

March 31, 2023

## PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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## From the Dean of School

### Dean Hayes's Weekly Message



Greetings Founders Community,

In 2017, a group of students at The Founders Academy Public Charter School lobbied to have John Stark Day changed so that it was celebrated during the school year instead of during April Vacation. On April 13, 2017, Governor Chris Sununu signed Founders Academy student-led bill HB91 into law at the Founders Academy Public Charter School! Since that day, because of the leadership skills of our students, John Stark Day is recognized on the second Monday of April in the state of New Hampshire.

This makes John Stark day "Founders' Holiday". We will be celebrating in school on Monday, April 10th and I encourage you to join us for the scavenger hunt in Manchester from April 7- April 9th!

Support our school through this fundraising effort and enjoy a fun event! All families that register are entered to win a 4 pack of Fisher Cats tickets. Register <a href="here">here</a>



-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: <a href="http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/mission">http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/mission</a> vision

## **NEED TO KNOW**

### **Important Dates**

What:	When:
No School- Teacher Workshop	Friday, April 7th
Grade 7 (SAS) & Grade 10 (PSAT)	Wednesday, April 12th
Grade 8 (PSAT), Grade 9 (PSAT), & Grade 11 (SAT makeup)	Wednesday, April 19th
No School - April Vacation	April 24th - April 28th

### Standardized Test Schedule

Tests requiring Computers are in PINK. All other tests are paper/pencil.

### SAT/PSAT/SAS (ELA & Math)

- 4/12 (Wed) Grade 7 (SAS); Grade 10 (PSAT)- Only 7th and 10th grade students attend school
- 4/19 (Wed) ; Grade 8 (PSAT); Grade 9 (PSAT); Grade 11 (SAT makeup) Only 8th and 9th grade students attend school
- 5/3 (Wed) Grade 8 (SAS) Only 8th grade students attend school
- Anytime in April/May Grades 5 & 6 (SAS) Rest of school will have normal school. See information from the team.

#### SAS Science (During normal school day; Held during normally scheduled Science classes)

- Grade 5
  - Any day in May not taken already by Grade 8 or 11
- Grade 8
  - 5/10 & 5/11 (Wednesday/Thursday)
- Grade 11
  - 5/17 (Wednesday) A/B Periods (during Chemistry class)

If you do not want your child taking any of the required tests (SAS or SAT) you must submit this form (you need to make a copy) to the front desk.

### 2022/23 Founders Academy Calendar

### Calendar pedia

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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		10
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### **603 Bright Futures Survey**

The New Hampshire Department of Education values your feedback and wants to hear from you! The 603 Bright Futures Survey is available for you to complete now through April 28. This survey will gather actionable feedback around learning models, school climate, family and community engagement and other topics in order to understand the successes and challenges of the recent school year and plan for the upcoming school year.

Families in K-12, Preschool, and Private Schools: bit.lv/nhedfamily

Staff in Public and Private Schools: bit.ly/nhedstaff

Community Members\*: bit.ly/nhedcommunity

\* Please note that "Community Members" are those who do not have students enrolled in New Hampshire public schools. Those who do should complete the family surveys instead...

### **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 Kelsey Marot at <a href="mailto:kelsey.marot@tfanh.org">kelsey.marot@tfanh.org</a>

## **School News**

### Important Dates For High Schoolers!

Save the Date:

**Applying to College 101 (Juniors and Parents)** 

Date: Wednesday, May 10

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: In-person at Founders

This presentation is intended to educate the student and family about the college admission process and is most appropriate for high school juniors and their family supporters. We'll cover how to build your college list, questions to ask on a college tour, college essay pointers, the application timeline and the basics of financial aid.

### Senior Signs for Sale

### Attention Class of 2023 Parents, Guardians, and Students!



Celebratory Graduation Lawn Signs now are available for the Class of 2023!! Honor your senior with this momentous reminder of their academic achievement!

Signs are \$15 each. Cash, Check (made payable to The Founders Academy) or PayPal accepted.Please drop off money at the front desk (attention Mrs. Forsyth).

Fill out this form to purchase a sign(s) today!

### Student Spotlight: NH All-State Music Festival

The Founders Academy was represented in fine fashion over the weekend as the New Hampshire All State Festival took over the music scene in Concord. After some fifteen hours of rehearsals, the Capitol Center for the Arts was filled with the sounds of NH's finest high school singers and musicians.



Emily Bell (Treble Choir), Sabeena Mori (Mixed Chorus) and Jack Lianos (Orchestra) performed with their peers from all over the state in ensembles conducted by outstanding guest conductors from around the country. Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Hazzard accompanied our students and attended rehearsals as well as professional development workshops. The three-day event was a great success and it was wonderful for our students to get the chance to perform as members of large ensembles.

Unfortunately Chris Saunders (Viola) who was selected for All State was unable to attend. We are extremely proud of these talented students!

### High School Drama Club Performance: The Importance of Being Earnest!

On Friday and Saturday, April 14-15, Founders' High School Drama Club will be performing its spring festival show, performed by the award-winning High School Drama Club company!

Come see this classic British comedy featuring mistaken identities, misunderstandings, and general nonsense! You're sure to enjoy this "trivial comedy for serious people!"

Shows are at 7:00 PM both nights, doors open at 6:30. Tickets cost \$5 a person.

Contact Ms. Mote (k.mote@tfanh.org) with any questions!

### Senior Walk with Manchester Police Department

The Manchester Police Department hosts senior walks once per week with seniors in the community. They have invited The Founders Academy to partner with them so the participants are able to chat with current middle and high schoolers. We are looking for student volunteers to participate in this community service event. Additionally, we are looking for 1-2 parent drivers to help transport the students to and from school. Please know this event takes place during the school day. Please reach out to Dean Hayes (<a href="mailto:cassie.hayes@tfanh.org">cassie.hayes@tfanh.org</a>) directly if you are able to volunteer!

Here is more information on the program:

The Manchester Police Community Affairs Division announces the 2023 Spring Senior Walks. These walks allow seniors to exercise, socialize and experience Manchester with Manchester police officers. Walks are held Monday mornings at 9am unless otherwise noted. The walks are approx. 2-3 miles and take about one hour to complete.

#### April 10, 2023 Manchester River Walk - East

Meet at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel parking lot @ 101 S. Commercial St.

#### April 17, 2023 Rockingham Rec Trail

Meet at the old CVS, 271 Mammoth Rd. Please do not park against building

#### April 24, 2023 Livingston Park

Meet in the parking lot near the playground, Hooksett Rd. @ Redcoat Ln.

#### May 1, 2023 Manchester River Walk - West

Meet at the rear of the West Side Ice Arena @ Electric St.

#### May 8, 2023 Weston Tower

Meet at the parking lot near the baseball field across from Trinity High School

#### May 15, 2023 Manchester/Goffstown Rail Trail

Meet at the front of the West Side Ice Arena @ Electric St

#### May 22, 2023 Rock Rimmon

Meet behind Northwest Elementary School on Youville St, in the parking lot next to the baseball fields

#### May 30, 2023 Livingston Park

Meet in the parking lot near the playground, Hooksett Rd. @ Redcoat Ln

#### June 5, 2023 Massabesic Lake Trail

Meet in the paved parking lot off Londonderry Turnpike. Just south of the Massabesic Traffic Circle

#### June 12, 2023 Manchester Cedar Swamp Preserve

Countryside Boulevard is off of Hackett Hill Rd in Manchester. The trail head is about a half a mile up on the left. There is adequate parking in the parking lot or along the street.

### **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? John Bauer (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. What is the process to become a board member? Interested parents apply by sending their resume/CV to Kimberley Lavallee <a href="mailto:kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org">kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org</a>.

For more information about the board of trustees including meeting agendas and minutes, visit the governance page of the website found <u>here</u>.

### John Stark Day

Here at The Founders Academy Public Charter School, our students are the embodiment of the words that are painted above our front door: Through these doors walk the leaders of our future...the guardians of our liberty.

In 2017, a group of students at The Founders Academy Public Charter School lobbied to have John Stark Day changed so that it was celebrated during the school year instead of during April Vacation. On April 13, 2017, Governor Chris Sununu signed Founders Academy student-led bill HB91 into law at the Founders Academy Public Charter School! Since that day, because of the leadership skills of our students, John Stark Day is recognized on the second Monday of April in the state of New Hampshire.

This year to raise awareness of what the students of The Founders Academy accomplished and to commemorate General John Stark's illustrious service to New Hampshire, our school will be holding a John Stark Day Scavenger Hunt and School Assembly! <u>Visit the website to learn more!</u>

## **Other**

### 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.

### Drama Club Savers FUNdrive

The Drama Club is hosting a Savers FUNdrive! By donating gently used clothing, shoes, and other household items, you can help support the Drama Club!

**Saturday, April 29th** will be a drop off day at the school. From **10AM -2PM**, Drama Club members will be at the school to receive your donations for the Savers FUNDrive.

You can bring in gently used clothing, shoes, bedding, and accessories in garbage bags. Used kitchen items, DVDs, and knick-knacks can be brought in boxes.

Items can also be brought to the front desk. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Mote: k.mote@tfanh.org

\*\***Please note:** the Savers FUNdrive cannot accept the following items: mattresses, baby gear, large appliances, auto parts, building materials, cleaning products, tires, or flammable materials\*\*

### Cinch Bag Fundraiser

Founders Cinch Bags are now available for purchase! Bags come in navy or maroon and are only \$15.00 each! You can even customize them by adding your name for an additional \$2.00!



Orders are due April 20th! Payment and form should be brought to the front office. Be on the lookout for the form in the next parent newsletter.

\*\*Please note there is a three week turn-around for all orders\*\*

### 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

Make checks payable to The Founders Academy

## **Donations**

### Front Desk/Health Office Needs

The front desk is highly in need of the following:

Total Enclosed: \$

- Ibuprofen
- Ice packs
- Forks

We appreciate any help you can provide!

## Bridge the Gap



**Annual Fund Letter From Dean Hayes** 

# Founders On Social Media

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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