February 12, 2021

PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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From the Dean of School

Greetings Founders Community,

As a reminder, there is NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 15th for presidents day. The rest of the week will follow a regular schedule:

Tuesday: Tuesday classes with Cohort A in the building
Wednesday: Remote office hours
Thursday: Thursday classes with Cohort A in the building
Friday: Friday classes with Cohort A in the building

Here is some history about the Presidents Day Holiday.

-Cassie Hayes
Dean of School

THE FOUNDERS MISSION STATEMENT

The Founders Academy is a public chartered school encompassing grades 6 - 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

Need to Know

VIRTUAL INFORMATION NIGHTS

Founders will be hosting a variety of info night sessions on certain Wednesday nights during the coming months. Below is a schedule of the events along with a brief description. Zoom links will be provided on the school calendar on the website and hyperlinked to this document as the events get closer. All events will start at 5 pm.

Date	Who	Zoom Event	Zoom Link
2/17/2021	Board of Trustees	Board meeting- 5:30pm	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234185851?pwd=NTNjd

			EdvZTdDTzcyNUNQc1NmVWxhZz09
2/24/2021	Admissions Department	Admissions info night	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84784029667?pwd=TGVNdlhTVUxmOTYycGpuMzNkUE16dz09
3/3/2021	Admissions Department	Admissions Open House	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84784029667?pwd=TGVNdlhTVUxmOTYycGpuMzNkUE16dz09
3/17/2021	Board of Trustees	Board meeting - 5:30pm	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85234185851?pwd=NTNjdEdvZTdDTzcyNUNQc1NmVWxhZz09

QUARTER 3 ROTATION SCHEDULE

Students in grades 7-10 who chose the in-building option have been assigned to either Cohort A or Cohort B. Your cohort assignment was sent to you in a previous email. If you did not receive your cohort assignment please contact Lori Ragas (lori.ragas@tfanh.org).

The following information is for those who were assigned a cohort; all other readers may disregard this message.

Students in Cohort A:
Will work from the building on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday -
February 1 - February 5
February 16 - February 19 (Feb. 15 is a holiday for all)
March 8 - March 12
March 22 - March 26 (March 22 and 26 will be testing days)

Will work remotely -
January 25 - January 29
February 8 - February 12
March 1 - March 5
March 15 - March 19
March 29 - April 2

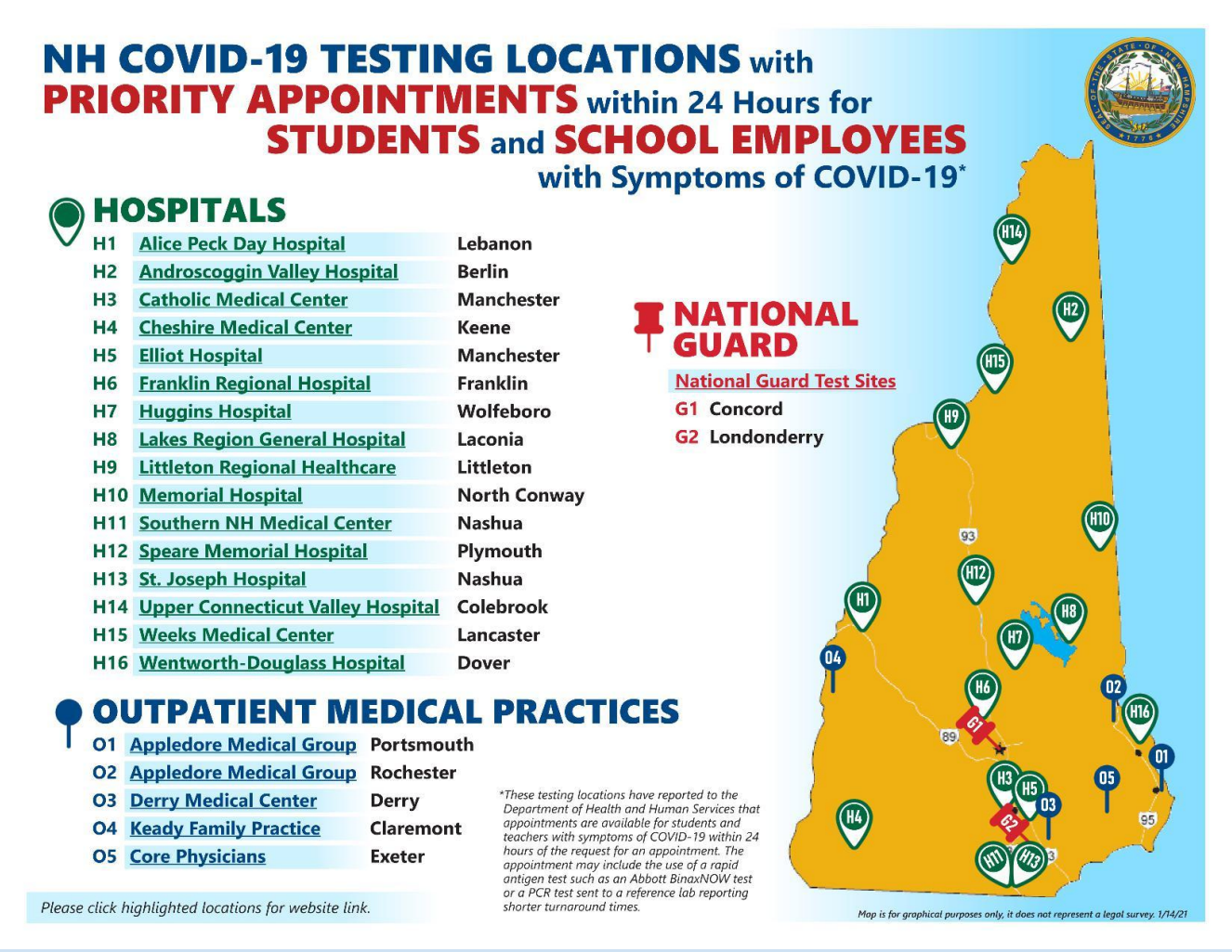
Students in Cohort B:
Will work from the building Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday -
January 25 - January 29
February 8 - February 12
March 1 - March 5

