



The Founders Academy

A Public Charter School for Grades 6-12

May 13, 2016

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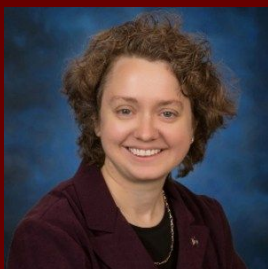
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From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

We keep the two injured officers at the Manchester Police Department in our thoughts and prayers today as they recover from today's events. As you know, safety is a top priority at Founders . . . always.

The semi-formal dance is on tonight as scheduled. Thank you Dance Committee students, parents, and volunteers!

There's lots to review in this email newsletter. Founders is so proud of its students, teachers, parents and volunteers!

Sincerely,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

School News

U.S. History

U.S. History is the cornerstone subject at The Founders Academy. Here's what the class is doing this week with Mr. Van Ewyk:

This week students will complete their analysis of Jefferson's presidency, take a look at Madison's elections in 1808 and 1812, and watch a phenomenal documentary on the War of 1812. They will also complete the final assessment in the form of a Socratic discussion on the election of 1800, in which they will have to make a decision about who they would have supported in the election.

District Music Festival

On Saturday May 7th, nine students from The Founders Academy participated in the NHMEA South Central District Middle School Honors Festival. After only rehearsing for 6 hours for a single day, approximately 150 students from the surrounding area successfully performed the Chorus and Band concerts!





Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl-a-Thon

Founders' freshmen class participated in a Bowl-A-Thon to help raise funds for Big Brothers Big Sisters of NH last week. Two teams of 5 students each attended. Over \$500 was raised! Nice job Ms. Henry and students!!



La Carreta Fundraiser

La Carreta Mexican Restaurant in Manchester is holding a fundraising night on the Thursday before school ends (**June 9th**). The restaurant will donate 10% of all receipts received that night back to the school. (Dine in only).

A flyer with the event details will be distributed to parents. Be sure to bring the flyer with you that night in order to get credit for the attendance and purchase.

This is a great end of the year event/date night on behalf of the school!

Adams or Jefferson--A Socratic Discussion

In an intense Socratic discussion in Mr. Van Ewyk's class, students had to answer the question, If you were alive in 1800, who would you vote for: John Adams or Thomas Jefferson?

Students stood in front of an audience and defended their choice under the intense questioning of Mr. Socrates Van Ewyk, himself. And they bravely and knowledgeably held their ground. Most students preferred Mr. Jefferson because he believed in a small federal government, was a strong Constitutionalist, and had faith in the common sense and good judgment of the American people. They criticized Mr. Adams for enacting the Alien and Sedition Acts because they violated the Constitutional right of free speech, suppressing political speech, which is always protected.

Some questions they had to answer from Mr, Van Ewyk were: "Under the Constitution can people always say whatever they want?" "Why did the French support the American Revolution?" "Should we in return support a revolution that is all about chopping off people's heads?" "Should you support a candidate who is against the development of cities, industrialization and trade?"

Some student responses were: "We can't have laws that are contrary to the values and rights of the Constitution." "We should support any revolutions that can get rid of an oppressive monarchy." "Speaking and voting are practically the same thing." "If people are endangered, that would be a limitation of free speech."

Leaders of the future! Guardians of our Liberty!

Harkness Discussion in Miss Mote's 8th-9th Grade English Class

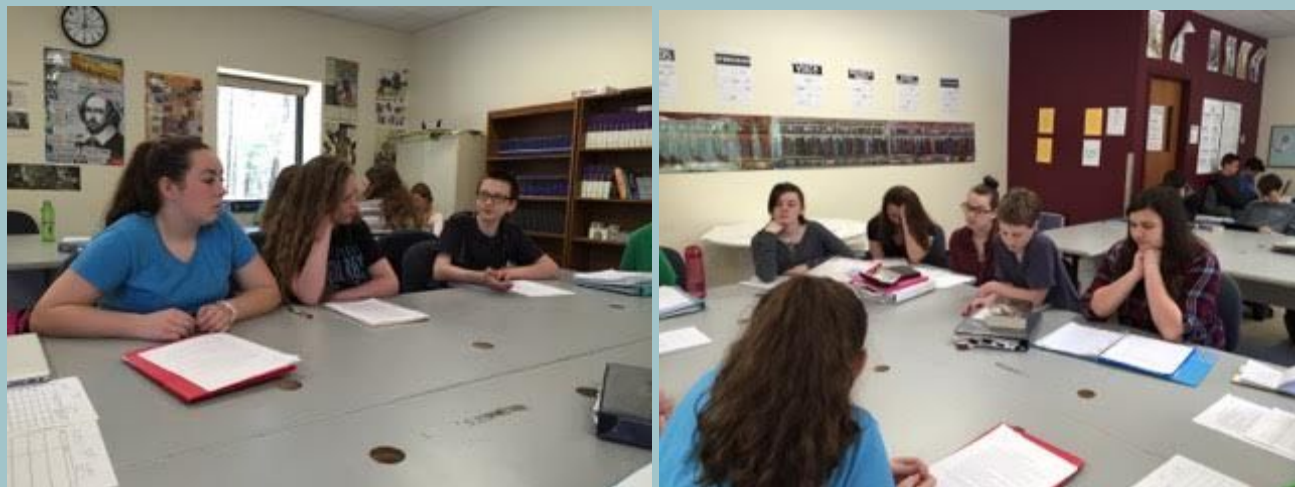
One period each week is devoted to a Harkness discussion in Miss Mote's English classes. Students lead the discussion and prepare for it by writing questions in advance. Teachers listen, but do not participate. Students know to stay on topic and not talk above each other.

I watched a very high-level and interesting discussion of Edgar Allan Poe's story, Premature Burial, today. Questions included, "How does Poe portray the line between life and death?" "Did the first person point of view make the story more or less scary?" "Why was the word truth capitalized in the first sentence?" "Does almost being buried alive make Poe more or less fearful?"

Some answers included, “There is no definite line between life and death.” “The shorter stories and the beginning of the story are there for Poe to justify himself to the reader that he isn’t crazy.” “More detail was needed for the story to have a bigger impact on the reader.”

These Harkness discussions allow students to think at a high level, to listen and disagree respectfully, and to take ownership of their own ideas and their own learning.

~Mrs. Humphrey



Family Photo-Shoots

Have your family portraits taken at the school on **Saturday May 14th, between 9:00am to 12:00 noon.**

A \$25 session fee per family is completely donated back to the school. Please have your checks made out to The Founders Academy.

Each family receives one FREE 5 x 7 print. More prints are available at additional costs. This donation is provided by C3 School Photography.

Depending on the weather, the plan is to have pictures taken outside. Feel free to bring your pets.

You must sign up to get your pictures taken, so do so soon using this [LINK!](#)

NECAP Test

All 8th graders will be required to take the NECAP Science standardized test. Dates will be announced shortly. For more info visit this link: <http://education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/necap/>.

Field Day - June 8

The Founders Academy Leadership Committee is planning a Field Day on **June 8th**, with a rain date of June 9th. Join us for a day full of competitions, games, contests, and so much more! . . .

On Field Day, Wednesday, June 8, Round Tables will be organized into an Olympic Games with each Round Table being a country with its own flag. The opening ceremony will a procession as the band plays. The activities will be, for the most part, competitive, and students will win points for their Round Tables. At the closing ceremony the chorus will sing as student line up by Round Table. Awards will be announced and students will return to their Round Table classrooms. During the day, students will move around to events that they have signed up for previously. They will not be required to stay with their Round Table. Parent volunteers will help at all the stations, freeing teachers to participate as they see fit.

A schedule and list of the different events can be found [here](#).

Final Assessments

Final Assessments are coming up and we want to be sure that students are prepared. Depending on the teacher, the final assessments can be either an exam or project/presentation. A detailed rubric will be provided for a final assessment that isn't an exam.

Final Assessments are scheduled for May 23 - June 3. Subject areas have been assigned specific days in which they will give their assessments so that students do not have too many assessments on one day. The assessment schedule is as follows:

Monday, May 23 - World Language

Tuesday, May 24 - World Language

Wednesday, May 25 - NONE ("Everyday" classes may choose to give part of an exam on this day)

Thursday, May 26 - English/History

Friday, May 27 - NONE

Monday, May 30 - No School (Memorial Day)

Tuesday, May 31 - English/History/Art

Wednesday, June 1 - Computers/Music/Art

Thursday, June 2 - Math/Science

Friday, June 3 - Math/Science/Computers/Art

The daily schedule will run as normal - assessments will be given during a class' normal meeting time. (So if a student has French on Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Fridays at 8:30, they will have their assessment on Tuesday 5/24 at 8:30.) Nightly homework will stop being assigned by teachers on Wednesday 5/25 - unless that homework is for a project/presentation that is part of a Final Assessment grade.

NOTES ABOUT THE FINAL ASSESSMENTS:

Those in 9th grade have the privilege of going home early during final assessment week. Parents/guardians may coordinate to pick their students early after 12:45pm (assuming their final assessments are done for that day). If a 9th grader doesn't have final assessments on a day designated as such, he/she may stay home to study (please indicate this absence by emailing attendance@tfanh.org).

To review how final assessments 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 finals in their classes. However, if a teacher determines a student will be exempt, then the reason will be for the following:

- a 3.67 (unweighted) grade point average (or higher) achieved in the current quarter and the immediately preceding quarter.

Math Tutoring

In preparation for the 7th grade math final exam, the FIRST Lego League coaches and Manchester CHAOS team members are hosting weekly math tutoring sessions Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30, starting May 3rd for 5 weeks. The format will be a mix of concept review, test question review, test taking techniques, real world examples and a game each week. Limited to 12 students at a cost of \$20 per week, for snacks and prizes. Come for one or all the sessions. Proceeds going to the TFA's FLL Team and Manchester CHAOS Robotics teams (some of their team members are coming to help). Email Chris Mikus at christopher.mikus@tfanh.org for more information.

Student Life

Summer Camp Programs 2016

Information has been posted about Summer Camps 2016! Enrollment has begun! Camps include:

- Leadership Academy
- Art Lab
- LEGO League Camp
- Math Foundations
- Exploring World Literature Through Short Stories
- Bikes and Books
- Sports and Fitness Camp
- Math Madness
- Board Game Camp
- Middle School Prep
- Poetry Workshop
- Spain and Its Culture/Spanish Conversations
- Novel Writer's Toolbox
- DIY - Crafts and Scrapbooking

The programs are set to run the weeks of July 11, July 18 and July 25.

Information about some of the camps being offered can be seen on the school website; go the www.thefoundersacademy.org and click on “students/summer camp program,” or click [here](#).

We also have a page about the camps up on www.parentingnh.com.

Check the site often for updates as the summer gets closer!

Miscellaneous

Food Pantry Needs

We're running low on supplies for our food pantry!! This is 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!

Wanted: Volunteer Substitute Teachers, Lunch, Interns & Study Hall Monitors

Founders is seeking volunteer substitute teachers, interns, 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. We'll add you to the list!

Club/Committee News

To see all clubs and committees (and more to come), click [here](#).

Important Dates

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

May 13, 2016	Field Trip: 8th and 9th grades on a lake cruise - CANCELLED
May 13, 2016	Semi-Formal Dance. 6:30 - 9:00 pm - ON SCHEDULE
May 16, 2016	Field Trip: 6th and 7th grades on Field and Forest Trip.

May 17, 2016	Spirit Day: Historical/Literacy Figure Day
May 18 - 21, 2016	Trip to Washington DC for grades 7, 8, 9. For more details, contact Ms. Mote at k.mote@tfanh.org .
May ?, 2016	NECAP science exam for 8th graders.
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.
June 7, 2016	Field Day organized by the Student Leadership Committee
June 7, 2016	Band Concert at 7pm.
June 8, 2016	Founders Field Day (all day).
June 10, 2016	Last Day of School.
June 10, 2016	Fourth Quarter grades close.
June 17, 2016	Fourth Quarter Report Cards emailed to student and primary parent/guardian.



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