



September 8, 2017

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From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

We had two inspiring Opening Ceremonies yesterday to officially start the school year! One was for Middle School and the other was for High School. A special thank you Messrs. Gaumont and Van Ewyk for organizing both. The programs included Manchester Mayor Ted Gatsas, and two phenomenal student Poet Laureates (one for middle school and one for high school). Here are the student written and delivered poems:

A New Year

By: Charlotte F. (Middle School)

The Founders Academy
Our amazing school
Run by amazing people
Who teach us tool after tool.

Leadership. Science.
Mathematics too.
History. Art. Writing.
Always learning something new.

In my class and your class,
Morning, noon, or night
Teachers work hard to prepare
A lesson that's just right.

So persevere and do your best.
Say thank you to the teachers who never seem to rest.
This is Founders at its best , the best you've ever seen
So cheer, "hip, hip, hurray!" for 2017!

Look who's come to dinner!

By: Jessica B. (High School)

The day has come where we gather around the table
For it has been a long, difficult season.
and though days weren't always bright,

We still made it through
And every morning is another opportunity to start over.
And look who's come to dinner!
The ones who have fought long hard battles for our freedom, so we may
thank them
Look who's come to dinner!
The ones who have been discriminated against, so we may join hands in
unity
Look who's come to dinner!
The ones who aspire to be the next leaders, so we may encourage them
Look who's come to dinner!
The ones who have disagreed on worldly issues, so we may resolve our
conflicts
And though we may not agree on everything, we come to the table to
Learn to forgive,
Learn to lead, and
Learn to live.
And this is what we're all about.

Thank you for your support! Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

From the Assistant Director of Student Services: Blue Whale Challenge



Welcome back everyone! It has been so enjoyable meeting you this week!

Part of Student Services is ensuring that all our students are safe in and out of school, and that parents are aware of the latest trends that can threaten student safety.

Apparently there is an online “challenge game” called the [Blue Whale](#) is affecting people around the world. This is an example of online predation of our young population. In this “challenge game” a “curator” of sorts prompts people to take part in a variety of 50 specific activities which include self-harm with a final “challenge” of suicide to the participant. This very scary online “challenge game” is circling the globe and we want parents to be aware of it and looking for threats like these to our young population. Please read more about it on [CNN](#). The Student Services department will continue to pass along information like this to our students and families to keep everyone abreast of pertinent topics in our world especially ones that threaten our students.

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

School News

The Founders Academy Opening Ceremonies for 2017-2018

The assemblies to kick off the 2017-2018 school year were a success! Dean Mooney gave remarks, there were new teacher introductions, and our student Poet Laureates, Charlotte F. and Jessica B. recited their compositions about the start of the school year. We also received a visit from two special guests - **David Quigley**, from the New Hampshire Department of Education, and Manchester **Mayor Ted Gatsas**, who spoke to both the high school and middle school students. Here's to a great year!



Student Spotlights: Students' Summer Mission Trip to Ghana, Africa

Here is how students Aidan and Blaise M. spent part of their summer . . .

June 21st – July 1st, 2017

Our ten-day trip with Vision International Mission (VIM) based right here in Manchester, NH afforded us the opportunity to serve in a part of the world that is often referred to as the “worst place in the world to be disabled.”

The purpose of our trip was to help serve the needs of a new orphanage for children with special needs called Step By Step Worldwide.

As we visited with Step By Step and other special homes, we learned that children in Ghana and most other parts of Africa born with special needs are considered to be “cursed.”

As a consequence, these children are abandoned and in some cases even worse. We met children that

were blind, deaf, born without arms and/or legs and dealing with many other needs such as cerebral palsy, down syndrome, autism and sickle cell anemia to mention a few.

These children wanted nothing more than to be noticed, held, played with and treated with respect and dignity. Most of our time was spent with the kids helping care for them, playing with them and getting to know them to determine how future teams from the U.S. can support their many needs.

A few pictures copied below of our trip with these special kids. If you are interested in learning more about Step by Step and how you can help support this special home that now has three children with more on the way, please click on the following link: [Step By Step Worldwide](#)

Thank you to those of you that helped to support this life changing trip this past summer!

Aidan & Blaise M.



"Cinderella" the Musical - Auditions

Interested in participating in Founders Academy's first musical? We will be performing a production of "Cinderella" and leading, secondary, and choral roles are all available.

Information and auditions are Sept. 11 OR Sept. 13. We will ask performers to read from the script and sing something acappella. Sign ups for those interested in technical positions will also be available.

Rehearsals are on Tues & Thursdays beginning Sept. 19th 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm.

For information contact Ms. Cormier @ j.cormier@tfanh.org

View the poster [HERE](#).



Introduction: Lucyna Mateja

Founders is pleased to welcome Ms. Lucyna Mateja as a French teacher! Ms. Mateja will be a member of the World Language Department. Her office will be #174, and her email address isl.mateja@tfanh.org. Welcome, Ms. Mateja!