March 15 - March 19
March 29 - April 2

Will work remotely -
February 1 - February 5
February 16 - February 19 (Feb. 15 is a holiday for all)
March 8 - March 12
March 22 - March 26

COVID TESTING PRIORITY FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

Health and Human Services has made arrangements with specific locations across the state to prioritize students and school employees for COVID testing within 24 hours. This arrangement was made to expedite information that may help you in your contact identification and response. Additional information about testing can be found here.



School News

PTSG March Madness - Hoops Mania

The PTSG is selling $10 sweepstakes tickets for those who would like to follow along with the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament starting on March 18. No basketball knowledge required, just the desire to win some $$ and support our school in the process. We have a limited number of tickets to sell and sales will end on Friday, March 5.

Here is a video to help explain the process. Once you receive your card(s) you must log onto this website and activate it with your information. Each card purchased has a unique code that you can enter at anytime online. Along with your entry into the game as an added bonus you will also receive $10 worth of free music downloads should you choose to use it.

Just prior to the start of the tournament you will be assigned 8 teams randomly and track their scores at the end of each game, tally them and win cash prizes based on the results. You can sign up via email or download an app to track your progress. The PTSG will be following along with your activated card(s) as well and be notified should you win any of the prizes and your winnings will be mailed to you.

We thank you for your support and participation in this new fundraiser. Please reach out directly to Maria Hawkins (maria.hawkins@tfanh.org) or Cassie McNelly (cassie.mcnelly@tfanh.org) with any questions. Here is the link to purchase a ticket.

Winter Games Night

Winter Games Night will be held on February 19, 2021.

Middle school 3:45-5:45pm
High school 6-8pm

We hope to see you there!

Screaming Eagles Ski Club

Session Two registration is open! AND MOVING TO FRIDAY NIGHTS!
This has been such a great experience for our group! Thanks to COVID regulations, parents can get a CHAPERONE pass and rentals for free.
You can sign up your students for lessons OR for OPEN SKI if they don't need lessons and just want to ski with friends. Let me know if you have any questions.

See flier here.

PTSG Restaurant Night

From February 18 from 4-8pm the PTSG is having a fundraiser at the Panera Bread in Manchester. If you buy anything at Panera between those hours, part of the proceeds go to the PTSG. Click here for the flyer to present at the register.

Winter Spirit Week

Winter Spirit Week!

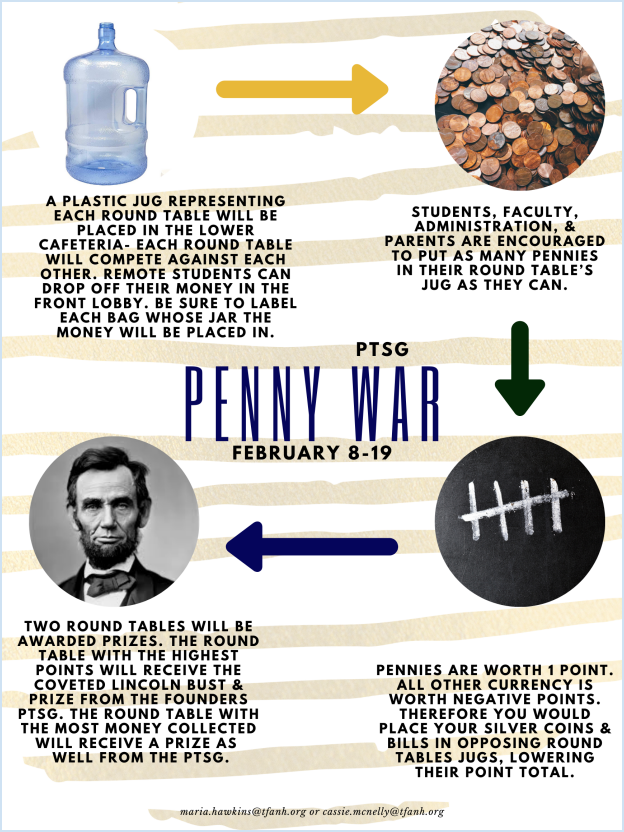
Tuesday, February 16th- Crazy Hair Day!
Thursday, February 18th - Hawaiian Luau Day!
Friday, February 19th- Hat Day!

All students are welcome to participate whether in the building or remote! In the spring there will be another Spirit Week for those students who were on the remote schedule during this Spirit Week.

If you have any questions please see Mrs. Meilleur or Ms. Robichaud.

Penny War

The PTSG is having a penny war from February 8 to February 19. A jug will be placed in each Round Table classroom for the students, teachers, and faculty to fill. Remote students can drop off their pennies in a bag in the front vestibule. Be sure to label the money with the Round Table jug you would like to fill. Pennies are one point, and any other coins count as negative points and can be used against competition. Two Round Tables will win prizes.



*NOTE: The dates have changed to February 8 - February 19 due to the transition to the RED model.

Student Senate Snow Sculpture Contest

The Student Senate will be holding a snow sculpture contest from February 1 to February 28. Both students and staff are allowed to participate. This contest will be divided into two parts: Middle School and High School. Staff can participate by listing the grade of their roundtable. One winner will be chosen from each group and will win 1/4 of the money made by this event. Judges in the Senate will narrow down the entries from each group to 15, and from there the student body can vote on their favorites. Each entry into the contest costs $4 but you can submit as many as you want. Entries into the contest can be snowmen, snow creatures, or snow sculptures. Entries for the contest can be made before the start of the contest but can't be submitted until the official start date of the contest. For more information please see one of our ads.

Other

Bill to Increase Charter Lease Aid

The HB521-FN bill would increase the cap on charter school lease aid from $30,000 to $50,000 per school. It's been scheduled for a public hearing in the House Finance Committee on Tuesday, February 16 at 10:30 am. Please consider signing in support of this bill. Directions on how to sign the bill can be found here.

Essay Contest

This year, the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education's annual essay contest theme is propaganda during the Holocaust. The deadline for submission is March 30, 2021. Click here for more information.

NH Tech Alliance

The NH Tech Alliance is offering a behind the scenes look into technology careers for students! This 3 day event is a great opportunity to get a better understanding of what these professions look like & how to get there. Click here to register.

Palace Theatre February Virtual Vacation Camp

New Hampshire Scholars Information

Is your student interested in becoming a New Hampshire Scholar?

“New Hampshire Scholars are high school students who have pledged to complete the State Scholars Core Course of Study, a specific sequence of academic courses in English, math, science, social studies, and foreign language.

“The New Hampshire Scholars philosophy is based on the belief that it is better to be successful in an academically challenging course than to get a higher grade in an easier course. Why take harder courses? Because the more you challenge yourself now, the more prepared you will be in the future. And that means greater success in all you do. Your brain, like all other muscles in your body, needs to be challenged and exercised to remain sharp thus preparing it for future use.”

Requirements to Become a New Hampshire Scholar
NH Scholars Incentives
-Scholarships to NH Colleges & Universities
-Application Fee Waivers
Please see your school counselor if you have any questions!

