



August 31, 2018

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From the Dean of School



Happy Summer! I wish you all a good, long Labor Day weekend.

Founders' 5th year of existence starts on Tuesday (September 4, 2018). Additionally, our 12th grade opens on Tuesday and the High School is complete! The 2018/2019 is a celebratory year and we want you to be joyful with us.

Please review a helpful list of 10 frequently asked questions for starting at Founders. The link is [here](#) and the contents are also within this newsletter.

Teachers and new incoming students had orientations this week. A special thank you to Ms. Efraimson, Mrs. Hayes and those that helped with orientation. A thank you also goes to all the student ushers who helped at student orientation and members of the PTSA who provided a potluck luncheon last Thursday for teachers.

We apologize if the timing of the schedules caused any confusion or grief. Scheduling is based on so many factors and takes a tremendous amount of time and tedious detail. I just spoke to a parent for whom I'm grateful contacted me to discuss. If you have questions regarding the schedules that went out earlier this week, please contact the school. It's important to know that Mr. McKenzie, Ms. Stewart, Mrs. Hayes or I can help you if you contact us directly.

See you the first day of school - September 4, 2018. The school day runs (like last year) from 7:45am to 3:10pm. Morning drop off begins at 7:20am

With gratitude,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

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Dear Founders Community,

We are almost to the first day of the 2018-2019 school year. We have much to celebrate this year! I enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many new students and families during New Student Orientation and New Families Meet and Greet Night. I am so excited to have all the students return to school next Tuesday ready to learn.

Student Services has been working on updating schedules, meeting with families, and getting ready for a great school year. One thing we want to share with you is the schedule for testing for the upcoming year. Of course, there is always a possibility that weather or other unforeseen conflict may cause a date to be rescheduled, but here are the dates for standardized testing for the 2018-2019 school year:

- Wednesday November 24 PSAT for grades 9 and 11
- Wednesday February 6 NAEP
- Wednesday March 27 SAS for grade 6
PSAT for grade 10
SAT for grade 11
- Friday April 5 SAS for grade 7
PSAT for grades 8 and 9
- Friday April 12 SAS for grade 8

On all of these testing dates, with the exception of NAEP on February 6, there will be no regular classes. Buses will run as usual. We are also looking into offering SAT prep classes here at the Founders Academy. More information will be shared as soon as it is available.

As a reminder, if you have any questions, concerns, or information you want to share, please do not hesitate to contact us. Ms. McInnis (colleen.mcinnis@tfanh.org) is our school counselor and Mrs. Murphy (meghan.murphy@tfanh.org) can help you with questions related to your child's IEP or 504 plan, or with scheduling meetings.

Enjoy the last days of summer break! I hear the weather will be beautiful.

Sincerely,
Paula Stewart, Director of Student Affairs
Paula.stewart@tfanh.org

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Dear Parents,

School officially begins on Tuesday. We as a staff have been working very hard to make sure that we are ready to go for the students arrival. Part of that preparation has been finalizing syllabi for the upcoming courses. Currently, our website administrator has been working overtime to update those. Please allow for any carry over of this task. There may be a few courses that still say "coming soon" or "updating". In regards to courses, PE is being offered for high school students this year. As discussed in last year's meetings with administration, the school has provided that both Health and PE are available. If your student has not already taken the course, or has not been involved with athletic teams outside of the school, please contact us about ensuring that your student gets enrolled in these classes. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Chris Kline
Assistant Director of Curriculum
c.kline@tfanh.org

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The safety committee met this week to continue our conversations about school safety. Teachers will be reviewing safety procedures with students throughout the month of September. Our first fire drill will be the week of September 10th and our first lockdown drill will be the week of September 17th. We work closely with the local police and fire departments when running these drills.

Mrs. Cassie Hayes
Chairman, Founders' Safety Committee

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Wow! A special THANK YOU to those that dropped off school supplies last Friday and Saturday! The school was humming with activity as new and returning families loaded the front foyer with supplies and copy paper! Additionally, mulch for the front sign was donated too! THANK YOU members of the PTSA for organizing and THANK YOU to those that contributed!





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Welcome to The Founders Academy F.A.Q.

Answers for New Families from Current Parents and Administrators

Updated: August 29, 2018

1. When is Drop Off and Pick Up and How Does it Work?

The school day begins at 7:45am (drop off starts at 7:20am). The school day ends at 3:10pm (pick up ends at 3:30pm). Students arriving and departing by car do so at the back of the building. Parent/guardian drivers should follow the directional signals of the traffic attendants when loading and unloading vehicles (the "DRIVE" green sign means stay in your car; "STOP/WALK" red/white sign means you may leave/enter your car). A map of parent drop off/pick up can be found [here](#). Bus students (Manchester residents only) are dropped off and picked up at the front of the building. Student drivers need to fill out this [form](#) before driving to school themselves.

2. Do I Need a Parent @tfanh.org Email Address?

Yes. The [Student Handbook](#) requires that communication regarding students via email happen only on @tfanh.org email addresses. Once you confirm enrollment, a @tfanh.org email address will be created for you. Instructions for setting up your @tfanh.org account will go to your personal email address. To access your account, please go to www.gmail.com, where your email is your [firstname.lastname@tfanh.org](#) and your default password is TFAparents2018. You will be prompted to change the password upon log-in. We strongly suggest you check your @tfanh.org email regularly for school communications. New students will have an opportunity to create their @tfanh.org email addresses during computer classes. If you have any further questions on this, please contact Ms. Marcotte at j.marcotte@tfanh.org.

3. What is the Online Student Portal (also known as Rediker)?

The online student portal is used by teachers to post graded assignments (including homework) as well as grades. Both parent/guardians and students can access the Online Student Portal any time to see completed work, graded work, missing work, direct messages from teachers, and disciplinary incidents. You can find the entryway to the portal [here](#), along with a helpful [instructional video](#). If you have issues with portal access, please contact Ms. Marcotte at j.marcotte@tfanh.org. A presentation about the Online Student Portal will take place at the school on September 11, 2018 from 5:00pm-6:30pm.

4. What is a Course Syllabus and Where can I find it?

Every teacher at The Founders Academy must have a syllabus for each course taught and it is introduced to students the first week of school. Items in the syllabus include class description, class objectives, suggested supplies, required texts, overview of lessons/assignments, and more. The syllabus can be found on each teacher's web page in the "[Staff Directory](#)" and in the Google Classrooms. If you have questions about course syllabus, contact Ms. Hayes (Director of Faculty) at cassie.hayes@tfanh.org.

5. What is Google Classroom?

At Founders, there are four online ways to communicate: email, [portal](#), Google Classroom, and the [website](#). Each teacher is to have a site on Google Classroom for his/her classes. Within Google Classroom

are detailed assignments (but not grades), the teacher's syllabus, and other instructions for the class. Students are instructed on how to enter Google Classroom and can log-in through their @tfanh.org email addresses. Parents will receive an email to accept guardian notifications from Google Classroom. After notification preferences are set to either daily, weekly or monthly, parents will receive emails regarding missing and upcoming assignments. Here are some tips about [parent notifications](#) from Google Classroom.

6. What is the School's Dress Code?

The school's Dress Code was developed by Student Government. It was recently revised by the [Board of Trustees](#) and appears in the [Student Handbook](#). The Dress Code can also be found online [here](#).

7. What Summer Assignments and Supplies are Needed to Start School?

Summer assignments are posted for students on the school's website [here](#). Students should do the assignments posted for the grades they are entering in the fall. Middle School students have required school supplies found [here](#) and reading list [here](#). Other supplies (including for High School students) will be reviewed by individual teachers and located in the course syllabus.

8. What is "Back to School Night"?

"Back to School Night" is a time at the beginning of the year to meet your children's teachers and receive optional [portal](#) training. To sign up to receive portal training, see this [link](#). This year, it is scheduled for September 11, 2018 from 5:00pm-6:30pm.

9. Where Can I Find Out What's Going On?

Founders uses its [website](#) for updates, its official Facebook Group, Twitter account (@foundersnh), email, portal and Google Classrooms to communicate. Additionally, there is an online calendar of events on the school's website [here](#). Each Friday, the Dean sends out a lengthy "[Parent/Guardian Newsletter](#)" through email.

10. Where Can I Go for Questions?

Students and parents need a smooth transition into a new school. We are here to help. This "[Quick Guide](#)" of communication may help you if you have specific questions including where to email if your child is absent or if you have questions on the curriculum. Bus inquiries (Manchester students only) should be directed to nenabliss@tfanh.org. Of course, you can always call the school at: 603.952.4705.

Again, Welcome to Founders where students are the "*Leaders of the Future!*"

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Founders welcomed new teachers and students to the school this week! A special thank you to returning faculty and staff, and student ushers for making everyone feel welcome! We look forward to a great "celebratory" year!



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The Manchester Transit Authority (MTA) assigns buses, stops, and routes every year. The post cards with students bus stop, pick up time, and bus number were sent to homes Wednesday, August 29th and will arrive by today (8/31/18). In order to receive busing you must be a Manchester resident and have filled out the survey(s) for each student attending Founders earlier this summer.

IMPORTANT: For the Founders' bus routes, go here:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=bWFuc2Qub3JnfG1zZC10cmFuc3BvcnRhdGlvbnxneDo2NjkwM2NhNmNiODMxZTQ1> OR <http://transportation.mansd.org/bus-scedules-private-schools>

If you did not fill out a bus survey this summer or submit bus information to Miss Bliss past the deadline, you will receive an assignment in a couple weeks from Miss Bliss.

If you need busing, fill out this form: [MTA Bus Exception](#)

High Schoolers need tickets after Sept 12th! Founders front desk has bus tickets; \$8.50 per ticket and tickets are 10 rides per ticket (check or exact cash only please). See the following link for more info: <http://transportation.mansd.org/bus-schedules-high-school>

Please email transportation inquiries and forms to nenabliss@tfanh.org

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We are planning a Back to School Night and Parent Portal training for Tuesday, September 11th, from 5-6:30pm. This is a great way to meet your students' teachers and get more familiar with the portal!

To receive the portal training, you must sign up for a session (**NOTE:** this training is only for new parents, and only one parent per household). To do so, follow this [link](#).Æ

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Section [5.4.c Medications of the Student Handbook](#) references:

The Founders Academy is not required to have a nurse on staff.

All medications brought into the school must be registered with Founders staff.

No medication will be dispensed unless the medication is delivered to the school in the original container, along with written parental permission and a physician's written order for the prescription medication.

Students in possession of any medications outside of these parameters will be subject to disciplinary action.

Parents may also give the school written permission to allow their child to take over-the-counter medications such as ibuprofen (Advil) or acetaminophen (Tylenol). In these cases, the student would be allowed to receive such medications from Founders staff if the need should arise.

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Below are the dates for the ends of each quarter this coming school year. All dates can be seen on the online calendar as well.

Q1 Grades Close - 11/1 (Thursday)

Q1 Grades Due - 11/12 (Monday)

Q1 Report Cards go out - 11/13 (Tuesday)

Q2 Grades Close - 1/25 (Friday)

Q2 Grades Due - 2/3 (Sunday)

Q2 Report Cards go out - 2/4 (Monday)

Q3 Grades Close - 4/4 (Thursday)

Q3 Grades Due - 4/14 (Sunday)

Q3 Report Cards go out - 4/15 (Monday)

Q4 Grades Close - 6/7 (Friday)

Q4 Grades Due - 6/11 (Tuesday)

Q4 Report Cards go out - 6/12 (Wednesday)

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Ms. DeAngelis got married over the summer! Her updated email address is e.ciccarello@tfanh.org. She will still be able to receive emails sent to e.deangelis@tfanh.org.

Congratulations Mrs. Ciccarello!

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The Founder's running club invites all students, teachers, and parents to join us on Thursdays after school. We run and walk around the building. We would love to have more of you join us. I would like to make a goal of finishing a 5k road race (walk or run) as a team. I am looking at the Stache Dash 5k in downtown Manchester on Nov. 18. If we can enter and then together ask people to sponsor us to raise \$100 total we can get our team name on the back of our shirts. Please email me and let me know if you would like to join us: v.nichols@tfanh.org.

Here is the link to the race: <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=8853>

~Ms. Nichols

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FIRST Lego League and FIRST Tech Challenge are hosting their season kick off at FIRST Place Saturday, September 8. The event is free and open to the public, with FIRST LEGO League workshops in the morning, the FIRST Tech Challenge season game reveal at 12, and NASA guest speaker at 12:30. Parent and trustee, Kristi Scarpone, will co-mentor the Founder's FIRST Tech Challenge team in partnership with Autodesk. More details to come about both programs soon, but September 8 is a great opportunity to stop by FIRST Place to see what all the excitement is about.

Kristi Scarpone
Corporate and Foundation Relations Manager II, FIRST ®
FIRST Tech Challenge Mentor



FIRST® New Hampshire presents: The **FIRST® Tech Challenge Kickoff Event**

September 8, 2018

11:00-4:00

FIRST Place, 200 Bedford Street, Manchester

Schedule

- 11:00 Arrival & Fun Activities
- 12:00 Rover Ruckus Game Reveal!
- 12:30 Lunch & Space-Themed Guest Speaker
with FIRST Lego League Community
- 1:30-4:00 Workshops to build your base robot

Location: FIRST Place, 200 Bedford Street, 2nd Floor, Manchester, NH—parking is available in the parking lots on Bedford St. and Commercial St.

Pizza will be provided for those who register by September 4.

Special thanks to our FIRST Tech Challenge
NH Season Sponsor:

**Event is Free and
Open to the Public**
Please register at:
<https://tinyurl.com/yae7m55g>



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C3 School Photography, who does our student pictures, is offering a half off session fee (normally \$40), now only \$20, for an indoor and outdoor Senior portrait session at their studio.

Call this number to set up an appointment: 603-212-9090.

See this [LINK](#) for their pricing list.

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Donations of any size will help my kids. Right now, any contribution you make to my project will be doubled by Craig Newmark Philanthropies. Your donation will brighten my students' school year, and you'll get heartfelt thank-yous from my class and photos of your gift in action. Our technology department needs some additional student devices to have enough for paired programming of physical computing & optional wearable technology we are adding into the curriculum this year.

Link: [Adding STEAM to Education](#)

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“Michael Hubbard and David Gandia decided to remodel the high school eating area for their senior project. They have decided to get new tables, chairs, furniture, and repaint the walls because it is in need of change. The remodel would allow students not only to only eat there, but to have high school events as well. Any donations would be appreciated to help them reach their goal.”

Click the link below to donate!

<https://www.gofundme.com/remodel-of-lower-cafeteria-tfa>

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

Grid format: <http://thefoundersacademy.org/calendar/2018%20-%202019%20School%20Calendar>


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

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Be sure to follow Founders on **Facebook** here:  Æ

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: 



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