



August 11, 2017

PARENT/GUARDIAN SUMMER NEWSLETTER

In this issue:

[From the Dean of School](#)

[From the Assistant Director of Student Services: Junior Year](#)

[School News](#)

[Portal/Google Classroom How-To, By: Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gaumont and Ms. McInnis](#)

[Introduction: Ken Stanton](#)

[DonorsChoose for Computer Science](#)

[Facebook Challenge](#)

[SLIGHT TIME CHANGE - 6th Grade Orientation \(Sept. 1\) and Middle School Student Required Supplies](#)

[Teacher Appreciation Committee](#)

[Amazon Smile Fundraiser](#)

[Other News](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Follow The Founders Academy on social media](#)

From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

Student and teacher schedules will be out soon if you haven't received them already. The school places a tremendous emphasis on its web site for information, curriculum, announcement, news, etc. etc. If you haven't seen it lately, please browse [here](#). You'll be impressed!

Thank you for your support and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

From the Assistant Director of Student Services: Junior Year



Student Services

The 2017-2018 school year will mark the Founders Academy's first junior class. With that, there are thoughts of the future and plans for our rising juniors into their senior year of high school. Students and parents are probably starting to think about college, careers and possibly military options. So, what are some things that parents and students can do now to prepare for this exciting journey? We suggest visiting college campuses, researching college majors and career options, as well as maintaining good grades and participating in extracurricular activities. There are also some great resources available through the [College Board](#) and [The Center for College Planning](#) at the NHHEAF network organization. They offer great timelines for you to follow along with easy steps to follow. Rest assured that we will also be working with students to help prepare them for their futures. We will provide some great information on our student services webpage, schedule presentations with the Center for College Planning and offer individual college/career counseling for all of our students.

~Debra Castonguay, Assistant Director of Student Services
(debra.castonguay@tfanh.org)

School News

Portal/Google Classroom How-To, By: Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gaumont and Ms. McInnis

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Founders Academy appreciates feedback offered regarding various aspects of our programming. A topic that often generates several questions is how to utilize the Plus Portals and Google Classroom as effectively as possible. A conversation with Ms. Nichols and Mr. Gaumont generated the following "how-to" paragraph in hopes to help clarify the usage of these two important sites for both students and parents.

Rediker/PlusPortals

Students and parents have access to the portal. Teachers are required to upload each assignment to the portal. Grades are typically entered within 48 hours of completion. Teachers can blast out messages to select classes to notify them about upcoming announcements, etc. Portal is text only and has a limit on the number of characters per post.

Google Classroom

Students can access Google Classroom via a teacher provided code. Parents do not typically have access to Google Classroom and are instructed to look on their child's account if they'd like to view it. Each class has its own Google Classroom. Google Classroom allows teachers to post google docs, surveys, video resources, and announcements without a character limit. It allows for more detailed information to be communicated to students. Teachers can also set up to allow submission of work via classroom. Teachers can grade and return the work via classroom. However, all official grades are entered through the portal.

In short, the portal is one-stop shopping for parents and students. They can see grades and what assignments are upcoming/due in each class. Google Classroom is much more detailed than the portal, but each individual class has its own Classroom. Unlike the portal which is automatically accessible for parents and students, Google Classroom requires students to join.

If there are further questions regarding how to utilize the Plus Portals and Google Classroom, please do not hesitate to contact a staff member or make an appointment to come in for a hands-on demonstration.

Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gaumont, and Ms. McInnis

Introduction: Ken Stanton

Founders is pleased to welcome Dr. Ken Stanton as a Math teacher! Dr. Stanton will be a member of the Math and Science Department. His office will be #172, and his email address is: k.stanton@tfanh.org.
Welcome, Dr. Stanton!



A.S. Engineering Science, Canton College of Technology
B.S. Electrical Engineering, Clarkson University
M.S. Electrical Engineering, Virginia Tech
Ph.D. Engineering Education, Virginia Tech

Dr. Ken Stanton is returning to teaching after a 3-year hiatus where he traveled the country in his RV and grew the family business as an entrepreneur. Previously, he inspired students at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels, at institutions including Colorado State University and Virginia Tech.

Beyond his 15 years in education, Dr. Stanton also spent nearly a decade in industry as an engineer working on national defense projects, testing engine systems for the auto industry, and researching hybrid-vehicle electronics. His favorite project was on the design and test teams for the "Active Fuel Management"

gas-saving system for General Motors back in 1999, which they now use prolifically in their engines worldwide.

In his doctoral studies, Dr. Stanton used motivation theory to explore the drive of engineering professors to improve their teaching skills. Since, he has applied the motivation theories to his own teaching, which have helped him to inspire and lead students not just in career aspirations but in many areas of life.

Dr. Stanton's diverse passions also include political activism, exploring cryptocurrencies, debating news and history, visiting his family cottage in New York, watching football and golf, and having an awesome time with his wife and dog.

DonorsChoose for Computer Science

My students need Android tablets to test their mobile apps created from code using MIT App Inventor as part of our high school computer science curriculum. Please consider donating whatever you can; we are halfway to funding and only have **30 days** left to fully fund the project!

<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/theres-an-app-for-that-and-a-student-ma/2562402/>

Facebook Challenge

The Founders Academy Public Charter School Facebook Group is 177 likes away from 1,000! Can we reach 1,000 likes to the group before school starts (Sept. 5)? Let's try by sharing with friends and family! Ready, set, go!

SLIGHT TIME CHANGE - 6th Grade Orientation (Sept. 1) and Middle School Student Required Supplies

SLIGHT TIME CHANGE

Happy August!

6th Grade Orientation is planned for Fri., Sept. 1 from **9am-1pm**. For questions, please contact j.efraimson@tfanh.org.

See required school supplies for middle school here: <http://bit.ly/2f5G3Jk>. For questions, please contact colleen.mcinnis@tfanh.org.

Teacher Appreciation Committee

The teachers at The Founders Academy go above and beyond for our children. I am interested in forming a committee that will plan ways in which we can show our appreciation to them in little ways throughout the year, and do something special during Teacher Appreciation Week.

If you are interested in working with this committee please feel free to email me at Victoria.Sullivan@tfanh.org. Please place Teacher Appreciation in the subject, so that I may create a group.

Thank you,
~Victoria Sullivan

Amazon Smile Fundraiser

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your school charitably every time you shop, at no cost to you. Products are marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on the product detail page and you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile.

Directions:

- 1) Go to smile.amazon.com
- 2) To select a charitable organization, in bottom right of screen, type 'The Founders Academy' and select search.
- 3) Select 'Founders Academy Manchester, NH' for .05% of your purchases to be donated to the school.

Other News

School Calendar

Regularly check the school calendar online link: <http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/calendar>

NOTE: Dates are continuously added and possibly changed throughout the year. Please check the online school calendar regularly.



Follow The Founders Academy on social media



© The Founders Academy 2017