



January 8, 2016

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Happy New Year!

Welcome back! I hope that each of you had a good holiday break. The second quarter grades close on January 22. The academic year is almost half over.

At the beginning of a new year, it is good to remind ourselves of the mission and vision of The Founders Academy. The school was founded to focus on these specific themes:

- Leadership
- Liberty
- Character-building
- U.S. History
- American Exceptionalism
- Capitalism
- Entrepreneurship
- Student Governance
- Leadership Code of Conduct

On the home front, please also remind your children of our mission and themes so together we can fulfill the school's purpose and continue to build a meaningful and much needed school in our state and country.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Mooney  
Dean of School

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This week US History students will be preparing for and participating in their first formal debate. Students will debate ratification of the Constitution as though they are delegates to the 1788 New Hampshire Ratification Convention. While the Constitution is today considered to be one of the most revered documents ever created by man, there were many citizens who argued against its ratification. Students will have to consider whether the government created by the document would hinder or promote the ideals of freedom and republicanism. Students will understand that although the document is a symbol of American ideals now, many argued that it would actually be the ruin of the revolutionary spirit. The ever-present question of government scope and how citizens are affected will be at the center of the debate, and students will also apply their investigation to today's government under the Constitution.

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Our library continues to grow! Founders Trustee Kimberly Whitworth recently donated many history books to our library. These new titles include works written on the topics of the Mayflower, the Revolutionary War, and the Constitution. It is through such donations that we have acquired most of our books so far. If you have books for donating or would like to assist in acquiring books for the library, please speak to Ms. Mote.

Many thanks to Kimberly Whitworth for her generous donation!

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The next Admissions Information Night is January 19, 2016 at 6pm. This is a night for incoming students and parents to hear more about the school and meet faculty. It'll start at 6:00 p.m. and will go until 7:30 p.m.

Tell your friends and relatives! Anyone interested in learning more about Founders is welcome to come.

Those current parents who wish to apply for a sibling must complete the application process with the newly established deadline including placement tests. The application deadline is January 31, 2016.

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We still have not received some students' immunizations records! It is very important that we get them, otherwise students will not be able to come to school. **If we do not receive these records by Friday, January 15, students will be stopped at the door the following Tuesday, January 19 (as we have no school on the 18th) and not be allowed to come in.**

Please call the school if you are unsure or if you want to double-check the status of your records.

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Yesterday, January 7, New Hampshire's U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte visited Founders. The Senator was greeted by Student Ambassadors and participated in a student panel in Mr. Van Ewyk's classroom. Senator Ayotte stepped into several classrooms and was able to meet numerous students and teachers and converse with all of them. At the end of the visit, Senator Ayotte expressed her support of the mission and themes at Founders and posted on Twitter:

**"Very impressed by the students at @foundersnh, a great public charter school here in NH! Thanks for having me!"**



We were excited to have the senator visit. It's amazing that we can give our students so many opportunities to interact with public officials.

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Dear Parents,

I would like to take a moment and introduce myself to The Founders Academy community. My name is Rick Hyotte and I currently serve as the Chairman of The Founders Academy Board of Trustees. My two children currently attend The Founders Academy and I'm excited to be involved with The Founders Academy.

The Founders Academy is a public charter school; this allows any student who is a resident of New Hampshire to attend, for free. As many of you know charter schools are funded at a rate of \$5,597.27 per pupil while the average statewide expenditure for traditional public schools is approximately \$12,000 per student. Additionally, most charter schools currently pay property taxes, rent and all utilities and repairs associated with their facility.

Part of the responsibility of the Outreach Committee is to organize various fundraisers and lead the Annual Fund Drive. As a critical part of annual fundraising, we are asking each family to make a donation of \$450 to the Annual Fund Drive. The goal is to raise \$40,000 during the 2015-2016 academic year for operational

expenses including textbooks, and other important school needs. Donations may be broken up into monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or one lump sum. Also, several local and national companies offer a matching fund so please inquire with your employer to see if it's offered. Keep in mind that all donations can be a deduction on your taxes. The school will issue a donation receipt with a tax ID number. Your donation to our annual fund will make a very real and important difference to students at The Founders Academy, and collectively we'll achieve our yearly goal.

Appreciation is expressed, in advance, for your kind consideration. Please make checks payable to "The Founders Academy" or donate online through PayPal at this [page](#). For more information, or to discuss any necessary financial agreements, please contact me at [richard.hyotte@tfanh.org](mailto:richard.hyotte@tfanh.org).

Rick Hyotte

Chairman of the Board of Trustees  
The Founders Academy  
5 Perimeter Road  
Manchester, NH 03103

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Timothy Filep, who presented the opportunity for a co-ed soccer team, has also created an opportunity to raise money for the team through the "[Go Fund Me](#)" website. Our goal is 750 dollars. Thank you to Mr. Filep for giving us the chance to form a school soccer team (we have so many students who love to play), and thanks to all our parents for helping us achieve our goals and making the school a place our students love to be!

**For more information on the Winter Soccer League, please look under "Club/Committee News."**

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We still have a couple shovels ready for the taking! If you are interested, come on in to the front office or click on the link below to order them.

Please feel free to send the link to this [order form](#) to family and friends.

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Thank you to Barnes and Noble and all of our generous donors who donated the books to our library. We're excited for students to visit the library to check one of these great books out.



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The Liberty House sent us a certificate and a letter to express their appreciation for your and Founders' donations during both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Liberty House has helped veterans and their families for more than 10 years, and they were astounded by the response our school had to their cause.

It wouldn't have been possible without you! A big thank you to everyone who donated food and presents for those in need.



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Family Photo Fundraiser has been postponed until the spring.

Please check the newsletter for further details. Please call the office, 952-4705 to reserve your spot.

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Mid-terms are coming up and we want to be sure that students are prepared. Depending on the teacher, the mid-terms can be either an exam or project/presentation. Detailed rubrics are provided for an mid-term that isn't an exam.

**Mid-terms are scheduled for January 19-22.** Individual teachers will schedule their own exams. Next week, teachers will be in contact regarding the date and block of their mid-term exams.

#### NOTES ABOUT THE MID-TERMS:

- Those in 9th grade have the privilege of going home early during mid-term exam week. Parents/guardians may coordinate to pick their students early after 12:45pm (assuming their mid-term exams are done for that day). If a 9th grader doesn't have mid-terms on a day designated as such, he/she may stay home to study (please indicate this absence by emailing [attendance@tfanh.org](mailto:attendance@tfanh.org)).
- To review how mid-term exams are factored into middle and high school grades, please refer to section 3.2 of the [handbook](#).



- Teachers have the discretion to decide whether or not students will be exempt from taking mid-terms and finals in their classes. However, if a teacher determines a student will be exempt, then the reasons will be for the following:
  - a 3.67 (unweighted) grade point average (or higher) achieved in the first two quarters will exempt a student from taking mid-terms.
  - a 3.67 (unweighted) grade point average (or higher) achieved in the second two quarters will exempt a student from taking final exams.

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We love our popcorn maker! It was such a great surprise when it appeared all wrapped up at school. Apparently several families organized this Christmas gift for the school.



The popcorn maker, cart, and supplies were presented to us during morning assembly by the students of the families who arranged it all. What a shock it was!

It found its home in the school store, and we're so excited to put it to use (maybe the students are more excited than we are). A big thank you to everyone who participated!



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The after school art program will be starting again on January 27th! It takes place on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30. Students have greatly enjoyed the previous sessions of this program and have created some impressive pieces! The after school art sessions are 4 weeks long and the cost is \$80 total. A permission slip for the next session is forthcoming. If you have any questions about the program, please email Ms. Mote at [k.mote@tfanh.org](mailto:k.mote@tfanh.org).

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The first session of classes from the House of the Samurai has started. Sessions go for six weeks with three classes a week. While it's too late to sign up for the current one, if you want to sign up for classes in the next session use the link for the registration form below. The next session starts soon!



Watch for information and the registration form [here](#). The number for the House of the Samurai is (603) 434-2265.

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We're running very low on supplies for our food pantry where we grab lunch for students who forgot theirs. If anyone has extra nonperishable food items (cup mac & cheese, cup ramen, crackers, etc), we'd appreciate any donations!

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Founders is looking for any donations of desktop computers that are capable of running Windows 7. If you have any, bring them in and drop them off at the front desk. Thank you!

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The lunch forms for January are up on the website! To print out the form for D'Angelos, click [here](#). To print out the form for pizza, click [here](#).

If school is closed on Mondays, we have arranged for pizza to be delivered on the following Tuesdays instead.

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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 Deb Waitt at 603.952.4705 or [debra.waitt@tfanh.org](mailto:debra.waitt@tfanh.org). We'll add you to the list!

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In the event school is cancelled (or delayed) due to weather, the cancellation (or delay) will be announced by the following means of communication:

- Email to parents,
- Facebook,



- [www.thefoundersacademy.org](http://www.thefoundersacademy.org),
- ch 9 - WMUR,
- 90.7FM WLMW
- 610AM WGIR,
- 95.7FM WZID,
- 96.5FM WMLL,
- 1370AM WFEA,
- NECN
- Automated call system.

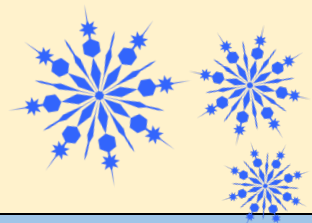
When school is cancelled, each student is responsible for completing work that is posted on the portals and emailed from the teachers. School work (i.e., "snow packets") will be posted by teachers on snow days by 8 AM.

Additionally, teachers will be monitoring the portals and their emails throughout the day. It is a <sup>^</sup>~<sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup> { <sup>^</sup> } <sup>^</sup> <sup>^</sup> that students (contingent on having electricity and internet) log into the portals and complete assigned work on snow days.

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Friday, January 22 is the Winter Dance for Founders students, as planned by our Dance Committee. It will start at 6:30 PM and will go until 8:30 PM. More details will come in a future newsletter. We hope to see you there!

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Laurie Jollimore organizes the Highlands Ski Club and is extending an invite to Founders 6-8th graders to join! Attached to this newsletter is their flyer. If there are any questions, email her at [laurie.jollimore@tfanh.org](mailto:laurie.jollimore@tfanh.org).

Thank you, Laurie, for this great opportunity!



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Timothy Filep, a parent at Founders, is putting forward the opportunity for Founders students to participate in a coed Winter Soccer League at the Bedford Sportsplex. It goes for seven weeks starting January 23, 2016. Games are on Saturdays in the afternoon. Teams are of 12 players and the cost to participate is \$750, which will be divided evenly amongst the players. In addition, each person will need to purchase their own soccer jersey.

If you are interested, contact Timothy Filep at [blueflu@hotmail.com](mailto:blueflu@hotmail.com) or [timothy.filep@tfanh.org](mailto:timothy.filep@tfanh.org), or by phone 781-974-2988 for more information.

Also, we will be in need of at least one or two additional coaches. Please respond by next Thursday, December 17. This would be a great way to represent the school and provide a fun sporting experience for our students!

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School calendar online link: <http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/calendar>

January 15, 2016	Friday Morning Assembly: FIRST Lego League Presentation
January 15, 2016	Friday Afternoon Assembly for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Audio of "I Have a Dream" speech.
January 18, 2016	Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No School.
January 19, 2016	Admissions Information Night at 6pm.
January 20, 2016	Board of Trustees Meeting at 4pm.
January 19 - January 22, 2016	Mid-Terms
January 22, 2016	Second Quarter grades close.
January 22, 2016	Winter Dance 6:30pm-8:30pm.
January 29, 2016	Second Quarter Report Cards emailed to students and primary parent/guardian.
February 11, 2016	The Future Leaders' Talent Show at 7pm.

February 12, 2016	Friday Assembly: The Future Leaders' Talent Show for students at 8am.
February 20-28, 2016	Winter Break. No School.
March 25, 2016	Professional Development Day. No School.
March 28, 2016	Combined Concert at 7pm.
April 1, 2016	Third Quarter grades close.
April 8, 2016	Third Quarter Report Cards emailed to students and primary parent/guardian.
April 15, 2016	Friday Morning Assembly: Drama Production Play Preview
April 15, 2016	Drama Production. Time: TBA
April 16, 2016	Drama Production. Time: TBA
April 18, 2016	Gen. John Stark Day at Founders
April 22, 2016	Field Trip: Shakespeare Folio at the Currier Gallery of Art. More details to come.
April 23 - May 1, 2016	Spring Break. No School.
May 6 - 7, 2016	FUNDRAISER: Barnes and Noble Book Fair, 1741 S. Willow Street, Manchester, NH. Watch for the CODE.
May 9 - 10, 2016	Science and Inventors Fair.
May 13, 2016	Field Trip: 8th, 9th grades on a lake cruise.
May 16, 2016	Field Trip: 6th, 7th grades on Field and Forest Trip.
May 18 - 21, 2016	Trip to Washington DC for grades 7, 8, 9. For more details, contact Ms. Mote at <a href="mailto:k.mote@tfanh.org">k.mote@tfanh.org</a> .
May 27, 2016	Great East Music Festival Field Trip.
May 30, 2016	Memorial Day. No School
May 31 - June 3, 2016	Final Exams.
June 6, 2016	Field Trip: Walden Pond
June 6, 2016	Chorus Concert at 7pm.