Lucyna joined the Founders Academy in 2017 after successfully teaching French and Spanish at Triton Regional High School in Byfield, Mass. She has previously taught French and Spanish at Mount Alvernia High School in Newton, MA, Newburyport High School, and Whittier Technical School in Haverhill, MA. Lucyna's passion for foreign languages began at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Poland) and culminated with a Master of Arts in French from Tufts University (2006). Along this journey she earned a B.S. summa cum laude in international business from the Southern University of New Hampshire and put it to practice at Harvard Medical International in Boston, Mass.

Lucyna made a commitment to sharing her love of foreign languages during a Summer Study at the Sorbonne University in Paris, France. When she is not speaking French, Spanish or English, Lucyna also uses Polish and Russian when traveling abroad. Her other interests include active membership in the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) and the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association (MaFLA)

Lucyna lives with her husband in North Andover, MA and has two adult children.

Back to School Night and Parent Portal Training (Signup Information) - Sept. 21

Please know that teachers are planning a Back to School Night and Parent Portal training for September 21 from 4-7pm. This is a great way to meet your students' teachers and get more familiar with the portal.

To receive the portal training, **you must sign up for a session** (one parent per household only). To do so, follow this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e48a9ae2faaff2-parent1>

Volunteer Opportunities/Donations/Fundraising

Outreach Committee Meeting

Dear Parents,

If you are interested in volunteering and getting involved with the school please plan to attend the Outreach Meeting.

When: Thursday September 14th at 5pm

Where: The Founders Academy

Agenda: November calendar raffle and Review of 2017-2018 Events calendar

Wanted: Substitute Teachers, Lunch & Study Hall Monitors

Founders is seeking volunteer substitute teachers, study hall monitors, and lunch monitors! If you are interested in helping Founders for full days, half days or even a period or two, please contact Nena Bliss at 603.952.4705 or nena.bliss@tfanh.org. We'll add you to the list!

Most Needed Items for Back to School!

As many of you know, The Founders Academy relies heavily on contributions and donations from generous parents, friends, and members of our community. Currently, we are in greatest need of the following items as we head into another school year:

Printer Paper (Staples has great deals on cases of paper right now: see this [link](#).)

Clorox Wipes

Plastic Spoons and Forks

Dry Erase Markers/Erasers

Snacks and lunches for the Food Pantry

Latex Gloves

Power Strips

Brooms and Dustpans

Follow this [link](#) for more needed items. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Donors Choose - FULLY FUNDED, THANK YOU!

The donors choose project featured below has been fully funded! A huge thank you to all who contributed!

Dear Parents,

As of today (8/30) we only have 11 days left to fund this project. I want to make sure my students have the materials they need to succeed in computer science through exploration of creating their own mobile apps. We will be using these devices in our Tech 1 & AP Mobile Computer Science Principles courses.

[*There's an App for That and a Student Made it..*](#)

If you chip in to help my students, you'll get awesome photos and our heartfelt thanks.

*Thanks so much,
Ms. Marcotte*

P.S. If you know anyone who may want to help my classroom, please pass this along!

Important School Information

Signing Into Founders Email - Important!!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you haven't done so already, it is imperative that you sign into your @tfanh.org email account as soon as possible. This is the only way the school can email you, and it gives you access to the Portal and Google Classroom information, messages, and updates. To do so, please go to Gmail and enter the email and password we provided you. If you have any issues and/or cannot get into your email or the portal, please contact lauren.brouillette@tfanh.org.

Back to School Forms

Please be watching your emails for the back-to-school forms, which must be filled out by the close of business on Friday, September 15th.

Thank you!

Manchester Busing Questions and Concerns

Thank you for for patience and understanding as we begin a new school year! I would like to address common questions and clear up confusion.

- 1) Busing is determined annually and does not continue over from the previous school year.
- 2) The Manchester School District determines bus assignments and stops annually and may vary annually.
- 3) Parent/Guardian(s) may submit a change in bus stop, address, etc in writing to the Founders Academy via Nena Bliss (nenabliss@tfanh.org).

 [MTA Bus Exception Form.pdf](#)

- 4) Students may not ride the bus unless they have a bus assignment.
- 5) Students may not ride the bus to any other bus stop than they are assigned, regardless of a note. Parent/guardian(s) must make other transportation arrangements.
- 6) High school bus riders need a bus pass, available for purchase at The Founders Academy front desk for \$8.50 (1 ticket = 10 rides).

Nena Bliss is happy to answer any busing questions or confirm busing assignments, please call the school. (603-952-4705)

Early Dismissal

I Period ends/J Period begins at 2:15 PM. Please be advised that **2:30 PM is the latest parents can dismiss their students in the front office**. After 2:30 PM, parents are asked to pick up in the normal in the traffic pattern. This due to traffic safety and class interruptions.

Medications in School

Students may not carry over the counter or prescription medications (including Epipens and inhalers) at school. Please leave the medication and doctor note (prescription) OR parent note (over the counter) with Nena Bliss at the front desk.

Dress Code

Please review the Founders Academy Dress Code, as detailed in section 3.7 of the [Student Handbook](#).

Absent/Tardy Students

Please remember to email attendance@tfanh.org if your child is absent. Additionally, five half days of unexcused absence or three full days of unexcused absence are regarded as habitual truancy. Please

review the Founders' entire Attendance Policy in the handbook section 3.2 [here](#).

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:

