WHO NEEDS TO BE PICKED UP LATER THAN 4:30PM MUST EITHER BE IN AN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB OR PAY FOR HOMEWORK CLUB.

-Cassie Hayes
Dean of School

The Founders Mission Statement

The Founders Academy is a public chartered school encompassing grades 5 - 12 that is free and open to all New Hampshire students. The Academy develops leaders who understand and apply the lessons of the past, demonstrate exceptional character and lead by example. The Academy recognizes the importance of balance in the development of the whole person, and respects each student's journey.

Principled leadership is fostered by means of a curriculum of classical studies that includes analyzing the lives of great men and women of history, mining the rich classical ideals of the Western tradition, and tracing the evolution of the precious and costly idea of liberty.

Link: http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/mission_vision

Quote of the Week

“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.”

- Abigail Adams -

Admissions for the 2024-2025 School Year

The Founders Academy Public Charter School will open Admissions for the 2023-2024 school year on **September 15, 2023.**

Applications for the 2024-2025 school year are due by **March 15, 2024.**

To apply for admission for grades 5-12, please fill out an [online application](#) and submit that with the associated admissions materials.

The Founders Academy is an open enrollment, public charter school serving grades 5-12. New Hampshire applicants who meet the school's admission criteria may apply. The school may accept out-of-state applicants at a fee to be set annually, on a space-available basis. It is important for any applicant considering enrolling at The Founders Academy to be certain that they are interested in pursuing a rigorous education within the mission and vision of our school.

Founders' curriculum focuses on student character and a classical education, including studies in history, leadership, ethics, debate, business and finance, classical literature as well as the standard high school curriculum of math, science, languages, and the arts.

For more information, please email admissions@tfanh.org or call (603) 952-4705.

The Founders Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, national/ethnic origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability in its programs, activities, admissions and employment practices. This refers to, but is not limited to, the provisions of the following laws:

- Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - race color, national origin
- The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) - sex
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) - disability
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - disability
- NH Law against discrimination (RSA 354-A)
- Title XV Section 194-B:1

The Founders Academy School Store

Suit up with some Founders swag! **Our school store is open and taking orders through September 15th!**

Browse our options here: https://stores.inksoft.com/the_founders_academy/shop/home

Orders will be processed after the 15th and will be ready to be picked up the first week of October.
***Please review the size charts carefully prior to ordering as items cannot be returned.*

SignUpGenius: \$5000 Back to School Giveaway!



Enter a favorite school in our back-to-school giveaway for a chance to win them \$5,000. The winning nominator will help make their school's year extra special, plus receive a \$100 gift card!

[**VOTE FOR FOUNDERS!**](#)

NEED TO KNOW

Important Dates

What:	When:
Teacher Workshop No School	Tuesday, September 19th
Back to School Night and Family BBQ	Wednesday September 27th, 5-7pm
Teacher Workshop No School	Friday, October 6th
No School (Columbus Day)	Monday, October 9th

2023-2024 School Calendar

2023/24 Founders Academy Calendar

Calendar

edia

Your source for calendars

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3	V	TW	6	7	8	9
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X

= First and Last Days of School

= 1 PSAT Fall Testing Day (Grades 9 & 11) - 10/26

= 4 SAS/SAT/PSAT Spring Testing Days (3/27, 4/10, 4/17, 5/1)

PC = Parent/Teacher Conferences; TW = Teacher Workshop Days

Approx. end-of-quarter dates: Q1 - 10/27; Q2 - 1/19; Q3 - 3/29; Q4 - 6/7

Graduation - 6/15

Note - The NH Primary date will not be decided until the school year begins. No school on that day.

Federal holidays 2023/24

Sep 4, 2023	Labor Day	Nov 11, 2023	Veterans Day	Jan 1, 2024	New Year's Day	May 27, 2024	Memorial Day
Oct 9, 2023	Columbus Day	Nov 23, 2023	Thanksgiving Day	Jan 15, 2024	Martin Luther King Day	Jun 19, 2024	Juneteenth
Nov 10, 2023	Veterans Day (obs.)	Dec 25, 2023	Christmas Day	Feb 19, 2024	Presidents' Day	Jul 4, 2024	Independence Day

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Student Handbook

The Founders Academy Student Handbook contains valuable and important information for students and families. Please review the handbook carefully as it is a collection of Founders' policies and procedures. It is a working document, and is subject to review and revision as The Founders Academy community develops and needs arise.

The downloadable PDF version of the handbook can be found [here](#).

Medication

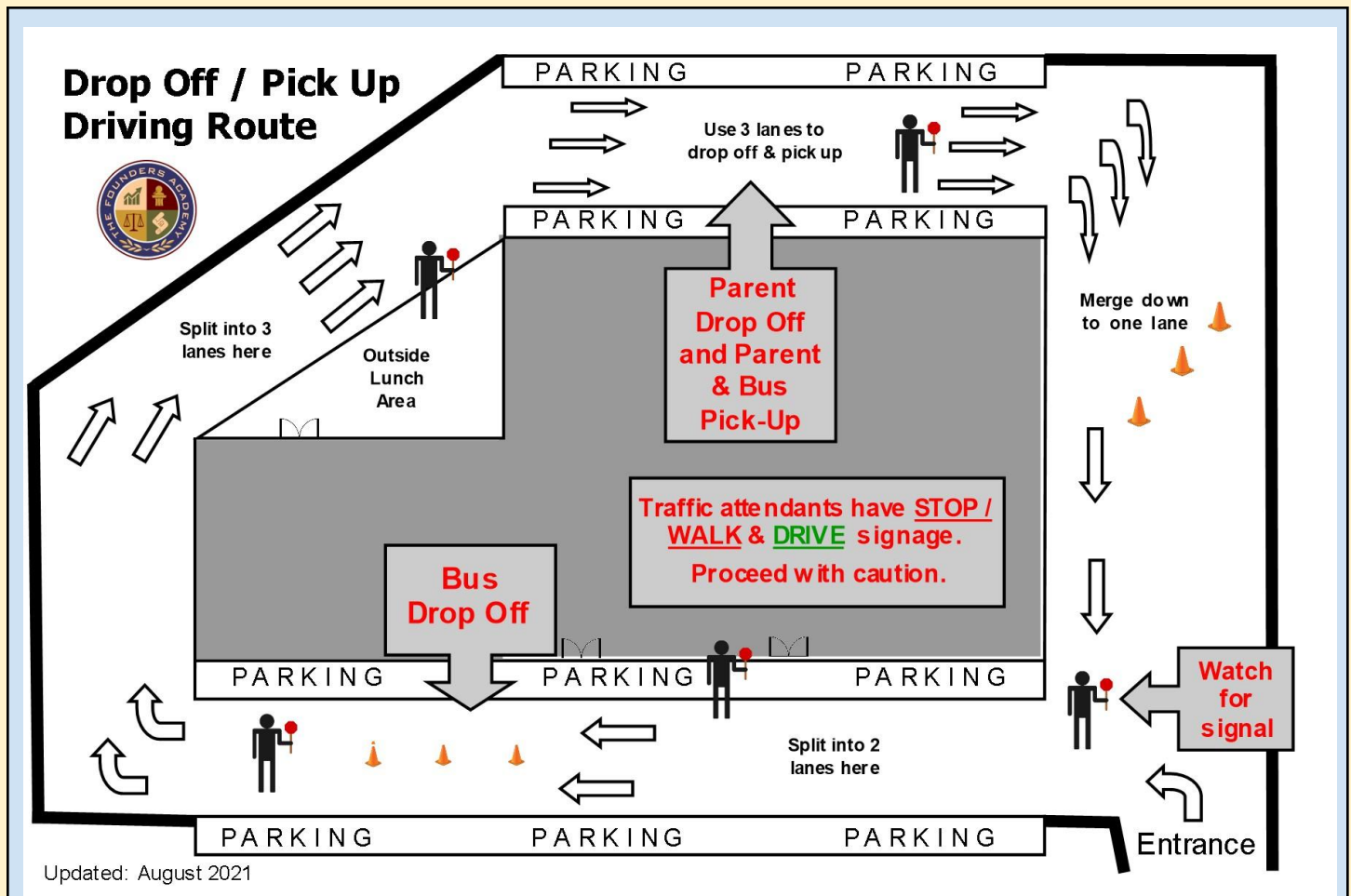
Students who need to take medication at school must have an updated [medication form](#) for the

23-24 school year. We cannot administer medication without an updated form.

Picture Permissions

Please fill out [this form](#) to let us know whether or not you give permission for your child(ren) to be photographed while at Founders Academy. These photos may be used in the yearbook, on social media, and/or through other public forms.

Drop-off & Pick Up Procedure



Before and after school, Founders will have traffic navigators directing the flow during drop-off and pickup. **Traffic navigators will use two different signs to signal cars and buses.** Please watch for the signs, our goal is a safe environment for our students. The map at the bottom of the page shows the traffic flow and drop-off points.

Below are procedures we are asking students, staff, and parents to follow. We will continue to assess the situation and make improvements if needed.

1. Anyone who is at the school for the full day (students and staff), can park in the back, on the side, or at the far end of the parking lot. No one should be parked at the school for the full

day between the hill and the crosswalk.

2. All students who leave a 2:25 should park in the back.
3. Any parent picking up at 3:15 should come to the parking lot **AFTER** 2:45 to allow time for the 2:25 pickup traffic to clear out.
4. All parents **MUST** park in a spot for 2:25 pickup. No cars will be allowed on the side of the driveway or on the hill. Students will not be permitted to walk off the property at 2:25 to get a ride in another parking lot.

REMINDER: Handicap spots are for vehicles with a handicap pass only.

CAR COMMUTERS:

Students who commute by car will be dropped-off and picked up at the rear (lower) cafeteria. Drivers must know to drive around the building to drop-off and pickup. Our traffic navigators will provide guidance to drivers and students. **DO NOT STOP RANDOMLY TO DROP-OFF OR PICKUP STUDENTS.**

Sign #1: DRIVE (green sign):

The green sign DRIVE will be held up to signal cars and buses to drive. As long as this sign is up, cars can move forward and approach and exit the drop-off/pickup point. Please drive **ONLY** when you see the DRIVE sign held up.

Sign #2: STOP / WALK (red and white sign):

The STOP / WALK sign will be held up when all traffic needs to stop. This sign is also displayed (held up) during the time cars are **NOT** moving and it is safe for students to exit or approach and enter a car.

Please respect the STOP / WALK sign for the safety of the students. No vehicle should be moving while the STOP / WALK sign is up. Our traffic navigators will provide guidance to drivers and students. Please note that our staff is doing everything possible to enforce the traffic patterns, keep things moving, and keep students safe.

Please be patient and refrain from speeding. Founders expects the same appropriate behavior from its parents as it does from its students. We are working hard to make the drop-off and pickup as smooth and short as possible for everyone.

Please remember that if you arrive after 7:40 am in the morning to drop off your child, your child must come into the main lobby to sign himself / herself in at the front desk.

Student Parking Passes

Student drivers who park at the school are required to fill out a [Student Driver Agreement Form](#). This form needs to be resubmitted at the change of each school year.

Forms, documentation, and \$50 fees can be turned in to Mrs. Evans at the front desk.

Please send any questions to judith.evans@tfanh.org

Before & After School Program 2023-24

Founders Academy is happy to announce the return of the After-School Program and the Before School Program for the 2023-2024 Academic Year. The Before School Program allows parents to drop their children off to be supervised prior to the start of the academic day. The after school provides adult supervision and support for students.

PROGRAM HOURS

Before School Care: 7:00 AM – 7:20 AM

At 7:20am students will go to the cafeteria until the start of the school day.

After School Care: End of school day – 6:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Students who are not picked up by 6pm will be charged an additional fee of \$10 for every 5 minutes late.

If you would like to sign your student up, please fill out [this form](#) and send it to diane.bosia@tfanh.org

School News

Back to School Night and Family BBQ

Join us on Wednesday, September 27th from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM for our Back to School Night. This is an evening where parents and students can meet their teachers and see the school. This event is open to all students and families grades 5-12. You can drop in any time between 5pm-7pm

The Back to School BBQ is in collaboration with our traditional back-to-school night. While you're here meeting teachers and seeing your child's classrooms, you can enjoy a community event simultaneously!

BBQ Price: \$10 per person.

Includes: (1) hot dog, (1) cheeseburger, or (1) hamburger and a bag of chips, a water, and a cookie. Gluten-free options are available.

[Click here](#) to purchase tickets for the BBQ!

The deadline to order tickets is Tuesday, September 26th.

Questions? Contact susan.forsyth@tfanh.org

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

BBQ

**\$10/PERSON
TICKET
INCLUDES:
HOT DOG OR
CHEESEBURGER
CHIPS, WATER,
AND A COOKIE!**



**RSVP BY
SEPTEMBER
26, 2023**

**Connect
with other
TFA Families!**



**LET'S KICK OFF THE 2023-2024
SCHOOL YEAR!**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

5 PERIMETER ROAD, MANCHESTER, NH
03103

RSVP today!

No tickets sold at the door.

7th Annual Pumpkin Raffle



The Founders Academy
7TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN RAFFLE

*Purchase a pumpkin for \$25 for
a chance to win \$500*

Only 150 pumpkins will be sold

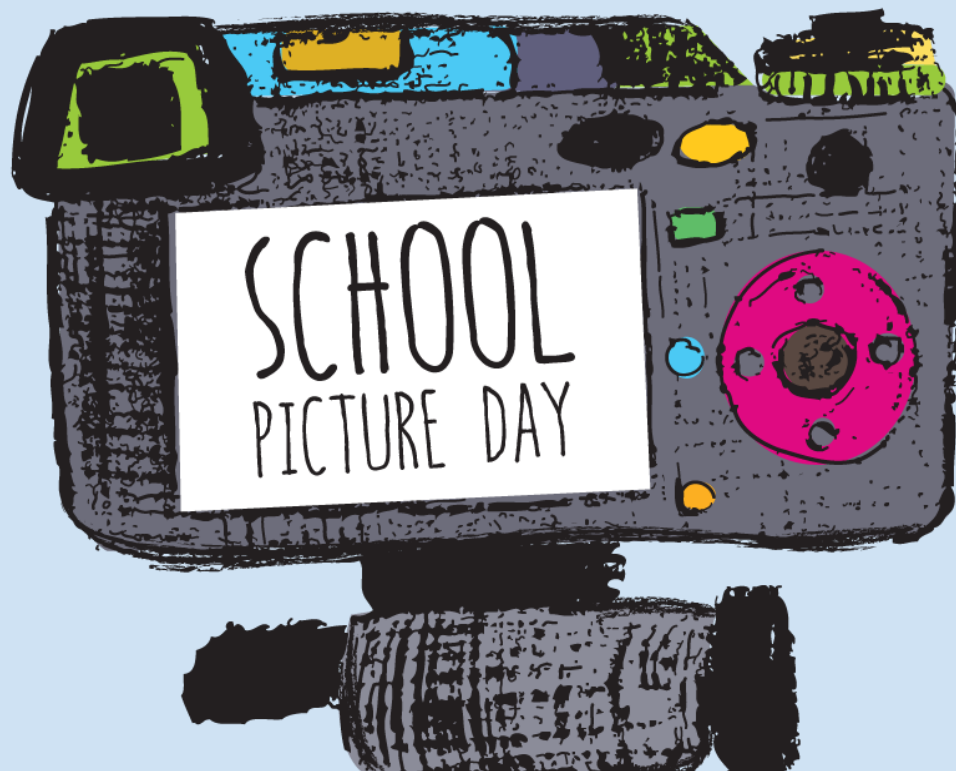
BUY YOURS ONLINE BEFORE THEY'RE GONE!

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/TFAPUMPKINRAFFLE2023](https://tinyurl.com/tfapumpkinraffle2023)

****WINNER WILL BE CHOSEN AT THE FALL FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 14****

Proceeds go to the Founders Parent Group (PTSG) to support Founders Academy

Picture Day: September 20th



We are so excited to announce that this is the first year that picture day with C3 School Photography is going to be completely paperless. We've updated to a system that will alleviate the order form confusion of the past and ensure photo days are stress free. Parents will not have to fill out any order forms and send them in with their students; in fact, we will not be collecting cash or checks at all! Instead, you'll find all the information you need to prepay below!

To prepay, just follow these simple steps:

- Visit our website at C3schoolphotography.com
- Find the "Online Ordering" dropdown box in the menu on the top of the screen
- Click on "Prepay School Photos"
- In the blue bar, select "Founders Academy" from the dropdown box
- Enter Founders23 as the password
- Enter your child's first and last name and hit 'search'
- Order your photos by the end of the day on September 20th!

If you miss the September 20th deadline, there is no need to worry! After all the photos have been taken and processed, about four to six weeks following picture day, you will have the chance to view and order photos online. Instructions for online ordering after picture day will be sent home with your students.

Join PTSG!



What is PTSG?

Our Parent Teacher Student Group (PTSG) is a very active community, focused on supporting the school. Our purpose is to positively impact Founders Academy by providing support through volunteerism and fundraising for student and staff needs, leadership opportunities for students, and family and community engagement opportunities.

https://www.thefoundersacademy.org/parents/p_t_s_g

Attention: Looking for Substitutes

The Founders Academy Public Charter School seeks paid substitute teachers for middle and high school for the 2023-2024 school year!

Subjects covered can vary. Full day and half day opportunities available. hours are 7:30 AM until 3:30PM. The rate is \$75/per day.

If interested please contact Kelsey Marot at kelsey.marot@tfanh.org

Recruiting Parent Board Members

Dear Founders Families,

The Founders Board of Trustees is eager to welcome **two new parent members** to the board to

increase our effectiveness and efficiency. Since its inception, our Board has put a great deal of effort into writing/approving policies, developing a strategic plan, and planning for the future of the school, and we need more parents' volunteers for the Board in order to succeed in reaching our goals.

As our board will attest, charter school board service is a personally and professionally rewarding opportunity to help ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend an excellent school.

If you are interested in sharing your business, grant writing, fundraising, financial or education expertise as a volunteer member of the Founders Board, our community would be very grateful.

Read on to learn why you should consider and how to join our board of trustees. We hope you'll join us!

-Robert Best

The Founder Academy Board of Trustees, Chairman

Why become a member of the Founders Academy board? Charter school boards play a critical leadership role in supporting and determining the quality of the education delivered to its students and the long-term sustainability of the school. Every charter school board is the governing body of a publicly-funded nonprofit organization with a multi-million-dollar budget. As with all charter school boards, Founders board is responsible for ensuring that the school has strong leadership, sound finances, effective fundraising, and high academic achievement.

Need further incentive? Here's a recent an article highlighting how joining a non-profit board can boost your career,

<https://diversitymbamagazine.com/career-development/how-serving-on-non-profit-boards-can-boost-your-career/>

Who can apply? Any parent or guardian of a Founders Academy student

What are the duties of a Founders Board member? We set policies, hire and evaluate the school director, work with our parent organization (the PTSG), oversee the budget, fundraise, community relations, and other tasks, as needed to ensure the continued strength and success of the school. We ask that you participate in monthly board meetings, join a minimum of one committee and attend as many community events as possible

Who is on the board today? John Bauer (parent representative), Frank Weiss, Kimberley Lavallee (co-founder and vice-chair), Kyle Fox (treasurer), Patricia Humphrey (co-founder and secretary) and Robert Best (chairman).

When does the board meet? Every third Wednesday of the month at 6PM at our school. We encourage interested members to attend a Board of Trustees Meeting to observe what type of issues are discussed and how important decisions affecting The Founders Academy are made.

What is the process to become a board member? Interested parents apply by sending their resume/CV to Kimberley Lavallee kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org.

For more information about the board of trustees including meeting agendas and minutes, visit the governance page of the website found [here](#).

Other

Free Access to Tutoring

NHED and Tutor.com have partnered to provide 24/7 online tutoring for students in grades 6-12 throughout the state. School districts are being encouraged to [register](#) for Tutor.com's free access for their students.

Raven the Rock Snake



Walk to End Alzheimer's



Founders is looking for team members for the Walk To End Alzheimer's this year!

Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support and research. This inspiring event calls on participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against the disease.

While there is no fee to register for Walk, all participants are encouraged to raise critical funds that allow the Alzheimer's Association to provide 24/7 care and support and advance research toward methods of prevention, treatment and, ultimately, a cure.

The Walk is being held at the Merrimack Premium Outlets on Saturday, October 14.

For more information, please visit [this link](#).

Hats for Sale

There is a limited supply of school hats for sale! \$15 per hat. Contact Dean Hayes at cassie.hayes@tfanh.org if you're interested in purchasing one to show your school spirit.




Founders Academy Car Magnets

Love The Founders Academy? Display your school pride on your ride when you purchase a Founders Academy car magnet for only \$5.00! These make great gifts for students, parents, and grandparents. Purchase one for every vehicle!
Supplies of these beautiful 4-inch round magnets are limited so...ORDER NOW!

Show Your Support!
Purchase a
Founders Academy
Car Magnet!
Only \$5 Each

4" x 4"

**Get One For
Each Car In
Your Family!**



**Get One For
Each Car In
Your Family!**

**LIMITED
SUPPLY!**

**LIMITED
SUPPLY!**

Remember:

- Never put your magnet on a dirty car (you could scratch your car's paint!).
- Clean both sides of your magnet whenever you wash your car (or more often!)
- Do not place on horizontal surfaces (such as automobile hoods!)
- Remove magnet by lifting entire magnet from surface (do not slide the magnet across the surface!)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

of Magnets Ordered: _____ Payment by ☐ Check
☐ Cash

Total Enclosed: \$

Make checks payable to The Founders Academy

Donations

Donors Choose: Yearbook Fundraiser

A new Donors Choose project has recently launched for our Yearbook! While funding lasts, any donation to this project will be **DOUBLED**. A \$25 donation becomes a \$50 one!

This year, we are offering a high school elective for Yearbook as we build student leaders to capture the school year and make sure that everyone has a place in the yearbook. You can find the Donors Choose project [here](#)!

Please consider sending this along to family and friends! Every donation helps us meet our goal!

Bridge the Gap



[Annual Fund Letter From Dean Hayes](#)

Founders On Social Media

Be sure to follow Founders on **Facebook** here:



Founders' Facebook **Carpooling** Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123952141583545/>

Be sure to follow Founders on **Twitter** here:



Check out Founders **Youtube** Channel here:



The Founders Academy

A Public Charter School for Grades 5-12

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