

September 10, 2021

PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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From the Dean of School



Greetings Founders Community,

Wow, what a great first week of school! It was amazing to have the buzz of eager learners back in our hallways. We have so many new faces, I cannot wait to get to know everyone!

Thank you all for being patient this week. All of your inquiries are important and we are doing our best to get back to you in a timely manner. I know several of you have had trouble getting through on the phones, we are working on the issue. We hope to have this issue resolved by next week.

Besides email, we use social media as an additional way to communicate with families. Please review this documentation which explains how Facebook pages are used.

-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

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).

BUSING INFORMATION

Here is detailed information regarding busing:

- The shuttle bus will leave Memorial HS no later than 7:10am every morning.
- The shuttle bus will leave Cardinal Lacroix Academy no later than 7:15am every morning.
- Students can be driven to Memorial HS or Cardinal Lacroix to pick up the bus.

All students/parents should fill out the Transportation Exception Request Form found here: http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Forms/2020-2021-MT
A-Bus.pdf and email it to lorin.org. If you submitted your form after July 15, you may not have a neighborhood stop that is close to your home at this time. Please submit the form if you haven't already so that the Manchester Transit Authority (MTA) can readjust bus routes within the first two weeks of school.

If a student is in the Central HS or West HS district, they will pick up the Cardinal Lacroix/Founders bus at one of these neighborhood stops found at this link:

http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Students/081921%20 CARDINAL%20LACROIX%20to%20FOUNDERS%20Shuttle.pdf

They may also be driven to (or walk to) Cardinal Lacroix Academy and be shuttled to Founders from there.

If a student is in the Memorial HS district, they will pick up the Memorial HS/Founders bus at one of these neighborhood stops found at this link:

http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Students/081921%20 MEMORIAL%201-4%20ROUTES%20to%20FOUNDERS.pdf

They can also be driven to (or walk to) Memorial HS and be shuttled to Founders from there.

If parents have any questions about their routes, they can go to Founders website at: http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/home and look for the big yellow school bus and click on the link there. Or they can go to the Manchester School District website at: https://www.mansd.org/ and click on the yellow school bus there.

It is advised by the Manchester Transit Authority to check the route one last time the day before school starts on September 8 for any changes in times or locations that might have been made.

HOMEWORK CLUB/ BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

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. PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE NO AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ON SEPTEMBER 16, WHICH INCLUDES HOMEWORK CLUB.

To join these programs, please fill out this form.

REOPENING PLAN

The full plan can be viewed on <u>our website</u>. Please note the mask requirement will be flexible based on school and community transmission. As changes occur, they will be communicated through this newsletter. For the first day of school, the plan for mask requirement is below.

- Masks are REQUIRED when entering the building, walking in the hallways, and in community locations (such as bathrooms and cafeteria) unless the student or employee is eating or drinking.
- Masks are REQUIRED when a 3ft distance can not be maintained. This will be enforced by teachers and staff.
- Masks are NOT REQUIRED when a student or employee can maintain a 3ft distance.
 (example, when a student is seated at their desk and 3ft from others)
- Masks are NOT REQUIRED outdoors.
- Masks are always an option even when not required.

BACK TO SCHOOL FORM: READY TO COMPLETE

By now, you should have received the Back to School form in your emails. Please fill out this form as soon as possible! If you have not received the form, please email lori.ragas@tfanh.org

PARENT EMAIL OPTIONS

This year Founders will allow parents the option of using a Founders email address or a personal email address. The Back to School form will ask parents to specify preference. Please know if you choose not to have an @tfanh.org email address, you must type your email address in accurately to get emails from our school. Additionally, you will not be able to communicate with your student through his/her Founders email address. All students will have Founders email addresses and students are only allowed to receive emails from the @tfanh.org domain. If a parent already has their portal account set up with their @tfanh.org email address and chooses to use a personal email address instead, the portal will need to be reactivated, which we will do throughout the month of August.

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED



The Founders Academy Public Charter School seeks paid substitute teachers for middle and high school for the upcoming 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 j.meilleur@tfanh.org.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES LIST/ENGLISH READING LIST

Here is a compiled list of school supplies your student will need for the upcoming school year. Please keep in mind that this is not a complete list and you may have to check the syllabus for specific teachers if you don't see a particular course on this list. Check back periodically as more may be added throughout the next couple of weeks.

6th graders are **required** to purchase the \$5 agenda book provided by the school. 7th and 8th graders are **required** to have an agenda book but have the option of purchasing the one provided by the school or one of their choice.

Click <u>here</u> for the updated English Required Reading List.

SAVE THE DATES

What:	When:
School Board Meeting	Wednesday, September 15

Thursday, September 16
Tuesday, September 21
Thursday, September 23
Thursday, September 23

2021/22 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Calendar for the 2021/22 school year.

2021/22 School Calendar

Calendar**pedia** Your source for calendars

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	June 2022										
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Approx. end-of-quarter dates: Q1 - 10/29; Q2 - 1/21; Q3 - 3/31; Q4 - 6/10 Graduation - 6/18

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

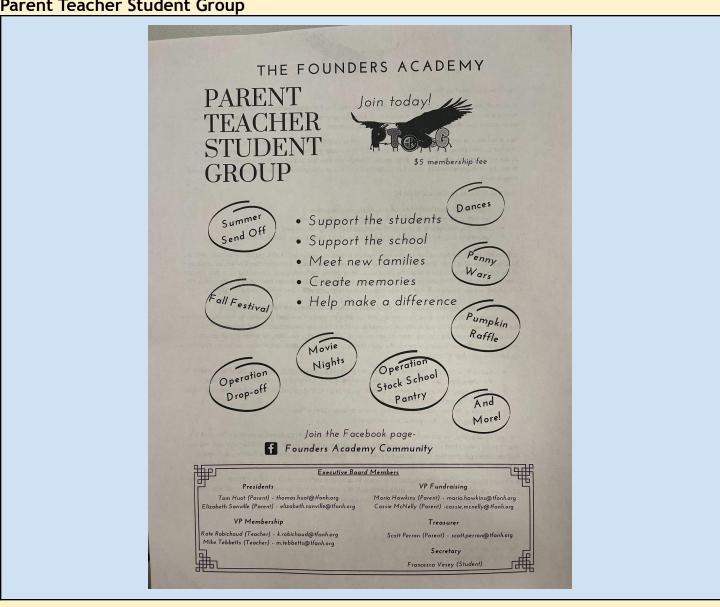
Federal holidays 2021/22

Oct 11, 2021	Columbus Day	Dec 24, 2021	Christmas Day (obs.)	Jan 1, 2022	New Year's Day	May 30, 2022	Memorial Day	
Nov 11, 2021	Veterans Day	Dec 25, 2021	Christmas Day	Jan 17, 2022	Martin Luther King Day	Jul 4, 2022	Independence Day	
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School News

Parent Teacher Student Group



Founders Academy Character and Leadership Run

The 1st Annual Founders Academy's Character and Leadership Run on Sunday, October 10, 2021 is a family-friendly community event that encourages people of all ages to get outside to run or walk this 1-mile course. All proceeds from this event benefit The Founders Academy Public Charter School. Click here to register yourself or your family! Would you, your business, or a business you know like to sponsor this event? Click here to learn more about the benefits of sponsorship and sign up to sponsor this event!

Many thanks to our Primary Event Sponsor, Northeast Delta Dental!



Common Scheduling Questions

Click <u>here</u> for answers to some scheduling questions you may have.

Final copies of schedules will go out on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Hard copies will be available for students on Tuesday morning when they get to Round Table.

<u>Features</u>

Best Charter School of the 603!

September 9, 2021 – Manchester, NH – The Founders Academy is honored to be named Gold Winner for Best Charter School in New Hampshire for 2021! The Manchester Radio group held a Best of 603 contest this summer to engage the community in celebrating places the community loves. Best of 603 had over 2,500 businesses, organizations, and individuals competing to be named in the top three spots of 243 categories. 51,000 votes were cast to determine bronze, silver, and gold level winners!



<u>Other</u>

Granite Gambit

As a result of the popular Netflix series, *The Queen's Gambit*, online chess has also become massively popular with Generation Z. In response to this, and in partnership with <u>Chess in Schools</u>, the department has launched our own Granite Gambit to bring chess to our students.

Through Chess in Schools, teachers can participate in professional development that will show them how to integrate the game of chess into their own instruction. We provide all of the materials and chess sets, including online access. The research is clear that when we engage students with their areas of interest, the learning is deeper and richer.

A gambit is defined as a device or action as a calculated risk to gain an advantage. Granite Gambit will give both educators and students an advantage. The program is fully funded, so there is no cost to the district. While some chess experience is helpful, it is not required. In fact, many if not most participating teachers in such programs start out with minimal chess knowledge.

To learn more about the Granite Gambit program, click here.

Fall Festival Pumpkin Raffle

THE FOUNDERS ACADEMY

2021 Fall Festival Pumpkin Raffle



\$500.00 Prize! \$25.00 per pumpkin Only 100 pumpkins sold!

Saturday October 16th, 2021

The winner will be drawn on October 16th. The remaining money raised will go towards The Founders Academy PTSG to help fund more events and projects for the school.



Please click here to purchase your pumpkin!

Afternoon Pick-Up Traffic

Afternoon pick-up instructions from Mrs. Nichols:

My name is Mrs. Nichols and I do afternoon pick-up traffic. You will see me with a sign that says either Stop/Walk or Drive.

STOP/WALK





The first week is sometimes chaotic, but it all works out quickly. I have some information to help you and I get through this.

- When you arrive at the school, if there are no cones up, drive slowly around to the last steps in the back.
- Please stay in your lane unless told otherwise.
- Please wait in your car.
- Please do not idle your car.
- Please have patience.
- Students will only be allowed to get in their car when the sign has been changed to Stop/walk.
- When the sign is changed to drive and have been waved on drive on.

If you have any questions I am happy to help.

Thanks,

Mrs. Nichols

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!



Donations

First Responder Bags - Thank You!!

Thanks to the quick response to our donation request, we have all the first responder bags we need! Thank you to everyone who donated!

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:



