



January 4, 2019

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER**

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## From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

Welcome back!

In keeping with the [mission](#) of the school, the High School and Middle School Drama Clubs are being courageous, confident and determined in their performances this year! "And Then There Were None" by the High School Drama Club takes place next weekend. Then, "The Enchanted Bookshop" by the Middle School Drama Club is the weekend of January 18-19. Congratulations on all those productive practices!

Have a great weekend!

With gratitude,  
Maureen Mooney  
Dean of School

## Board of Trustees

We would like to thank everyone for their interest and support in Founders. The Department of Education has extended our charter renewal along with four other schools an additional three months. The renewal was needed due to the number of charter schools currently reaching the five year mark and an update to the process.

## From the Registrar: Midterms 2019

### Parents and Students -

Below is the link to see the Midterm Exam Schedule - which is scheduled for January 22-25. On these 4 days, there will be two, 2-hour "Exam Blocks" each day. These will be early release days with the school day ending at 12:30pm. There will be a shortened snack time in between the Exam Blocks, but there will be no lunches. **Manchester bussing will be at the normal times in the morning, but will pick up students from our school at 12:30.** (There will not be any 3:10 bussing.) Teachers will be going over this schedule next week with students in their classes and Round Tables to make sure students understand.

Important - If there is a school cancellation during Exam Week, all days will be pushed back. (i.e. - Day #3 would be on Friday, Day #4 would move to the next Monday, etc.)

Students are expected to attend all Exam Blocks in which they have a class unless the class has an exam from which the student has been officially declared "Exempt" by the teacher. (Note - Many teachers do not give any exemptions.) If there is no actual exam (the teacher has the students doing a project instead), then the teacher will be giving a 2-hour lesson.

Classes that meet for 5 blocks in a normal week (like English, Science, History, etc.) will take up an entire Exam Block. Classes that meet for less than 5 blocks will share an Exam Block - with each class meeting for one hour. (For example, 6th Graders have Music and Art sharing a block. If they normally go to Music first and then Art on Mondays or Tuesdays, then Music will take up the 1st hour of the assigned Exam Block and Art will take up the 2nd hour.)

**Students do not need to be at the school during the block in which their Lunch lines up (see the Schedules). They also do not need to be at the school during periods in which they have a Study.** (For example, if a student has a Study during H and I Periods on Tuesday/Thursday, then they can be dismissed any time after 10:15 on Day #4. However, if they have a class during H Period, but a Study during I Period on Tuesday/Thursday, their H Period class will meet during the 1st hour of that Day #4 block, and then they can be dismissed at 11:30am.) A Study Hall will be set up for any student who does not have a class during an Exam Block but cannot get a ride to arrive late or leave early. If a student is able to arrive late due to Lunch/Study Halls, they should be at the school at least 15 minutes before their next class. If a student is being dismissed early, they can be dismissed at the Front Desk.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tIHqW8MtY3on0XrTJpRtdZbeGl8MfGhLpfh3\\_fw5ULs/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tIHqW8MtY3on0XrTJpRtdZbeGl8MfGhLpfh3_fw5ULs/edit?usp=sharing)

**One final, but important, topic is traffic.** On these days, dismissals will work the same as on a normal day (students picked up by car in the back of the school by the basketball hoops and busses in the front of the school) - just at 12:30 instead of 3:10. On "normal" days, some students are dismissed early and the busses tend to be staggered when they arrive to our school - due to them having to finish routes for other schools before they come to us. However, on these days, there will usually be more cars picking up their students at the same time and most, if not all, of the busses will be here on time, and traffic can get very crowded. (This is especially true on the first day of exams. Days 2, 3, and 4 tend to be less hectic since many students will leave early due to their Lunch/Study Hall periods.) On these days, we do ask for patience during dismissal. Also, the following things can help as well:

- 1.) Carpool. The fewer cars going through the traffic line, the better.**
- 2.) We know there will usually be some parents using their lunch break from work to pick up students. In order to get those parents (or anyone who has an appointment somewhere) closer to the front of the line, if you are not in a rush, please aim to get to the school closer to 12:40 instead of being too early. This will give time to let those with pressing engagements and the busses to get out of here.**
- 3.) If you have not done the traffic pattern before, know that the line to get out of the school onto Perimeter Road will get long at times. Don't worry - I can tell you from watching it every**

**afternoon that it will get short rather quickly. Again, patience will be important.**  
**If people can follow this advice, then we can dismiss all 340 students within 20 minutes.**

Thank you,  
Greg McKenzie  
Registrar

### **From Student Services:**

Dear Founders Community,

Happy New Year! I hope your families were all able to relax and enjoy the long winter break. I enjoyed the extended time I was able to spend with my children and grandchildren. I am happy to be back at school, working with our incredible teachers and witnessing the growth of our students.

Student Services is excited to welcome our new school counselor, Ms. Angela Parent. Ms. Parent earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Education from University of Hartford and will receive her Master's in School Counseling from Rivier later this year. She joined the Founders Community on January 2, and has hit the ground running. If you or your student want to contact her, her email is [angela.parent@tfanh.org](mailto:angela.parent@tfanh.org).

Last night the Board of Trustees voted to adopt the updated, student crafted dress code. This dress code was developed by students, with input from the whole student body, over a period of months and was presented to the Board at their October meeting. The students created a slide presentation, which was shown to the board to explain their process and the proposed changes to the dress code. It can be viewed here: [Dress Code Slideshow](#) . The Dress Code that was adopted is below.

General Guidelines	No hoods or hats No inappropriate, negative or disrespectful messages or graphics ( especially no alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, weapons, or profanity) No inappropriately placed rips, tears, or holes in clothing (patched holes and cold shoulder shirts are acceptable) No sheer clothing, unless solid underneath All undergarments must be covered completely
Tops	Tops must have a modest neckline All straps must be two fingers in width at a minimum (this applies to cold shoulder shirts as well) Midriff must be covered at all times
Bottoms	Shorts or skirts/dresses must not be shorter than fingertip length when the individual is standing normally with shoulders relaxed No messages or words on the backside of the bottom. Pants must not fall below the waist No sheer pants or leggings, unless the bottom is covered
Shoes	No backless shoes (no flip-flops) Birkenstock type sandals are acceptable Heels cannot exceed 2 ½ inches high
Makeup, Jewelry & Hair	Hair, makeup and accessories will be modest and appropriate No piercing (other than traditional earrings) or body art may be visible

Midterms are fast approaching! With a little bit of planning and preparation, midterms do not need to be stressful for students. Sleep and healthy eating can get students minds and bodies ready to tackle exams. Khan academy has a number of good [Tips for Managing Study Time](#) in this article.

Our seniors are beginning to hear back from colleges and to solidify their post-high school plans. Some college acceptances have come from Marymount, Southern New Hampshire University, Plymouth State University, and Rivier. We also have seniors who have enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and the United States Air Force. Congrats Seniors!

If you have any questions, concerns, or information you want to share, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,  
Paula Stewart, Director of Student Services  
Paula.stewart@tfanh.org

### Founders' Mission in Action: Math Lab

The mission and vision of The Founders Academy are incorporated into Math Lab in a number of ways including empowering students in taking ownership of their own learning, projects where students need to demonstrate leadership skills, co-operative collaboration (open-mindedness and willingness to hear others opinions), active participation in class discussions (leadership role in explaining the answers), students are encouraged to apply critical thinking skills in making real-world connections and engaged learners working collaboratively in a learning community.

~Mrs. Manchanda

## PTSA

Questions about joining PTSA? Email [ptsa@tfanh.org](mailto:ptsa@tfanh.org)!

Follow the Founders Academy PTSA on their [official Facebook page](#) to see information about upcoming meetings, events, and fundraisers! Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Founders-Academy-PTSA-693413331015554/> or in Facebook search "The Founders Academy-PTSA"

## School News

### Toys for Tots

We collected 100 toys to donate to the "Toys for Tots." They were very excited with the amount of toys we had. Mrs. Nichols roundtable collected the most with 33 toys. Aidyn A. brought in 17 toys alone and was the top toy collector.

Thank you to all who donated!



## Admissions Open House

The date for this year's last Admissions Open House is as follows:

**January 15th, 2019 at 6:00pm**

The night will start **at 6:00pm**. The evening's program includes brief presentations on the school's mission, rigorous and challenging curriculum, and admissions process. The evening concludes with a self-guided tour of the school and opportunities to talk individually with teachers and administrators. Help us spread the word!

## Outside the Classroom with the Teachers: Mrs. Galambos

Mrs. Galambos is now a National Geographic Certified Educator. The process involved taking a course this fall that culminated in a capstone project. Benefits to the school community involves access to many NatGeo resources and professional development opportunities that are only available to NatGeo Certified Educators.



CERTIFIED  
EDUCATOR

## Third Annual Geography Bee

What is the GeoBee?: An annual [geography](#) competition sponsored by the [National Geographic Society](#). The Founders Academy winner will move onto the state level! Come compete or support your friends.

Eligibility: Anyone in grades 6-8

Date: Wednesday, January 16

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Lower cafeteria

Sign up with Ms. Brown or Mrs. Galambos by Friday, January 11th.

Here are some studying resources:

<https://geography-bee.weebly.com/resources.html>



## Volunteer Opportunities/Donations/Fundraising

PTSA Restaurant Night - January 10, 2019

~~ÚVÜÇÄ~~ Restaurant Night

January 10, 2019

5:00pm - 8:30pm

**Ninety  Nine**

**RESTAURANT & PUB**

1685 South Willow St.  
Manchester

### **Dime Challenge**

The dime challenge is still going!. Please help us fill the bottle which will be \$700. The funds will go to help the Random Acts of Kindness club.





### **Most Needed Items (updated 1/4)**

Founders relies heavily on donations for some of our essential items needed around the school. Below are the most needed at this time:

**Non-perishable chips/snacks and lunch items for the food pantry  
Cup Noodles**

Forks/spoons

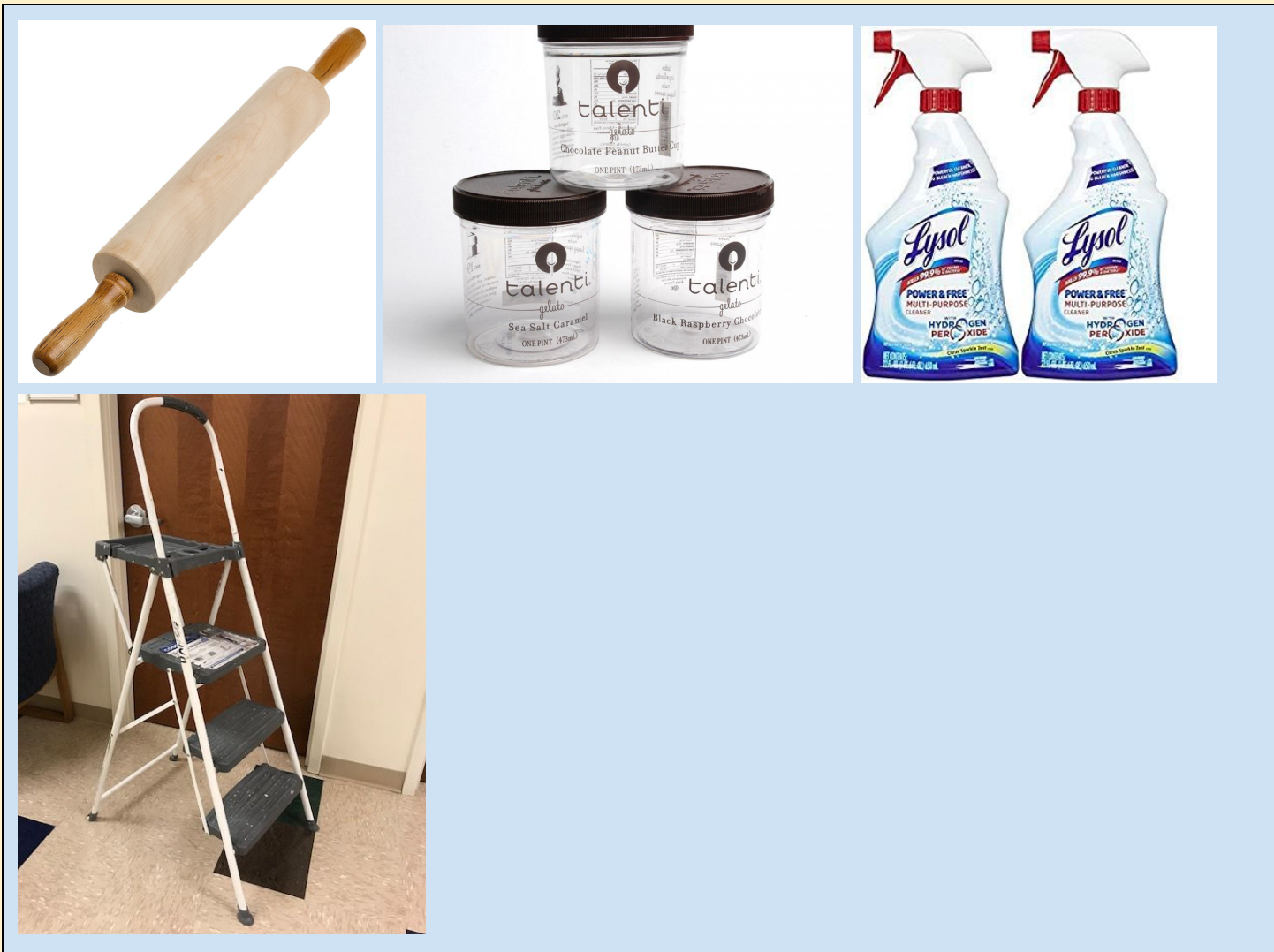
### **Sewing Club Most Wanted Items**

Thank you for your continued support. We are in need of small and large storage bins to help stay organized. Please check out [Sewing Club's Most Wanted Items](#). We are SEW happy for your support!

### **Art Class Needed Supplies: updated 12/4/18**

Mrs. Fortier's Art Class Most Needed Items:

- \* **Rolling Pins**
- \* Empty Talenti or Sorbeto containers
- \* Hydrogen peroxide cleaning spray
- \* Step-Ladder



**Mrs. Manchanda Donors Choose**

I want to make sure my students have the materials and experiences they need to succeed, so I just created a request for my classroom at DonorsChoose.org: [Decreasing digital divide in Math Lab.](#)

If you chip in to help my students, you'll get awesome photos and our heartfelt thanks.

Thanks so much,  
Aparajita

P.S. If you know anyone who may want to help my classroom, please pass this along!

**Fully Funded, Thank You! - Ms. Marcotte Donors Choose**

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### Fully Funded: Thank You! - Mrs. Fortier Donors Choose

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### Fully Funded, Thank You! - Ms. Perrella Donors Choose

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### Wanted: Substitute Teachers & Study Hall Monitors

Founders is seeking volunteer substitute teachers and study hall monitors! If you are interested in helping Founders for full days, half days or even a period or two, please contact Lauren Brouillette at 603.952.4705 or [lauren.brouillette@tfanh.org](mailto:lauren.brouillette@tfanh.org) for more information.

## Mural Supplies Still Needed: updated 11/7

Mrs Fortier's and Mr. Theriaque's Round Tables are creating murals for their Round Table projects, and they are in need of donations. Please help them out by looking around your home and seeing if there is anything you can donate. Leftover paint from previous home projects would be a great help!

Here is a list of things needed:

Paint

Wall paint

Masking tape

Drop Cloths

Paintbrushes

Rollers

Anything related to wall painting

Thank you!

## Founders' Snow Shovels - LAST CALL

Winter is fast approaching! What better way to prepare for winter and to help your student's school than by buying one of The Founders Academy snow shovels. These SnoFighter 18" heavy-duty snow shovels are manufactured in Frankfort, Maine by Mount Waldo Plastics, and are the only snow shovels manufactured in New England. They are made with a solid ash shaft and D-grip handle for ease of use, and the shovel is made of heavy duty plastic that is easy on deck edges.

Support The Founders Academy and prepare yourself for this coming winter! Tell all of your family and friends about this exciting opportunity to support a local New England business and your student's school.

The snow shovels are \$20 each, to be paid at the front desk.



## Other

## Admissions is OPEN for 2019-2020!

Founders Academy is pleased to announce ADMISSIONS is open for the 2019-2020 academic year! Applications have started coming in and we are so pleased to see such enthusiasm from current and new families! If you are interested in applying for the 2019-2020 academic year please email [admissions@tfanh.org](mailto:admissions@tfanh.org) or go online here <http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/admissions> .

## School Calendar

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.

## Founders on Social Media!

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:



