



September 3, 2021

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER**

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**From the Dean of School**



Greetings Founders Community,

As we enter the unofficial “last weekend” of summer, I am getting more and more excited to see all the students back in the building. The start of school is an exciting and stressful time for parents, students, teachers, and administrators! I think we are all more heightened during a pandemic. Together, we can create a successful start to the school year!

On Tuesday, September 7, 2021 from 7:30-8:30, I will hold open office hours to answer any parent or student questions before the first day of school. Feel free to drop in the Zoom at any time to get your questions answered.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87423114821?pwd=NTdQYm0zZDVRYPnp5WnNvSGV5YWVZQT09>

-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](http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/mission___vision)

## Need to Know

### 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](http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Forms/2020-2021-MT A-Bus.pdf) and email it to [lori.ragas@tfanh.org](mailto:lori.ragas@tfanh.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%20CARDINAL%20LACROIX%20to%20FOUNDERS%20Shuttle.pdf](http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Students/081921%20CARDINAL%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%20MEMORIAL%201-4%20ROUTES%20to%20FOUNDERS.pdf](http://p8cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1207585/File/Students/081921%20MEMORIAL%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.

## FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Here is everything you need to know about the first week of school!

1. On the first day of school, September 8, 2021, we will run a modified schedule. For grades 7-12, the bell schedule can be found [here](#). Students will follow their FRIDAY schedule. 6th graders will follow the guidance of their teachers. EVERYONE will start in Round Table.
2. On Thursday, September 9, students will follow the regular Thursday schedule. See the bell schedule [here](#).
3. On Friday, September 10, students will follow the regular bell schedule following their MONDAY schedule.
4. Please review the [return to school plan](#) and mask requirements outlined in this newsletter. All students should enter the building with a mask and follow teacher guidance on mask use.
5. **COVID-19 precautions:** After 18 months of the pandemic, we all know the precautionary measures. It was our hope that we would not be in this situation again, however the delta variant has had a massive impact. In addition to universal mask wearing in schools, the following precautions will be in place in our schools:
  - Physical distancing of 3-6 feet whenever possible
  - Frequent hand washing or sanitizing
  - Enhanced air handling procedures
  - Enhanced cleaning procedures

Families will be asked to screen students for COVID-19 symptoms before sending them in to school. Please remember: when your student is sick keep him or her home.

6. Busing will be available on the first day of school. Information regarding busing can be found on the website [here](#).

## **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 [our website](#). 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 so we're ready for the first day of school!

## **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](mailto: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 [here](#) for the updated English Required Reading List.

## SAVE THE DATES

<b>What:</b>	<b>When:</b>
First Day of School!	Wednesday, September 8



Picture Day	Thursday, September 23
Back to School Night	Thursday, September 23

## 2021/22 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Calendar for the 2021/22 school year.

# 2021/22 School Calendar

Calendarpedia  
Your source for calendars

September 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			TW	TW	TW	4
5	V	TW	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	TW	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		*16

October 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	V	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	TW	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						*19

November 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	PC	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	V	TW	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	V	V	V	V	V	27
28	29	30				*14

December 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	V	V	V	V	V	25
26	V	V	V	V	V	*13

January 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	TW	13	14	15
16	V	18*	19*	20*	21*	22
23	24	25	26	27	TW	29
30	31					*18

February 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	V	22	23	24	25	26
27	V					*18

March 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		V	V	V	V	5
6	7	8	9	10	TW	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	TW	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		*17

April 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	V	V	V	V	V	30
						*16

May 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	TW	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	V	31				*20

June 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7*	8*	9*	10*	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		*8

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

Sep 6, 2021	Labor Day	Nov 25, 2021	Thanksgiving Day	Dec 31, 2021	New Year's Day (obs.)	Feb 21, 2022	Presidents' Day
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

### Post-Pandemic Support Counselor

Please help us welcome Mrs. Somers, our Post-Pandemic Support Counselor. Mrs. Somers will be working with students who struggled academically during remote learning, are struggling to re-adjust to school, and any other needs that students may have as a result of the challenges of the

past 18 months.

Students will be scheduled to meet with her during study hall on an as-needed basis. Mrs. Somers will be reaching out to students who have been identified and will be scheduled into her study hall.

## Founders Academy Character and Leadership Run

The 1st Annual Founders Academy's Character and Leadership Run on Sunday, October 10, 2020 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 [here](#) 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.

## Other

### 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 [Chess in Schools](#), 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



## DRIVE



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!

# Show Your Support!

Purchase a  
Founders Academy  
Car Magnet!

## Only \$5 Each

4" x 4"

Get One For  
Each Car In  
Your Family!



**LIMITED  
SUPPLY!**

**LIMITED  
SUPPLY!**

**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

### First Responder Bags

The school is looking for 10 first responder bags. If you're interested in donating, please find the exact bag we need at [this link](#).

## 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/>

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:



