

January 20, 2023

# PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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# From the Dean of School

## Dean Hayes's Weekly Message



Greetings Founders Community,

As you know, we have two dismissal options at Founders. Students who are dismissed at 2:25 are picked up in the front of the building. We have several students picked up at this time and it can be tricky to find parking. Please make sure you are in an authorized spot for student safety. No one should be parked on the grass or in a space that has white lines across the space, such as the cross walk. Handicapped parking spaces are only for those with handicapped license plates or placards, even at pick up, this is the law. Occasionally, during pick up we do have someone who needs to come into the building that is handicapped. Please be mindful of that as you are parking in those spots, just for pick up, if you have a license plate or placard. If you notice someone parked in a spot they should not be, please notify administration immediately and we will address the situation. Please do not take it upon yourself to approach a vehicle. This could cause undue stress and animosity among parents. Thank you for your support.

Thank you for your patience and support in keeping our students safe.

-Cassie Hayes Dean of School

#### The Founders Mission Statement

The Founders Academy is a public chartered school encompassing grades 5 - 12 that is free and open to all New Hampshire students. The Academy develops leaders who understand and apply the lessons of the past, demonstrate exceptional character and lead by example. The Academy recognizes the importance of balance in the development of the whole person, and respects each student's journey.

Principled leadership is fostered by means of a curriculum of classical studies that includes analyzing the lives of great men and women of history, mining the rich classical ideals of the Western tradition, and tracing the evolution of the precious and costly idea of liberty.

Link: http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/mission vision

# **Need to Know**

#### **REVISED NHED**

This email is to inform you that a revised draft of the State ESSA plan is now available on the NHED website HERE for public comment. All revisions are redlined. Any individual who wishes to provide comment can submit it to accountability@doe.nh.gov by January 27th, 2023.

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is currently allowing states to revise their federal accountability systems to better address the impact of pandemic-related disruptions. As such, NHED has drafted this Consolidated State Plan to solidify previously approved modifications and to propose new changes that will enhance validity, reliability and inclusiveness of data used in New Hampshire's federal accountability system.

More specifically, the revised State Plan includes the following types of revisions, all of which are redlined in the document. The State Accountability Task Force, which is made up of education leaders across the state, has reviewed and provided feedback on the changes.

Changes previously approved by USED via the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum on July 25th, 2022

\*Note: USED requires states to update State Plans with the approved changes. These changes have already been implemented as of Fall 2022. More information is available in this previously released document.

• Shifted forward long-term goals and measurements of interim progress for academic achievement and English language proficiency by two years

Modified cut scores for Academic Achievement and Growth indicators Implemented a one-time change in frequency to identify schools in fall 2022 and again in fall 2023 for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)

Revised exit criteria for CSI and ATSI schools

Newly proposed changes to the statewide accountability system effective Fall 2023: NHED is proposing the following changes to its accountability system to enhance the validity, reliability and inclusiveness of data used in identifying schools with the highest need

Identify CSI, ATSI, Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools based on available data in the preceding three years

Adjust exit criteria for CSI and ATSI schools so that they must demonstrate improvement from their last indicator scores for any two years after identification or

exceed statewide cut scores for all indicators for one year after identification Add the New Hampshire Seal of Biliteracy to the list of College and Career Readiness Indicator requirements

**Changes to ESEA Title Programs** 

Title IVA: Updated funding structure to reflect the change to formula calculated Title III: Updated language relevant to program monitoring to align with Title I practices

Title IVB: Updated to include latest application and review process.

Title IC: Updated the use of funds plan to reflect current practices for students and to account for the USED reduction in allocation

Other Minor Changes

- Replaced all instances of "NH DOE" with "NHED," the newly adopted acronym for the New Hampshire Department of Education
- · Removed all references to the PACE assessment which has been discontinued
- Revised the state-approved English proficiency assessments used to screen and identify English learners (The assessments were updated in 2020 to align with revised English proficiency standards and approved by the State Board of Education in 2021)

Again, anyone interested in submitting public comment can do so by January 27th, 2023. The revised State Plan will then be submitted to USED along with any additional public comment that NHED has received.

#### CALL LIST FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

When The Founders Academy has to make very important announcements - such as school delays, unplanned early dismissals, or cancellations - we use an automated dialing system.

Please fill out this form to be added to the Call List. You are able to enter which phone numbers are called. If you have more than one student, please fill out a separate form for each. We begin each school year with a blank call list, so if you do not fill out this form, you will not receive any phone notifications when we have school delays or cancellations (even if you filled this out last year).

#### ABSENCE PROCEDURE

If your student is going to be absent, please email attendance@tfanh.org or call (603) 952-4705.

#### BELL SCHEDULE

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NORMAL DAY BEL	<u>.LS</u>
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Α	7:45 - 8:40	8:40
В	8:40 - 9:25	9:25
C (Rnd Tbl)	9:25 - 9:55	9:55
D	9:55 - 10:40	10:40
E	10:40 - 11:25	11:25
F	11:25 - 12:10	12:10
G	12:10 - 12:55	12:55
Н	12:55 - 1:40	1:40
I	1:40 - 2:25	2:25
J	2:25 - 3:15	3:15

	Delayed Opening				
C (Rnd Tbl)	9:45-10:25				
Α	10:25 - 10:55				
В	10:55 - 11:25				
D	11:25-11:55				
E	11:55-12:25				
F	12:25-12:55				
G	12:55-1:25				
н	1:25-1:55				
I	1:55 - 2:25				
J	2:25 - 3:15				

# **LOOKING FOR SUBSTITUTES**

The Founders Academy Public Charter School seeks paid substitute teachers for middle and high school for the 2022-2023 school year!

Subjects covered can vary. Full day and half day opportunities available. hours are 7:30 AM until 3:30PM. The rate is \$75/per day.

If interested please contact Jackie Meilleur at <a href="mailto:i.meilleur@tfanh.org">i.meilleur@tfanh.org</a>.

## 2022-23 SCHOOL CALENDAR

# 2022/23 Founders Academy Calendar

#### Calendarpedia Your source for calendars

September 2022									
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa			
				TW	TW	3			
4	٧	TW	7	8	9	10			
11	12	TW	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30				
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October 2022									
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
30	PC					*18			

November 2022									
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20	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	26			
27	28	29	30						
						*15			

December 2022									
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25	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	31			
						*12			

January 2023										
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
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22	23	24	25	26	TW	28				
29	30	31								
						*19				

February 2023									
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19	٧	21	22	23	24	25			
26	٧	٧							
						*17			

	- 1	Mar	ch 2	2023	3	
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26	27	28	29	30	TW	
						*18

April 2023										
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
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30						*14				

	May 2023						
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7	8	9	10	11	TW	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	٧	30	31				
		,				*21	

	June 2023						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		
						*7	

Approx. end-of-quarter dates: Q1 - 10/28; Q2 - 1/20; Q3 - 3/30; Q4 - 6/9 Graduation - 6/17

PC = Parent/Teacher Conferences; TW = Teacher Workshop Days

Updated 4/20/22

#### Federal holidays 2022/23

Sep 5, 2022	Labor Day	Dec 25, 2022	Christmas Day	Jan 1, 2023	New Year's Day	May 29, 2023	Memorial Day
Oct 10, 2022	Columbus Day	Dec 26, 2022	Christmas Day (obs.)	Jan 2, 2023	New Year's Day (obs.)	Jun 19, 2023	Juneteenth
Nov 11, 2022	Veterans Day			Jan 16, 2023	Martin Luther King Day	Jul 4, 2023	Independence Day
Nov 24, 2022	Thanksgiving Day			Feb 20, 2023	Presidents' Day		

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## **SAVE THE DATES**

What:	When:			
No School - Teacher Workshop	Friday, January 27			

# **School News**

## Ski Club

Session 1 of our Ski/Ride Club is underway. Our students are having so much fun!

Stay tuned, the registration link for Session 2 will be coming soon!

Student Spring Craft Fair



Click <u>here</u> for the vendor form if you're interested!

# **Recruiting Parent Board Members**

Dear Founders Families.

The Founders Board of Trustees is eager to welcome <u>two new parent members</u> to the board to increase our effectiveness and efficiency. Since its inception, our Board has put a great deal of effort into writing/approving policies, developing a strategic plan, and planning for the future of the school, and we need more parents' volunteers for the Board in order to succeed in reaching our

goals.

As our board will attest, charter school board service is a personally and professionally rewarding opportunity to help ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend an excellent school.

If you are interested in sharing your business, grant writing, fundraising, financial or education expertise as a volunteer member of the Founders Board, our community would be very grateful.

Read on to learn why you should consider and how to join our board of trustees. We hope you'll join us!

**Robert Best** 

The Founder Academy Board of Trustees, Chairman

Why become a member of the Founders Academy board? Charter school boards play a critical leadership role in supporting and determining the quality of the education delivered to its students and the long-term sustainability of the school. Every charter school board is the governing body of a publicly-funded nonprofit organization with a multi-million-dollar budget. As with all charter school boards, Founders board is responsible for ensuring that the school has strong leadership, sound finances, effective fundraising, and high academic achievement.

Need further incentive? Here's a recent an article highlighting how joining a non-profit board can boost your career,

https://diversitymbamagazine.com/career-development/how-serving-on-non-profit-boards-can-boost-your-career/

Who can apply? Any parent or guardian of a Founders Academy student

What are the duties of a Founders Board member? We set policies, hire and evaluate the school director, work with our parent organization (the PTSG), oversee the budget, fundraise, community relations, and other tasks, as needed to ensure the continued strength and success of the school. We ask that you participate in monthly board meetings, join a minimum of one committee and attend as many community events as possible

Who is on the board today? Angela Seggie (parent representative), Frank Weiss, Kimberley Lavallee (co-founder and vice-chair), Kyle Fox (treasurer), Patricia Humphrey (co-founder and secretary) and Robert Best (chairman).

When does the board meet? Every third Wednesday of the month at 6PM at our school. We encourage interested members to attend a Board of Trustees Meeting to observe what type of issues are discussed and how important decisions affecting The Founders Academy are made. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, November 16th, starting at 6:00 PM in the room to the left of the hallway after you pass through our main entrance.

What is the process to become a board member? Interested parents apply by sending their resume/CV to Angela Seggie <a href="mailto:angela.seggie@tfanh.org">angela.seggie@tfanh.org</a> or Kimberley Lavallee <a href="mailto:kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org">kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org</a> by November 11th. The Parent Advisory Committee formed by the board, will invite the interested parents to meet with our parent advisory committee November 14th and/or 15th to learn more about you and answer your questions. On November 16th we invite all

nominees for a parent board seat to the board meeting to meet current board members and participate in a short question and answer period. The board will conduct a vote that evening and the new term will start at the January board meeting.

#### **HB 272**

Dear Founders Community,

I'm writing to you regarding HB 272. The objective of the proposed legislation is to increase Per Pupil Aid to \$9,000 for New Hampshire public charter schools. If you have any questions or comments they can be directed to Representative Maureen Mooney at Rep.Maureen.Mooney@gmail.com.

We encourage everyone to review HB 272 and submit comments or testimony online (access to online testimony <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.) The form will ask you a few questions and the information you need to complete it is below:

Date of Hearing: January 25, 2023

Select the Committee: House Education Committee

Choose the Bill: HB 272

If you are available, please consider attending the hearing in person on January 25, 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the Legislative Office Building, 33 N. State Street in Concord.

We sincerely hope our school community will participate in this initiative. Charter schools are facing the same challenges as other businesses and schools. Recruitment and retention of teachers and school leaders, along with rising utility and operational costs have made our tight budgets even more difficult. Let's work together to support our public charter schools!

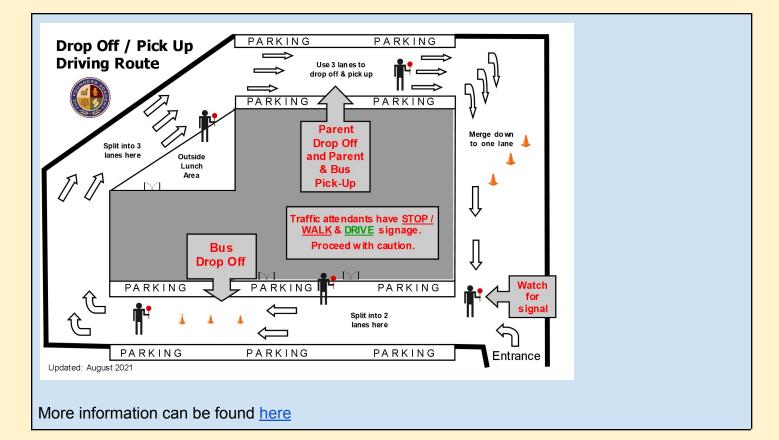
On Tuesday the Founders Board of Trustees will be in the car line passing out fliers and providing a QR code for you to easily access the website to testify. Thank you for your support!

#### Traffic Pattern

- 1. Do not let your child out of the car until they see a traffic attendant with the "walk" sign showing. Safety is a top priority.
- 2. Students should be dropped off and picked up in the back of the building only, except for 2:25 dismissal.
- 3. All cars should pull up as far as possible in the back of the building. Do not stop until you cannot go any further.

Please review this graphic for more information: image.png

Let us know if you have any questions!



# **SASS Consent to Testing**

Convenient MD offers free, asymptomatic COVID testing to our students and staff. Click <a href="here">here</a> to fill out the consent form if you would like your student to participate in the bi-weekly testing. Even if you registered last year, you need to register again!

# **Admissions**

2023-2024 Admissions Info Nights

Mark your calendars and join us at one of our upcoming Admissions Info Nights to learn more about The Founders Academy! No RSVP is required.



**February 1, 2023** 

All info nights will be held in-person at The Founders Academy.

Self-guided tours from 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm. Presentation 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

Everyone is Welcome!

# **Features**

#### All-State Chamber Festival

Jack L. and Chris S. both were invited to participate in the All-State Chamber Festival this past Saturday at the University of New Hampshire. Only 160 highly talented music students were selected from those who had already qualified for the 2023 NH All-State Festivals.

Many thanks to Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Tellier for their continued support of our music students!





# **Other**

#### Girls Lacrosse



I'm reaching out on behalf of Manchester Thunder girls lacrosse. We are looking for girls in grades 1-6 to join our teams! The girls must live in Manchester or in a town that doesn't have a team.

Also looking for u8 coaches- we provide training and certification through USA lacrosse.

Registration goes up \$35 after the end of the month.

We are also looking for referees- they get trained and get paid for games on Sundays! Cash at the field :-)

# Free Access to Tutoring

NHED and Tutor.com have partnered to provide 24/7 online tutoring for students in grades 6-12 throughout the state. School districts are being encouraged to <u>register</u> for Tutor.com's free access

for their students.

## Hats for Sale

There is a limited supply of school hats for sale! \$15 per hat. Contact Dean Hayes at <a href="mailto:cassie.hayes@tfanh.org">cassie.hayes@tfanh.org</a> if you're interested in purchasing one to show your school spirit.



# **Founders Academy Car Magnets**

Love The Founders Academy? Display your school pride on your ride when you purchase a Founders Academy car magnet for only \$5.00! These make great gifts for students, parents, and grandparents. Purchase one for every vehicle! Supplies of these beautiful 4-inch round magnets are limited so...ORDER NOW!

# **Show Your Support!** Purchase a **Founders Academy Car Magnet!** Only \$5 Each **Get One For Each Car In Your Family!** Remember: Never put your magnet on a dirty car (you could scratch your car's paint!). Clean both sides of your magnet whenever you wash your car (or more often!) Do not place on horizontal surfaces (such as automobile hoods!) Remove magnet by lifting entire magnet from surface (do not slide the magnet across the surface!) Name: Phone:\_\_\_\_\_Email:\_\_ # of Magnets Ordered:\_\_\_\_ Payment by Check Cash Total Enclosed: \$ Make checks payable to The Founders Academy

# **Donations**

#### Front Desk/Health Office Needs

The front desk is highly in need of the following:

- Ibuproten
- Tiny paper cups (for taking meds in health office)
- Ice packs
- Forks

We appreciate any help you can provide!

#### **Art Class Donations**

Ms. Deeley needs some art supplies for her super fun Fiber Arts class! Here is a list of items she still needs to help her students be successful. Any help is much appreciated!

- Disposable non-vinyl gloves size medium, large <u>Amazon.com: Lya Vinyl 65 Pack</u>
   <u>Permanent Vinyl, Self Adhesive Vinyl Sheets for Cricut, Permanent Outdoor Vinyl for Party Decoration, Sticker, DIY Mug, Car Decal: Arts, Crafts & Sewing</u>
- Powdered dye for tie-dyeing <u>Amazon.com</u>: <u>Tie Dye Powder</u>, <u>26 Colors Dye Packets</u>, <u>Color Powder Packets Bright Fabric Dye</u>, <u>Tie Dye Party Supplies Suitable for Children and Adults</u> (26Pack, 10G Per Pack): Arts, Crafts & Sewing
- Squeeze bottles with lids <u>Amazon.com</u>: <u>Tie Dye Powder, 26 Colors Dye Packets, Color Powder Packets Bright Fabric Dye, Tie Dye Party Supplies Suitable for Children and Adults (26Pack, 10G Per Pack): Arts, Crafts & Sewing
  </u>
- Rubber bands
- Old newspapers
- Plastic wrap
- Silk screens <u>Amazon.com: 6 Pack Wood Silk Screen Printing Frame Kit for Beginners and Kids</u>, 10x14 Wood Frame, 110 White Mesh
- Squeegees <u>Amazon.com: Worown 6 Pieces 6 Sizes Screen Printing Squeegee, 3 Sizes 75</u>
   <u>Durometer Wooden Ink Scraper (13.7, 9.4, 5.9 inch), 3 Sizes Plastic Ink Scraper (6.8, 3.3, 2.3 inch) for Screen Printing</u>
- Reusable shopping bags

## Bridge the Gap



Annual Fund Letter From Dean Hayes

# Founders On Social Media

## Follow Us!

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



Founders' Facebook Carpooling Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/123952141583545/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/123952141583545/</a>

Be sure to follow Founders on **Twitter** here:



Check out Founders Youtube Channel here:





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