Admissions

Refer-a-Friend to The Founders Academy

Calling all TFA students and families! Admissions is open for the 2021-2022 school year and we know word of mouth from our students and families is our best, most effective marketing! Share what you love about The Founders Academy with a friend, neighbor, or teammate and when someone you know attends a Virtual Open House and completes the TFA online application package, you’ll receive a FREE TFA water bottle!

Have more than one friend that’s applied to TFA? For each additional referral that attends a Virtual Open House and submits a completed application, you’ll be entered into a drawing to win a FREE TFA sweatshirt!

We’ll pull the winner of the sweatshirt on March 15, 2021 when admissions closes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Questions? Please contact Sue Forsyth at susan.forysth@tfanh.org for more information.

The online application now includes a field for a referral name. Make sure the families you know include your name in this area when applying to get credit for this incentive.

Thank you for helping us spread the word about our great school!

College

Virtual Events: UNH, Keene State, & Plymouth State

The University of New Hampshire, Keene State College, and Plymouth State University are hosting several virtual events throughout the Spring in hopes of connecting with students and families.

Wednesday, February 17
Wednesday, March 17
Wednesday, April 21
Wednesday, May 19

Each of these events will take place from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. If you are interested, please pre-register by clicking this link. There will be a student from each campus to share their experiences living and learning amidst the virus and how everyone in those communities has been able to carry on while keeping each other safe. If you have any questions, please see your school counselor.

College Board Opportunity Scholarships Starting Now!

Class of 2022 - Complete these six college planning steps for six separate chances at $500. When you finish all six, you'll be entered into a drawing for a $40,000 scholarship, but you can still earn money even if you don't complete them all.

1. Build your college list - $5000
    - Open December-July of your junior year
2. Practice for the SAT - $1,000
    - Open December of junior year through October of senior year
3. Improve your Score - $2,000
    - Open April of junior year through January of senior year
4. Strengthen your College List - $500
    - Open August through October of senior year
5. Complete the FAFSA - $1,000
    - Open October through February of senior year
6. Apply to Colleges - $1,000
    - Open October through February of senior year

Click here for more information, or see your school counselor!

Action Steps for Seniors

Last Call! The **Improve Your Score Scholarship** closes at the end of January.

Complete the FAFSA - closes end of February
Seniors who fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) will earn an entry to this scholarship.

Apply to Colleges - closes end of February
Students who apply to two or more colleges will earn an entry to this scholarship.

Action Steps for Juniors

Build Your College List
Open Through June
Students who create and save a college list on BigFuture™ with six or more schools will earn an entry to this scholarship.

Practice for the SAT

Open Through October
Students who start using Official SAT® Practice on Khan Academy® by completing a Timed Mini Section (if they already have a PSAT-related assessment or SAT score) or Diagnostic Quiz (if they don't yet have a score) will earn an entry to this scholarship.

For Parents/Guardians of High School Students: SCOIR College Network

SCOIR (pronounced “score”) is a customized, secure network that helps support post-secondary, college and career planning for high school students. It is designed to assist students and their parents/guardians in making informed decisions about college opportunities and career choices.

We will be using it as a tool for these purposes with students in grade 9-12. Parents/guardians of high school students will also have individual accounts that are connected to their student’s account. If you haven’t already done so, please check your emails for invitations to join SCOIR. If you deleted the email or for some reason didn’t receive it, please email your child’s school counselor to have the email resent. You will be prompted to create a username and password. Once you do so, feel free to browse around.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns at all!

Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship

Do you want the chance for your student to win a $40,000 scholarship and a paid programming internship at Amazon? Applications are open now! Eligibility for this award:

1. Completed a computer science course in high school
2. Plan to pursue a bachelor’s degree in computer science
3. High school senior in the US
4. US citizen or permanent resident
5. Employees and immediate family members of Amazon.com and its subsidiaries are not eligible to apply

Deadline to apply is February 18, 2021 at 4 pm.

Donations

Bridge the Gap

So far we have collected approximately $7,000 for our Bridge the Gap fundraiser! A few Founders art students created this painting to help us keep track of the money we received and continue to receive, as this is an ongoing fundraiser this year.

Annual Fund Drive Update

Thanks to your generosity, we have already exceeded our goal of raising $6,000 for the school! We are very excited about this and grateful to everyone who has donated. Our new goal is $10,000, and we know with the amazing community of family and friends we have here at this school, we can meet this goal! You can donate through the PayPal link or by sending your donation to the school with your student. Donations can be dropped off at the front desk any time.

Most Needed Items

Check out the link for a list of the Art Department's most needed donations:

Most Needed Items List

Founders On Social Media

Follow Us!

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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