

October 28, 2022

PARENT/GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER

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From the Dean of School

Dean Hayes's Weekly Message



Greetings Founders Community,

As a reminder there is no school for students on Monday, October 31st for parent teacher conferences. Parents can sign up for conferences per the directions below. The sign up sheets will be view only at 6pm this evening so teachers can prepare for conferences. If you miss the editing window, please reach out to the teacher directly.

-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

PLEASE READ: ENERGY DRINK PROBLEM

It has come to our attention that students are bringing an energy drink called G-Fuel into school. G-Fuel is a high-octane drink with a lot of caffeine in it. There have been discussions among students about bringing in the drink to share and/or sell. This is not an acceptable drink for students to be consuming at school, and it is certainly not okay for students to share or sell any food or drinks with other students at school. If you see your student with this drink, please do not let them

bring it to school with them. A discussion at home may be helpful in order to stop the circulation of this energy drink at school before it becomes more of a problem. Thank you for your diligence!

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday October 31st from 8am-3pm. Parents should sign up in advance to meet with your child's teacher. If you would like to schedule virtual meetings, please note that on the sign up sheet.

All sign up sheets can be found <u>here</u>. Parents should go through the folder to find each teacher and sign up for an available time. Please do not add any additional times, just your name to the available spot.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT REQUIRED VACCINATIONS

A vote was held by a committee from the CDC to add the COVID vaccine to the list of vaccinations students need to attend school. **Please know that this vote has no impact on your student's required vaccinations** - the COVID vaccine is recommended but not required.

RSA 141-C:1-a provides that **no person may be compelled to receive an immunization for COVID-19 in order to access public school districts or school administrative units**. There is no change to the required list of vaccines for children entering childcare or K-12 school in New Hampshire (RSA 141-C). The NH Department of Health and Human Services has stated that they have no plans to seek legislative approval to add the COVID-19 vaccine to the required list. Parents and guardians can find more information regarding which vaccines are required for school attendance, in addition to information regarding medical and religious exemptions at https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/disease-prevention/immunizations.

PLEASE SUBMIT BACK TO SCHOOL FORM

The back to school form was due on September 16. If you haven't yet, **please fill it out ASAP**. The information is important to keep your student safe. You should have received an email with another link this week, if you haven't submitted a form yet.

Please do not use your phone to fill out the form; it will not work unless you're using a computer/laptop. If you have difficulty attaching the immunization records, you can send in a hard copy to school with your student.

If you have any questions or issues, please email jayda.ragas@tfanh.org.

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

BELL SCHEDULE (2022-2023)

	NORMAL DAY	<u>BELLS</u>
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
1	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
1	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 i.meilleur@tfanh.org.

2022-23 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2022/23 Founders Academy Calendar

September 2022										
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Calendar pedia Your source for calendars

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February 2023										
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March 2023								
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April 2023								
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May 2023										
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June 2023										
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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		
Oct 10, 2022	Columbus Day		
Nov 11, 2022	Veterans Day		
Nov 24, 2022	Thanksgiving Day		

Dec 25, 2022 Christmas Day Dec 26, 2022 Christmas Day (obs.) Jan 1, 2023 New Year's Day
Jan 2, 2023 New Year's Day (obs.)
Jan 16, 2023 Martin Luther King Day
Feb 20, 2023 Presidents' Day

May 29, 2023 Jun 19, 2023 Jul 4, 2023

Memorial Day Juneteenth Independence Day

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Data provided 'as is' without warrant

SAVE THE DATES

What:	When:
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School News

Prepare for the Book Fair!

Founders is having a book fair from December 12-16! Click on this link to learn more.

Recruiting Parent Board Members

Dear Founders Families.

The Founders Board of Trustees is eager to welcome **two new parent members** 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 -vour-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 angela.seggie@tfanh.org or Kimberley Lavallee kimberly.lavallee@tfanh.org 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.

Calendar Raffle



Need we say more?? Daily Ca\$h Prizes!

Make sure your student turns in those blue raffle tickets for your chance to win some \$Green\$

starting November 1st when a winner will be drawn daily! \$50, \$100, and \$250 winners all month long!

Need more tickets? No problem! Have your student drop by the front desk!
Thank you to all the students and families that have already started returning your tickets!

Family Portal for SAS Testing

There is now an electronic portal for parents to see state testing results. Families need a unique ID-stay tuned for more information on how to get yours!

Please review this link for more information about the portal

Meet the Deans of Students!

Mr. Andrew Mihaly Dean of Students Grades 11-12



Teacher, History
Dean of Students
Senate and House of Representatives Advisor

B.A., History, Franciscan University of Steubenville B.S., Education, Franciscan University of Steubenville

Mr. Andrew Mihaly graduated Cum Laude in 2013 from Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH with a double major in History and Secondary Education. He is a NH state-certified teacher with an Experienced Educator License to teach grade 5-12 Social Studies.

Before coming to Founders, he worked for 8 years at Mount Royal Academy in Sunapee, NH, serving as an upper school Social Studies teacher as well as the school's Athletic Director and National Honor Society advisor.

Mr. Mihaly lives locally with his wife and young son, Noah. Outside of school, Mr. Mihaly can usually be found spending quality time with his family, riding his motorcycle, exercising, and adventuring around New Hampshire.

Mrs. Jackie Meilleur Dean of Students Grade 8



Teacher, Spanish & Dean of Students

B.A. Spanish concentration in Secondary Education from Keene State College

This is Mrs. Meilleur's 8th year at Founders. Alongside teaching Mrs. Meilleur is excited to take on the role as one of the Dean of Students for this school year. Her passion has always been making connections with students, working with them to problem solve, and helping them reach their best potential.

In her free time, Mrs. Meilleur enjoys spending time with her family and friends. Mrs. Meilleur loves dogs, making people laugh, being outdoors, and traveling. Mrs. Meilleur lives in Manchester with her husband, her new baby boy, Auggie, and their dog, Bernard.

Ms. Jane Cormier Dean of Students Grade 7



Teacher, Choral Director, Dean of Students

B.A. Creative Arts, Bradford College Graduate Studies, Boston Conservatory

With over 30 years of experience in music education, Ms. Cormier has taught in public, private, parochial and boarding schools throughout New Hampshire. She loves to bring the joy of music to students of all ages and enjoys sharing her gifts of teaching and music with The Founders Academy.

Graduating from Bradford College with a BA in Creative Arts with a minor in Psychology, Jane also studied at the Boston Conservatory. Ms. Cormier has performed leading roles with many regional and international opera houses, including Ashlawn Highland Summer Festival, Indianapolis Opera, Opera Iowa, Des Moines Metro Opera, Vienna Chamber Opera, St. Petersburg Opera (Zazerkalya) in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Cape Cod Opera. Jane also performed in the Andrew Lloyd Webber's Vienna production, "Das Phantom der Oper" in the role of "Carlotta."

Ms. Cormier has been blessed to work with some of the finest professionals in the opera and musical theatre world, including Stage Directors Hal Prince, Frank Corsaro, Febrizio Melano, and Boris Goldovsky; Joan Dornemann, Assistant Conductor and Prompter, and Nico Castel, International Diction Coach, both of the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Jane studied voice with Cynthia Hoffmann, Former Director of Voice at the Juilliard School and Barbara McClosky of the McClosky Voice Studio in Boston.

Today, Jane is Founder/Director of Piccola Opera, a 501©(3) organization dedicated to educating, enlightening, and entertaining the public with regard to the opera/musical arts. Ms. Cormier brings her extensive performance experience and music expertise to all Founders Academy students, heightening their awareness, knowledge, and enjoyment of the musical arts.

Mr. Marc Belanger Dean of Students grades 5 and 6



Teacher, History & Dean of Students

Mr. Marc Belanger grew up in Whitefield, New Hampshire. In his junior year of high school, he enlisted in the New Hampshire National Guard as a Military Police Officer. While in the National Guard, Mr. Belanger graduated from Plymouth State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Studies Education.

Mr. Belanger is the Dean of Students for the fifth and sixth grade as well as a history teacher. This year he will be teaching History II, US History II and World History. In past years, Mr. Belanger has taught a variety of social studies courses including American Military History, AP US History, Civics, and Holocaust and Genocide. Mr. Belanger is a Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Fellow as well as a Alfred Lerner Fellow for the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. He has a keen interest in Holocaust and genocide education and thoroughly enjoys teaching modern US History.

When he is not working, Mr. Belanger enjoys golf, football, and disc golf. He currently resides in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire with his wife, Heather, who is also a teacher.

Ms. Lois Horan Dean of Students grades 9 and 10



Teacher, French & Dean of Students

Lois Horan (Madame Horan) lives in Temple, NH, where for the past six years she has been living and working with adults with cognitive delay in a social therapeutic environment.

She loves hiking, biking, and long distance open water swimming. Because she loves to move, she teaches in an active style, with students moving about the room to learn in a variety of formative assessments.

Mme. Horan studied French and Modern Languages at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and at L'Universite de Strasbourg in Alsace, France. Subsequently she earned her Master's Degree in K-12 Waldorf Education at Antioch University in Keene, NH. She taught kindergarten for many years, then she became a high school dual credit teacher at ConVal High School in Peterborough, NH and a college adjunct professor at Nashua Community College. Later, she completed a certificate of advanced graduate study in Educational Leadership and became certified as a K-12 Principal in New Hampshire and Oregon.

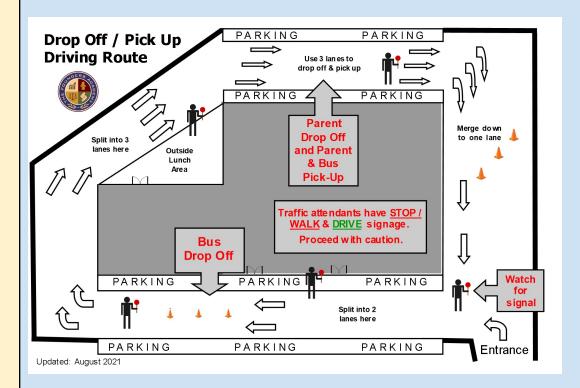
She was the principal of Woodland Charter School in Murphy, Oregon in its early years, establishing the school as a much sought-after alternative to mainstream education in the Grants Pass area.

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!



More information can be found here

SASS Consent to Testing

Convenient MD offers free, asymptomatic COVID testing to our students and staff. Click here 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!

From the Registrar: Important Dates/Schedule Adjustments

Here are some important dates and class schedule adjustments that are happening in October and November.

- Monday 10/31 NO SCHOOL (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
- Tuesday 11/1 Normal Tuesday Schedule
- Wednesday 11/2 Normal Wednesday Schedule
- Thursday 11/3 Normal Thursday Schedule
- Friday 11/4 Students will follow a MONDAY schedule
- Monday 11/7 Normal Monday Schedule
- Tuesday 11/8 NO SCHOOL (Election/Teacher Workshop Day)
- Wednesday 11/9 Students will follow a TUESDAY schedule; REPORT CARDS given to students in Round Table and emailed to parents in the afternoon
- Thursday 11/10 Students will follow a FRIDAY schedule
- Friday 11/11 NO SCHOOL (Veterans Day)

- Monday 11/14 through Friday 11/18 Normal 5-day week
- Monday 11/21 through Friday 11/25 NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Vacation! 🦃)



Senior Walks

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. Here is more information on the program:

The Manchester Police Community Affairs Division announces the 2022 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.

October 31, 2022 Livingston Park Meet in parking lot near the playground, Hooksett Rd. @ Redcoat Ln

November 7, 2022 Massabesic Lake Trail Meet in the paved parking lot off Londonderry Turnpike Just south of the Massabesic Traffic Circle

November 14, 2022 Manchester Cedar Swamp Preserve

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

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.



November 2, 2022 January 11, 2023 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!

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.

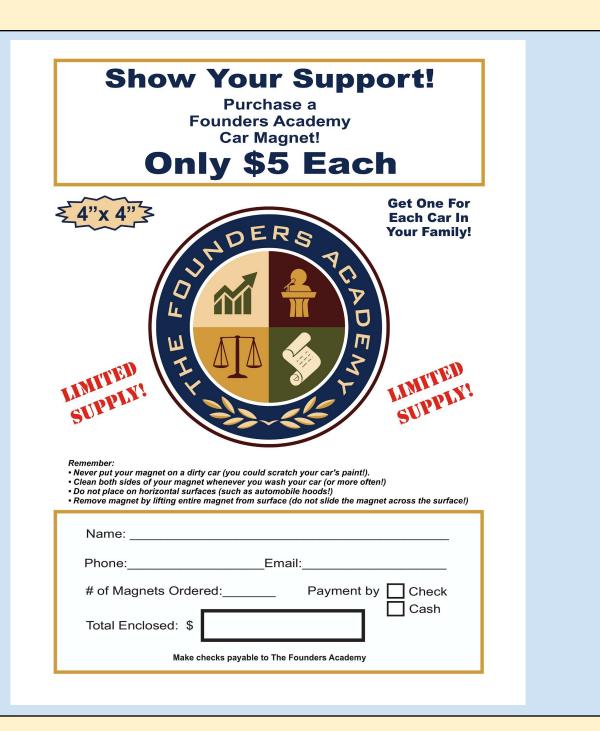
Hats for Sale

There is a limited supply of school hats for sale! \$15 per hat. Contact Dean Hayes at cassie.hayes@tfanh.org 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!



Donations

Donations for PE

The 6th grade PE class is in need of some items for the upcoming winter months, when class won't be able to go outside for fun activities. We appreciate anything you are willing to get for these students. Thank you!

Amazon links:

<u>Ultimate Frisbee</u> <u>Agility Dots</u> Traffic Cones
Rubber Chicken (x4)
Soccer Ball (x4)
Mesh Ball Bag (x2)
Disc Golf Set
Dodgeballs (x4 sets)
Parachute

A Founders Family Could Use Your Help!

One of our 5th grade students and his family lost their house and their possessions to a fire. We are accepting any type of donation, big or small, to help this family out. Here is the link to the GoFundMe page: https://www.gofundme.com/f/fire-relief-for-the-solis-family. Thank you for your generosity!

Also, <u>here</u> is another event to help raise money for the family:

Dear Greater Manchester Baseball League,

Our league is coordinating with the Youngsville Athletic Association and Stark Brewery to rally support and organize a fundraiser to help one of our own. As you know, if you've participated in our league for a season or many...we consider each participant no matter the capacity a member of the GMCL family. With that said, we are coming together to help support a family that has been a member of our league for several years.

On Friday, September 9th Coach Vinny Solis, his wife Tonya, and sons Izaiah and Alex tragically lost their home in a fire. Thankfully they were able to get out unharmed but nearly all of their belongings along with a family pet were lost in the devastation that took their home. We are grateful the Solis family is healthy and unharmed physically by the damages of this tragedy.

Coach Vinny Solis has dedicated many years to coaching throughout the Pony and Colt divisions, pouring his heart into the players he coaches each season and throughout the Manchester Community. Additionally, last year his family poured an incredible amount of time and energy as Coach Vinny took a month off work when he committed to being a Coach for our 14U All Stars that competed throughout the month of July-August to become the first ever NH Pony World Series Participants. The contribution and dedication the Solis family has made to our league is beyond expression with words. They have given so much, and now it is our turn to return the kindness they have always shown others without hesitation. We would like to do all that we can to help their family as they transition through what we all hope no other has to ever endure.

On Thursday, November 3rd at 7:00pm the Stark Brewery will host a reception and light appetizers for the Solis Family Fundraiser for Vinny, Tonya, Izaiah, and Alex; Adults and kids are welcome! There will be 50/50 raffle, Game day tickets for Bruins, Celtics and Patriots as well as silent auction items throughout the event. Tickets for this event are being sold for \$10 with 100% of all proceeds of this event going directly to the Solis family!

Tickets can be purchased at the Pony Field snack shack during any game this season or directly from Steve Fosman or Joe Blodgett. Cash and checks are accepted; please make out checks to YAA and in the memo line kindly add *Solis Family Fundraiser*. If you have any connections to local businesses that would be willing to donate gift cards or other items to be raffled off that night we would greatly appreciate any and all help as we rally behind this event.

Please consider purchasing tickets to support a family that has donated much of their time to the various youth baseball organizations throughout the Manchester Community and spend some time with friends to help make a difference! Thank you all for your consideration and support of this event!

Board Game Donations for 6th Grade

The 6th grade is looking for donations of gently used board games and card games for their Round Table fellowship days. Thank you in advance for your donation!

Playground Ball Donations

Our well-loved playground basketballs, soccer balls, and footballs have reached the age of retirement and could use some replacements to help the kids have fun during recess and to let out all of their energy! If you have any playground balls that are in good shape and would like to donate, we would greatly appreciate it!

Highly Needed Items

We are currently in need of **ramen cups**, **mac and cheese cups**, **paper towels**, **paper bowls**, and **tissues**. Thank you in advance!

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: https://www.facebook.com/groups/123952141583545/

Be sure to follow Founders on Twitter here:



Check out Founders Youtube Channel here:



