



January 5, 2018

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From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

Happy new year!

Happy snow day!

My goodness, that was quite a storm yesterday. My hope is that you are all safe, warm, with electricity, plowed out, and enjoying each others company being "snowed in." Making the decision to cancel school is never easy, but I appreciate all the input received from teachers, parents and students! Please know that each decision whether or not to cancel considers the multiple factors and variables involved for safety.

Please know the Second Quarter ends on January 19. Midterms are January 16-19. Details on the midterm schedule are contained within this newsletter.

In addition to snow and safety, let me know what else is on your mind as we begin a new calendar year. I look forward to hearing from you as Founders reaches the halfway point of the academic year.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

From the Assistant Director of Student Services



Hello Founders Academy Families,

We had a nice turnout for our first Early College Planning presentation that was held on Thursday, December 14, 2017. Val Castonguay from [NHHEAF's](#) Center for College Planning shared information about how to make the most of high school, what colleges are looking for, how to begin the college search, a timeline for college preparation and a preview of financial aid. If you were unable to attend this presentation but are interested, you can watch a [previously recorded webinar](#), [view slides](#) or attend another [Center for College Planning event](#) (evening presentations are typically open to the public). We will be hosting a College Overview for Juniors on **Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm.**

Happy New Year,
The Student Services Department

~Debra Castonguay, Assistant Director of Student Services
(debra.castonguay@tfanh.org)

School News

Student Spotlight: David B.

David B., a 10th grader at Founders, has been nominated for Best Supporting Actor in a Youth Production for his role as Caiaphas in Jesus Christ Superstar; he is one of the top 10 in the entire state! He did an amazing job for his first time in a community theater musical. The Top Three and the winner will be announced January 20th. You can see the entire list here: <http://nh.theater/top-nominees.html>
Congratulations, David!



(David is third from the left.)

From the Registrar: Midterms 2018

Parents and Students -

Below is the link to see the Midterm Exam Schedule - which is scheduled for January 16-19. On these 4 days, there will be two, 2-hour "Exam Blocks" each day. These will be early release days with the school day ending at 12:30pm. There will be a shortened snack time in between the Exam Blocks, but there will be no lunches. Manchester bussing will be at the normal times in the morning, but will pick up students from our school at 12:30. (There will not be any 3:10 bussing.) Teachers will be going over this schedule next week with students in their classes and Round Tables to make sure students understand.

Important - If there is a school cancellation during Exam Week, all days will be pushed back. (i.e. - Day #3 would be on Friday, Day #4 would move to the next Monday, etc.) If this happens, we will work with the MTA to have the busses still come early for the new Day #4, but that is not guaranteed. If busses can only come at 3:10 instead, students should still be dismissed at 12:30pm if possible and we will provide 1-2 activities for those students who need to wait for the bus.

Students are expected to attend all Exam Blocks in which they have a class unless the class has an exam from which the student has been officially declared "Exempt" by the teacher. (Note - Many teachers do not give any exemptions.) If there is no actual exam (the teacher has the students doing a project instead), then the teacher will be giving a 2-hour lesson.

Classes that meet for 5 blocks in a normal week will take up an entire Exam Block. Classes that meet for less than 5 blocks will share an Exam Block - with each class meeting for one hour. (For example, 6th Graders have Music and Art sharing a block. If they normally go to Music first and then Art on Mondays or Tuesdays, then Music will take up the 1st hour of the assigned Exam Block and Art will take up the 2nd hour.)

Students do not need to be at the school during the block in which their Lunch lines up (see the charts). They also do not need to be at the school during periods in which they have a Study. (For example, if a student has a Study during H and I Periods on Tuesday/Thursday, then they can be dismissed any time after 10:15 on Day #4. However, if they have a class during H Period, but a Study during I Period on

Tuesday/Thursday, their H Period class will meet during the 1st hour of that Day #4 block, and then they can be dismissed at 11:30am.) A Study Hall will be set up for any student who does not have a class during an Exam Block but cannot get a ride to arrive late or leave early. If a student is able to arrive late due to Lunch/Study Halls, they should be at the school at least 15 minutes before their next class.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pN_Ij0PUInopFRpri25IVtgZqFdsS1KOWmlgY_P_lo/edit?usp=sharing

Thank you,
Greg McKenzie
Registrar

Message From the Founders PTSA - January 5 Deadline

SUBJECT: TFA PTSA - Officer Nominees Needed

NEXT MEETING: January 9th @ 6:30pm - Vote for Officers

OPEN POSITIONS: President, Vice President 1, Vice President 2, Treasurer and Secretary

CALL TO ACTION: Anyone interested in serving as an officer is requested to please send a brief letter of interest which should include: the position you are interested in running for, why you would like to serve and/or why you think you would be the person for the job.

HOW TO RESPOND and DEADLINE Information: Email Susan.Lawton@tfanh.org no later than today to be included on the ballot.

Message From the Parent Steering Committee - January 17 Deadline

A Message from the Parent Steering Committee

Hello, Founders Families!

We are happy to announce that the Parent Steering Committee now has parent representatives for each grade level. Below is the contact information for each grade level representative. Please be advised that the Parent Steering Committee works to provide support to the Board of Trustees and is not affiliated with any matter concerning any individual teacher or student (other than their own).

We are seeking parents who would be interested in serving on the Board of Trustees. Trustees generally have one Board meeting each month, as well as at least one sub-committee meeting each month. For a general description, please see page 8 of the school Charter at http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/the_charter as well as the [policies](#) of the school Board of Trustees.

The Parent Steering Committee seeks parents/guardians/caregivers who meet the following criteria:

- Has a student currently attending The Founders Academy (TFA)
- Has a student who has completed one full academic school year at TFA
- Must acknowledge that they have read and understand the Charter of TFA

If you are interested in being nominated for this role please submit your name, a brief bio, and statements supporting why you are a strong candidate to parentsteeringcommittee@tfanh.org by midnight January 17th.

Parent Steering Committee Representatives:

Peter Olsen, 11th grade: psc11@tfanh.org

Patrice Benard, Chairperson, 10th grade: psc10@tfanh.org

Michael Lawton, Vice Chairperson, 9th grade: psc9@tfanh.org

Jason DiPietro, 8th grade: psc8@tfanh.org

Krysten Apostoles, 7th grade: psc7@tfanh.org

Jon DiPietro, 6th grade: psc6@tfanh.org

We are looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

The Founders Academy Parent Steering Committee

Save the Date: Winter Dance

Founders' Winter Dance will be held on Friday, February 2nd. All students may attend, but only high school students can bring a guest. More details to come! A special thank you to Mrs. DiPietro for coordinating!

Raytheon Co. will now Match Employee Contributions to The Founders Academy

Parents – please check your company website to see if your donations are eligible for educational matching funds. This is a great way to double the impact of your donation. A parent recently enrolled The Founders Academy with the Raytheon Company Matching Funds program. Employees from Raytheon can now get a company match for every donation. Raytheon employees can start at <http://giving.raytheon.com>.

Here are Step by Step Instructions for interested parents:

Here's how Raytheon parents can use Raytheon Matching Funds for Founders contributions:

Start at this Raytheon website:

https://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/eg_portal.home?x_gm_id=1698&x_pl_id=12500

Go to Matching Gifts/Get Started.

Enter the Info for Founders Academy.

Then Select the School.

Then write a donation check to the school and enter the info.

After that there will appear confirmation instructions – the school has to confirm receipt, and then Raytheon sends the school the matching funds. The matching request for funds has to be submitted and confirmed within the same calendar year.

For further information or with any questions please contact:

Mike L. Anderson

Tech Investment and Innovation Manager

Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems

978-858-9542 (O), 978-606-1966 (C)

michael.anderson@tfnh.org

Volunteer Opportunities/Donations/Fundraising

NYC/DC Trips and Dunkin' Donuts Fundraiser

Parents and Students -

We have approximately 15 spots left for both the NYC trip and the Philadelphia/Washington trip. We are not adding any more busses, so it is now first-come-first-serve. If you are interesting in travelling, please sign up as soon as possible.

Also, here is the information on our first fundraiser for these trips. I highly encourage those students who are travelling to consider participating in this to help lower your costs.

Thank you,
Greg McKenzie

Dunkin' Donuts Fundraiser - 2017-2018

Last year, the Music Department ran a very successful fundraiser to benefit students going on the 2017 NYC trip. We are happy to announce that we will be doing this again for the NYC and Washington trips this year! (Note that this cannot be applied to the Great East Trip in May.) From now until Midterm exam week in January, we will be selling coupon books for Dunkin' Donuts. Each book sells for \$10, with \$7 going towards

lowering the cost of either overnight trip. (This is an excellent profit margin for a fundraiser.)

Each coupon book has 20 coupons in it. Unlike last year where the coupons were good only in NH, this year the coupons are good throughout NH, Maine, Vermont, and 3 northern New York counties (Essex, Clinton, and Franklin) and they do not expire until August 31st. Some of the coupons include 99-cent muffins, iced teas, hot chocolates, and iced coffees and discounts on other things such as bagels and egg & cheese sandwiches.

We will be selling them at the December Chorus and Band Concerts. All of the money we raise this way will be used to help defray any costs for staff members and then evenly distributed amongst everyone else.

More importantly, if you would like to sell these coupon books (to your parents, relatives, neighbors, family friends, parents' coworkers, etc), all of the profit will go to your individual account. To do this, find Ms. Mote and buy some books directly from her - preferably by check, but if you do need to pay in cash, please put it in an envelope with your name clearly on it. She will record how many books you bought and we will mail your profits directly to Gerber Tours to be placed in your account at the end of January.

Last year, we had students who were able to raise hundreds of dollars in one day by having a parent make a personal Facebook post. These books make great stocking stuffers and awesome gifts for a parent's workplace. I also know of some parents who regularly go to Dunkin's who have bought a few books for themselves to keep in their car. (Remember, since \$7 goes towards a student's trip, that parent only needs to find \$3 in savings to make each book worthwhile.) And again, the coupons don't expire until the end of the summer!

If you are interested in this fundraiser, you can buy 5-10 books from Ms. Mote for \$10 each (cash or check made out to "TFA"), sell them, and then come back to buy more if you do well. You can also take orders from people in advance and pick the books up all at once so that you can deliver them.

If you have any questions about this, let me know at g.mckenzie@tfanh.org or Ms. Mote at k.mote@tfanh.org.

Donors Choose: Chorus Risers

"The Choral Program is growing! This year, we will have four different levels of Chorus performing (Grades 6 - 11) and sharing the wonderful gift of music! Our choristers have earned the right to be "seen" by our growing audience and we need your help to purchase choral risers for these talented music students.

These choral risers will help highlight our performances by offering professional-looking concert events at our school and at other performance venues.

We are very proud of our Founders Academy performers and look forward to offering them, and our audience, a top-notch performance experience!”

~Mrs. Cormier

Donate here! - <http://bit.ly/2z2RI4y>

Please Support Our Choral Program!

As a newly-founded NH Charter School, The Founders Academy is excited about its budding arts programming. The Choral Program is asking for your assistance by donating to our “**Choral Supporters Donor Page,**” which will list your patronage in Founders Academy Choral Program in our 2017/2018 annual concert and production playbill programs. Your donation will be for the entire 2017/18 academic year.

Please see the following link for the donors form: <http://bit.ly/2y2HCzw>

Other

School Calendar

Regularly check the school calendar online link: <http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/calendar>

NOTE: Dates are continuously added and possibly changed throughout the year. Please check the online school calendar regularly.

Founders on Social Media!

Be sure to follow Founders on Facebook here:



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

Founders' Facebook Volunteering Parents Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1527282857342512/>

Be sure to follow Founders on Twitter here:



Check out Founders Youtube Channel here:





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