

January 21, 2022

PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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From the Dean of School

Dean Hayes's Weekly Message



Greetings Founders Community,

First and foremost I would like to thank all teachers, staff, students, parents, and substitutes for their patience and support this week. We have had several teachers and staff members out and everyone has jumped in to help wherever they are needed. We are very lucky to be a part of such a great community.

We will be transitioning to a fully remote schedule for the week of 1/24 through 1/27 (1/28 is a PD day) due to too many staff members being out with COVID-related situations to operate the building safely. We anticipate being able to return to full in-person learning on Monday 1/31.

- 1. Monday is the start of the new semester. Student schedules will be sent to parents this week and will be in the student portals by Sunday morning. Students should check their portal to review any schedule changes that may have occurred. If there are any issues with your schedule, you will need to email your counselor or Mr. McKenzie.
- 2. Students will work from home Monday through Thursday. There is no school Friday because of a previously scheduled teacher workshop day.
- 3. Students should use Google Classroom/Canvas and/or email to get information each block from their teachers.
- 4. Students and teachers will follow their regular schedule every day Monday through Thursday, including Round Table. There are no requirements for study hall. Attendance will be taken each morning in A period. If a student cannot participate remotely due to illness or other situations, please email attendance@tfanh.org.

We will keep you updated as we go through the week. As always, please reach out with any questions.

-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

PARENT EXEMPTION FORM STATE TESTING

If you would prefer to exempt your student from taking state testing, please click on this link. To fill out the form you can either print it and send it into school with your student, or you can make a copy of the document (click File in the left-hand corner, then click Make a Copy), fill it out, and email it to cassie.hayes@tfanh.org.

SCHOOL MD CONSENT FORM

As you are aware, we have medical personnel on staff from 7am to 10am every day. From 10am-3pm they are now offering remote services for us to access. If a student needs minor medical assistance, like a COVID test or other diagnostic services, we call the parent for consent. To expedite this process, we have created a form that parents can fill out to give us consent for our medical personnel to work with students.

<u>Here</u> is the consent form. Once you click the link, a message will pop up saying "Would you like to make a copy of the document?" **Please make sure you click the blue button that says "Make a copy."** This will ensure that you can fill out the document.

Completed forms can be emailed or dropped off to the front desk.

POSITIONS OPEN

We are looking to fill these following positions:

Paraprofessional

If you are interested in any of these positions or know of anyone who would be interested, resumes can be sent to Dean Hayes at cassie.hayes@tfanh.org.

SASS RESULT ACCOUNT LOG-IN

To find your students' SASS results, follow these instructions to log in to your account.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE/AFTERNOON HOMEWORK CLUB

Notice: When you send in a check or cash for before school care and/or homework club, please specify on the check or the envelope which dates you are paying for and if you are paying for before school care, homework club, or both.

Founders offers before and after school care for students. These programs will start the first day of school. Before school care allows for students to be dropped off at 7am (as opposed to regular drop off at 7:20). After school care, Homework Club, runs from 3:15-6:00pm. Students will have academic and social/emotional support during Homework Club.

To join these programs, please fill out this form.

CALL LIST FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

When The Founders Academy has to make very important announcements - such as school delays, unplanned early dismissals, or cancellations - we use an automated dialing system. Due to this year's pandemic, it is especially important for parents/guardians to receive these calls so that we can quickly distribute information regarding our school.

Please fill out this form to be added to the Call List. You are able to enter which phone numbers are called. If you have more than one student, please fill out a separate form for each. We begin each school year with a blank call list, so if you do not fill out this form, you will not receive any phone notifications when we have school delays or cancellations (even if you filled this out last year).

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED



The Founders Academy Public Charter School seeks paid substitute teachers for middle and high school for the 2021-2022 school year!

Subjects covered can vary. Both day by day and permanent positions available: hours are 7:30 AM

until 3:30PM. The rate is \$75/per day.

Please send resume and recommendations to Jackie Meilleur, The Founders Academy, 5 Perimeter Road, Manchester, NH 03103 or <u>j.meilleur@tfanh.org</u>.

SAVE THE DATES

What:	When:
Remote Learning Week	January 24-27
No School - Teacher Workshop	January 28

2021/22 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Calendar for the 2021/22 school year. Updated 10/22/2021

http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/calendar/2021 - 22 school calendar

School News

Valentine's Day Gorilla Grams!

Hello Founders Academy Families!

The National Junior Honor Society is selling Valentine's Day Gorilla Grams for \$5 each. The gorilla gram includes Valentine-themed candy, a small stuffed gorilla, and a custom message that will be delivered to your student. The gorilla grams will be delivered to the students at their Round Tables on February 14. If you would like to purchase a gram for your student, then please fill out the Google form. The PayPal link can be found here. Again, there is only a limited quantity! Deadline is February 4, 2022. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the National Junior Honor Society. Thank you!

Free At-Home COVID Tests

Four free at-home COVID tests per family can be ordered here through a new, nationwide initiative launched this week.

NHDOE Interviews

Currently, the charter school program at NHDOE is being monitored by USED, in a similar fashion to how our program conducts onsite monitoring visits with each of our school grantees. Part of the federal monitoring process is for contractors from WestEd to speak with CSP grantees. Our school has been selected through the USED review process to participate in a virtual interview.

The contractors from USED are not monitoring our school as a grantee, but rather, they are interviewing grantees to evaluate NHDOE's compliance with federal requirements through their

partnership with each of you. You may feel free to answer openly and share feedback and information as you see fit.

For parents, they will ask about their history with the school - what attracted them, how they enrolled, what types of activities and services their student(s) participate in. For teachers, they will ask about how long they have taught at the school, what their background is, what types of curriculum they use, and about their PD experiences. Both interviews help give them the perspective of different stakeholders at the school.

If you are interested in participating in these interviews on February 10 from 4-4:30 virtually, please let Dean Hayes know ASAP.

Winter Game Nights

The high school senate is looking for donations for the winter game nights, which are postponed until further notice. If you are able to donate please take a look at the sign-up genius <u>here.</u>

Senior Project Assembly

As part of a student's senior project, an assembly is being held to teach students and staff members about anxiety. The presentation is sourced from a representative of NAMI (National Association of Mental Illness). It will include warning signs, facts, and how to get help for themselves or a friend. The presentation will be on a date to be decided. If there are any questions about this presentation please feel free to reach out Ms. Cote at e.cote@tfanh.org (project advisor) or Halie Breault at halie.breault@tfanh.org (senior).

Standardized Test Schedule 2021-2022

SAT/PSAT/SAS (ELA & Math)

- 3/23 (Wed) Grade 8 (PSAT); Grade 9 (PSAT); Grade 11 (SAT)
- 4/13 (Wed) Grade 7 (SAS); Grade 10 (PSAT) 125 Total Students
- 4/20 (Wed) Grade 8 (SAS); Grade 9 & 11 (PSAT & SAT Makeups)
- Anytime in April/May Grade 6 (SAS) Rest of school will have normal day(s)

If students are not testing on these days, they will NOT have school.

SAS Science (During normal school day; Held during normally scheduled Science classes)

- Grade 8
 - 5/4 & 5/5 (Wednesday/Thursday)
- Grade 11
 - 5/11 (Wednesday)

SASS Testing - Asymptomatic COVID Testing

Convenient MD and The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services has partnered with The Founders Academy to offer the Safer at School Screening (SASS) Program for this school year.

With a common goal of full, in-person learning in mind, Convenient MD will be performing free COVID-19 testing of asymptomatic students, staff, and faculty on a bi-weekly basis at Founders. Parents and staff must opt in to this program to be tested.

If you would like to opt in to this program for your child, please click here.

Admissions

Enrollment for 2022-2023 School Year

On Wednesday, September 15, 2021, The Founders Academy public charter school opened admissions for the 2022-2023 school year. To apply for admission, visit our website at www.thefoundersacademy.org.

The deadline for applications and associated materials to be submitted is March 15, 2022.

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

Clubs and Programs

Memorial Ski Team

Any eligible student interested in the Memorial High School Ski Team should contact Coach John Rist directly for more information.

John Rist - rist john@yahoo.com

or text to (603)345-0209

After the new year, we will practice at McIntyre Ski Area on Mondays & Wednesdays. Meets are on Thursdays. All the meets are at Pat's Peak.

Participation is free for students who live in the Memorial School district.

Sewing Club

Sewing Club will be held every Tuesday after school in the sewing room across from the back hallway bathrooms until 4:30. If you have any questions, please email Gini Nichols at g.nichols@tfanh.org.

Theatre Club

Theatre Club meets Thursday afternoons directly after school until 4:45. Pick-up will be at the back right corner of the school.

PTSG Club

Part of the Parent Teacher Student Group (PTSG) mission is to promote student leadership through various activities throughout the school and to provide opportunities for family engagement. The PTSG is proud to offer an after school club running on Mondays from 3:15 - 4:00pm. Open to students of all grades interested in learning leadership, group dynamics, supporting and developing plans for student and family engagement. The group will be promoting school activities, planning and staffing events, and will have the option of participating in volunteer opportunities. If you want more information, please contact PTSG@tfanh.org.

Other

COVID Vaccine Sites for Children

If you have children ages 5-11 and you would like them to get the COVID vaccine, click <u>here</u> for a list of pharmacy sites around New Hampshire that offer the vaccine for those ages.

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

Bridge the Gap

Information on the 2021-22 Bridge the Gap fundraiser is coming soon!



Founders On Social Media

Follow Us!

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:





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