

September 7, 2018

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From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

The new school year has begun! What a great week getting to meet the new students and assisting them in where they need to be. There is a true sense of joy in the building this week.

Thank you for your patience with afternoon pick up this week. As Manchester bus drivers get used to the routes and the flow of parent pick up improves, dismissal should move faster.

Please join faculty and staff on **Tuesday, September 11, 2018** for "Back to School Night." During this time you may meet teachers and join one of three portal trainings (sign up [here](#)). The hours are 5:00pm - 6:30pm.

It's important for the school's [Dress Code](#) to be followed, and that starts on the homefront. Please remember that: no rips, tears or holes are allowed in clothing, shorts must not be more than 2 ½ inches above the knees, and students may only wear natural hair colors. Parents can assist their children with Dress Code.

As for cell phones, there is no texting, phone calling, picture taking or videoing - for any student - during school hours. High Schoolers may use cell phones during the day but only with teacher permission for academic purposes only.

Please know that my office is open and we're here to assist. It does get busy but it's important to have questions answered. I ask that you bring any concerns and questions to administration. We are here to help.

With gratitude,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

From the Board of Trustees - Parent Steering Committee Annual Caucus

The annual caucus of the Parent Steering Committee will be held Monday, Sept. 24 at 5:30pm in the Upper Cafeteria.

From the Director of Student Affairs - Program of Studies and HS Graduation Requirements

Dear Founders Community,

What a great first week of school here at Founders! I have enjoyed getting to know many of the students. If this week is any indication, we are off to a fantastic school year.

Program of Studies and High School Graduation Requirements

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to do so, I would encourage you to take some time to review the Founders Academy Program of Studies. This document can be found on the school's website under the 'About' tab or accessed through this link [The Founders Academy Program of Studies](#) . The Program of Studies includes sheets detailing high school graduation requirements for the classes of 2019, 2020, 2021 and beyond [High School Graduation Requirements](#) . Students need to earn 26 credits in order to graduate from The Founders Academy. It provides examples of schedules for each grade level [Sample Schedules](#) . These will give you an idea of what your student will be doing each year, keeping in mind that there will be some variation due to initial placement levels, achievement of mastery in individual courses, electives chosen, and number of credits earned (for high schoolers). The Course Catalog section of the Program of Studies provides descriptions of the courses offered at Founders organized by department. Course descriptions include prerequisites, and information on whether courses for high schoolers satisfy specific requirements or are electives. Student services works hard to be sure students are placed in classes that meet their needs and interests. Add/drop forms can be found outside student services, on the website, and can be accessed through this link [Add/Drop Form](#). Students may request approval for alternative credits (from VLACS, for example) by submitting this form [Alternative Credit/Class Permission Form](#) to Student Services.

If you have any questions, concerns, or information you want to share, please do not hesitate to contact us. My email is paula.stewart@tfanh.org. 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.

It looks like we are going to have some refreshing weather this weekend. Enjoy!

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

From the Director of Student Affairs - Information on College Admission Testing



Information on College Admission Testing

College admission tests, such as the SAT or ACT, are standardized tests typically taken in junior or senior years of high school. Colleges use the scores from these tests to help them make decisions about admissions. Each college has its own admissions requirements and procedures, and may use scores differently.

Some important things to keep in mind about standardized test scores in the college application process. Most four year colleges use test scores when making admissions decisions, along with grades, course rigor, extracurricular activities, and recommendations. Test scores are not the most important factor. Colleges want to admit well-rounded students, which means they want to see academic achievement and outside interests as well as test scores. You can usually find information about admissions requirements for specific colleges and universities on their admissions websites.

College admissions tests allow colleges to find you. When you register for the SAT and similar type tests, you are able to share areas of interest, grades, and other information that can be shared with colleges and scholarship programs. Some colleges and scholarship programs award grants and scholarships based totally or in part on test scores. The ACT is an alternative to the SAT.

Typically students will take the PSAT in the fall of their junior year of high school and the SAT in the spring of their junior year. All juniors in the state of New Hampshire take the SAT at school in the spring of junior year. **Our PSAT test date for ninth and eleventh graders is Wednesday November 24, and our SAT test date for juniors is Wednesday March 27.** Both tests will take place at Founders Academy. For seniors who still need to take the SAT or who want to take it again to try to improve their scores, today is the last date to register for the October 6 test date. The late registration deadline is September 26. SAT fee waivers are available on the College Board website. Additional test dates are available throughout the year [SAT Test Information](#) .

Here at The Founders Academy we are hoping to offer SAT prep classes later in the year for interested students. More details forthcoming.

NHHEAF has a wealth of information about the college application process and funding for higher education for New Hampshire students. You can access timelines for the college application process, tips for writing the college essay, helpful hints for campus interviews and the common app here [Applying for College](#) .

In the early stages of choosing a college, the website Campus Tours [Campus Tours](#) may be helpful. Campus Tours allows you to research specific colleges or to look for colleges by state. Information about colleges that can be accessed includes a general overview, costs, enrollment

statistics, admissions requirements, extracurricular and athletic offerings, and majors and degrees. You can also see campus maps, photos, and virtual tours. It may help to narrow down your choices before making visits to campuses.

SAT, PSAT, and AP Testing Information can be accessed here [College Board](#)

ACT Testing Information can be accessed here [ACT](#)

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

Curriculum Update by Mr. Kline

Dear Parents,

We are officially underway! During this week, students were able to get oriented with their new classes and teachers and prepare for the work of the first quarter. For the middle schoolers, this may have been their first introduction to separate art, music, and science courses which can be quite exciting. For the high schoolers, several new electives and required courses made their debut including Rhetoric, High School Composition, PE, Health, and US Law and Constitution. As we currently sit, all high school graduation requirements are now offered here at the building. However, for those students that have a conflict or seek alternative credits, VLACS remains an alternative form of credit. Beyond the individual courses, high school students have continued to monitor personal graduation requirements during Round Table by completing credit tracking forms. Every year we as high school Round Table teachers like to do this, as it is useful in showing the student which courses they have completed, and what remains for them to take in order to graduate. This process is coordinated with the Registrar and Student Services. Although it is early in the school year, it is important to have the students begin to start thinking ahead and planning their next steps, whether at Founders or elsewhere.

It is also important to note that by the end of this week and beginning next week, all students can start to anticipate homework from their classes. As parents, I encourage you to engage your students when they come home. Ask them how their day went, and what they learned in all their courses. During that time, remind them to check their google classroom for homework assignments. You can also begin to start monitoring the Parent Portal, as grades will start to filter in over the next couple of days. As always, if you have any questions please let me know.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chris Kline
Humanities Department Chair/Assistant Director of Curriculum
c.kline@tfanh.org

Bus, Health, Dismissal Information by Miss Bliss

Student Drivers

To drive to school, students must turn in:

- [Student Driver Agreement](#) (hyperlink)
 - If your student has permission to dismiss a younger sibling(s), please send a separate note.
- \$50.00 parking fee (check or exact cash)
- Copy of the students' license
- Copy of the vehicle(s) registration
- Copy of the vehicle(s) insurance

Parking: student parking spots are in front of the school, far right hand corner. Students should enter and exit through the bus doors. If arriving late or departing early, please enter through the main entrance and sign in/out at the front desk.

Health Office

If your student needs any medications, prescriptions (in original container) during school hours, or has allergies; please provide a detailed doctor's note for the health office. Students may not carry any over the counter medications in school. See the Student Handbook, section 5.4.c.

Dismissal

Early dismissal ends at 2:30pm, see Student Handbook, section 1.3.

- If your student is being dismissed daily at 2:15pm; please communicate with attendance@tfanh.org and the students' teacher (s) of missed class period(s).
- All students must to the report to class for attendance before being dismissed.
- REMINDER: the parking spots closest to the school must be clear for buses in the morning & afternoon.

Bus

To change an existing bus route or add a student to a roster please submit the [MTA Bus Exception \(hyperlink\)](#) for each student. Please hand in this form to Miss Bliss at the front desk. We will hear a bus assignment from the MTA shortly (two weeks from the start of school). Thank you for understanding the volume of requests this first week, Miss Bliss will respond to parent email inquiries shortly.

Sincerely,
Nena Bliss
Director of Operations
nenabliss@tfanh.org

School News

Back to School Night and Parent Portal Training (Sign-up Information)

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](#).

Middle School Opening Ceremonies

The Middle School Opening Ceremonies for the 2018-2019 school year took place this morning, Friday September 7th. All middle school students met outside the school for the raising of the flag and the anthem sung by students from Mrs. Ciccarello's chorus. Student David K. declared the school year officially open, and there were also remarks from the Dean and a poem read by our Poet Laureate, Jessica B. Our thanks to Mr. Gaumont and Ms. Brown for setting this up!







Drop Off and Early Pick Up

Please remember that drop off cannot happen any earlier than **7:20AM**.

Early pick up (coming in to pick up your student early) has to happen by **2:30PM**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

School Picture Day - September 25, 2018

Please mark your calendar for School Picture Day on **Tuesday, September 25, 2018**. Thank you!

Save the Dates in October 2018

More details to come on these exciting events occurring in October:

October 19 - PTSA Fall Festival for all grades and families.

October 26 - Halloween Dances: Middle School 3:30pm - 6pm **AND** High School 6:30pm - 9pm.

See you there!

Announcements

Afternoon Traffic Announcement

Please be aware high school students may be outside during J block (2:15-3:10pm) or PE class. They will be using the side of the building and field M-Th and on Fridays, they will be walking around the building. Please be careful while driving on the property during J period (2:15-3:10pm).

Concert Dates

Mark your calendars for our 2018-2019 schedule of Band and Chorus concerts!

Bands 1 & 3 - Monday, Dec. 10th, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Bands 2, 4, Jazz - Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 7:00 p.m.

Chorus 1 & 4 - Wednesday, Dec. 5th, 7:00 p.m.

Chorus 2 & 3 - Thursday, Dec. 6th, 7:00 p.m.

Snow Dates: Wednesday, Dec. 12th, Thursday, Dec. 13th, 7:00 p.m.

Bands 3, 4, Jazz - Tuesday, March 19th, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Chorus 3 & 4 - Tuesday, March 19th, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, March 21st, 7:00 p.m.

Bands 1 & 3 - Monday, May 20th, 7:00 p.m.

Bands 2, 4, Jazz - Tuesday, May 21st, 7:00 p.m.

Chorus 1 & 4 - Wednesday, May 29th, 7:00 p.m.

Chorus 2 & 3 - Thursday, May 30th, 7:00 p.m.

Running Club

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

High School News

2018-2019 Free College Planning Programming

Financial Aid Night

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Time: 6:00pm

This presentation helps families navigate through the federal financial aid process (FAFSA), explores what type of additional aid is available, reviews scholarship searches, and highlights importance of meeting deadlines. Attendees will receive the Center for College Planning Financial Aid Insider.

See Colleen McInnis (colleen.mcinnis@tfanh.org) with any questions.

C3 School Photography SENIOR Portraits

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.

Volunteer Opportunities/Donations/Fundraising

Bertucci's Dining for Dollars

The PTSA is excited to kick off the year with a great social event! Join us on Thursday, September 27th at Bertucci's and get to know your fellow members, friends, teachers, and administration. Join us for a social or pick up food to take home. 25% of your total purchase will go to the school's PTSA to benefit all students at Founders. The fundraiser will run from 11 AM to 9 PM. Mark your calendar and we will see you there!

Manchester Mall of New Hampshire
1500 S. Willow Street, Manchester NH

Bertucci's Dining for Dollars

When you present this flyer, up to **25%** of all proceeds from your event* will be donated back to:

TFA PTSA

Thursday, September 27th
11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Dine-in, Carryout or Bertucci's-own Delivery**

ALSO RAISE DOLLARS WITH 260

*Bertucci's awards funds raised from fundraising events based on a tiered give-back. Organizations can receive up to 25% when the event generates \$2,000 or more in net sales, excluding tax, tip, gift card sales, and off-restaurant accounts. Give-back tiers: Raise up to \$999 in net sales and receive 15% back; Raise up to \$1,999 in net sales and receive 20% back; Raise \$2,000 or more in net sales and receive 25% back.

**If ordering online, please select "Pay at Restaurant" and present this flyer when picking up your order to ensure the organization receives your donation.

Bertucci's of Manchester - Mall of New Hampshire, 1500 South Willow St., Manchester, NH 03106 Ph:603-668-6204

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Bertucci's of Manchester - Mall of New Hampshire, 1500 South Willow St., Manchester, NH 03106 Ph:603-668-6204

Mrs. Fortier's Donors Choose: Sticky Tools and Dust Masks

Check out what Mrs. Fortier wants for her students in this amazing project: [Sticky Tools and Dust Masks](#).

Mrs. Fortier is using DonorsChoose.org to request things for her students. It's an online charity that makes it easy for anyone to help a classroom in need.

If you chip in to help her classroom (or any other one on the site), you'll get photos from the classroom and thank-you notes to see the impact you made.

Please pass this along to anyone you know who may want to help out.

Thanks!

Ms. Marcotte's Donors Choose: Adding STEAM to Education

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](#)

High School Cafe Gofundme

"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>

Other

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:



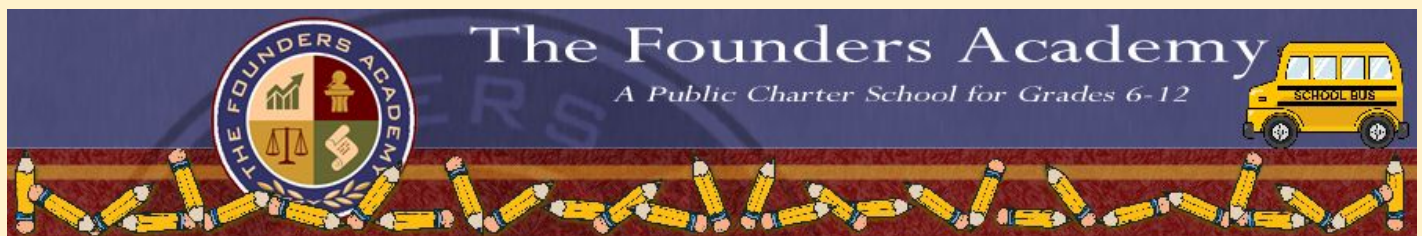
Founders' Facebook **Carpooling** Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123952141583545/>

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:



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