



January 12, 2018

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From the Dean of School



Happy Friday!

Have a good long weekend. There is no school on Monday (January 15) to observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The school will have its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. school-wide assembly soon with a date to be announced.

Three members of our Board of Trustees have decided to conclude their service: Maureen Anson (joined the Board in August 2017 contributing valuable insight as a Founders' parent); Rick Hyotte (provided leadership as the Board's chair since August 2015); and Sean Thomas (became a Board member in October 2016, and shared insights drawn from his business acumen). The contributions of these Board members have made Founders Academy a stronger school. Please join me in thanking these departing Board members as we accept their resignations with regret. Please know that the January 17th meeting has been rescheduled since some of the current Trustees cannot make it on that day preventing a quorum. The Board of Trustees will next convene on **Monday, January 22, 2018 at 4pm**. An agenda will be posted [here](#).

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,
Maureen Mooney
Dean of School

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Hello Founders Academy Families,

We are just about at the halfway point of the school year and we are already thinking about spring! With the impending season quickly approaching, the Student Services Department will be ordering AP Exams for students to take in May. For students taking **AP Psychology** or **AP Mobile App**, who want to take the AP Exam, payment will need to be submitted by Wednesday, January 31, 2018. **Checks should be made payable to the Founders Academy in the amount of \$94.00**. Exams will be ordered by the Founders Academy and testing will take place here at the school.

The AP Psychology Exam will take place on Tuesday, May 8, 2018.
The AP Mobile App Exam will take place on Monday, May 14, 2018.

For more information about [AP Exams & Credit](#) please click the link. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,
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~Debra Castonguay, Assistant Director of Student Services
(debra.castonguay@tfanh.org)

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It's great when faculty and staff can leisurely get together! Each year, the Dean her husband host an annual party at their home for teachers, staff and their spouses/significant others. Everyone enjoys the food, off-campus fellowship, and playing creative games. A great time was had by all playing the "First Concert Game," the Yankee Swap, as well as hearing the "Dean's Top Ten" comic reading. All faculty and staff left with a "New Years gift" provided by the Dean and her husband. Happy New Year!

The party is typically held in December but this year was held in January.









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In observance of Martin Luther King Day, January 15, Kristi Scarpone (mother of 7th graders Anna and Ella) is offering to take up to 10 Founders Academy students to volunteer at the New Horizons Food Pantry from 10-12:30.

Mrs. Scarpone serves on the board of New Horizons whose mission is to provide hunger relief, emergency shelter, safe affordable housing, and supportive services to individuals and families who are homeless or in need enabling them to gain self-sufficiency and respect. She and her family have been active volunteers and they would like to invite others to join Monday for a few hours of service in the pantry and on the breadline. New Horizons can accommodate a group of up to 10 students Monday, and transportation would need to be provided by parents.

If you are interested, please contact her by Friday evening at kristi.scarpone@tfanh.org.

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The Founders Academy Public Charter School Hosts Admissions Information Nights - January 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

MANCHESTER, NH - The Founders Academy, an open enrollment chartered public school for grades 6-12 at 5 Perimeter Road, Manchester, NH, is having an Admissions Information Night for prospective families on **Monday, January 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** 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.

There will also be an Open House on Tuesday, February 6th, also at 6:00 p.m.

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Parents and Students -

Below is the link to see the Midterm Exam Schedule - which is scheduled for January 16-19. 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.) If this happens, we will work with the MTA to have the busses still come early for the new Day #4, but that is not guaranteed. If busses can only come at 3:10 instead, students should still be dismissed at 12:30pm if possible and we will provide 1-2 activities for those students who need to wait for the bus.

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 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 charts). 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.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pN_Ijp0PUInopFRpri25IVtgZqFdsS1KOWmlgY_P_lo/edit?usp=sharing

Thank you,
Greg McKenzie
Registrar

A Message from the Parent Steering Committee . . .

Hello, Founders Families!

We are happy to announce that the Parent Steering Committee now has parent representatives for each grade level. Below is the contact information for each grade level representative. Please be advised that the Parent Steering Committee works to provide support to the Board of Trustees and is not affiliated with any matter concerning any individual teacher or student (other than their own).

We are seeking parents who would be interested in serving on the Board of Trustees. Trustees generally have one Board meeting each month, as well as at least one sub-committee meeting each month. For a general description, please see page 8 of the school Charter at http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/about/the_charter as well as the [policies](#) of the school Board of Trustees.

The Parent Steering Committee seeks parents/guardians/caregivers who meet the following criteria:

- Has a student currently attending The Founders Academy (TFA)
- Has a student who has completed one full academic school year at TFA
- Must acknowledge that they have read and understand the Charter of TFA

If you are interested in being nominated for this role please submit your name, a brief bio, and statements supporting why are you are a strong candidate to parentsteeringcommittee@tfanh.org by midnight January 17th.

Parent Steering Committee Representatives:

Peter Olsen, 11th grade: psc11@tfanh.org

Patrice Benard, Chairperson, 10th grade: psc10@tfanh.org

Michael Lawton, Vice Chairperson, 9th grade: psc9@tfanh.org

Jason DiPietro, 8th grade: psc8@tfanh.org

Krysten Apostoles, 7th grade: psc7@tfanh.org

Jon DiPietro, 6th grade: psc6@tfanh.org

We are looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

The Founders Academy Parent Steering Committee

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Below is a list of the most needed items at Founders right now, and to see more visit our website [here](#).

Scotch Tape
Painter's Tape
Doorstops
Kleenex
Plastic Utensils (especially spoons)
Ibuprofen
Black Permanent Markers
White Board Markers
Copy Paper
Colored Copy Paper

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Parents and Students -

We have approximately 15 spots left for both the NYC trip and the Philadelphia/Washington trip. We are not adding any more busses, so it is now first-come-first-serve. If you are interesting in travelling, please sign up as soon as possible.

Also, here is the information on our first fundraiser for these trips. I highly encourage those students who are travelling to consider participating in this to help lower your costs.

Thank you,
Greg McKenzie

Dunkin' Donuts Fundraiser - 2017-2018

Last year, the Music Department ran a very successful fundraiser to benefit students going on the 2017 NYC trip. We are happy to announce that we will be doing this again for the NYC and Washington trips this year! (Note that this cannot be applied to the Great East Trip in May.) **From now until Midterm exam week in January**, we will be selling coupon books for Dunkin' Donuts. Each book sells for \$10, with \$7 going towards lowering the cost of either overnight trip. (This is an excellent profit margin for a fundraiser.)

Each coupon book has 20 coupons in it. Unlike last year where the coupons were good only in NH, this year

the coupons are good throughout NH, Maine, Vermont, and 3 northern New York counties (Essex, Clinton, and Franklin) and they do not expire until August 31st. Some of the coupons include 99-cent muffins, iced teas, hot chocolates, and iced coffees and discounts on other things such as bagels and egg & cheese sandwiches.

We will be selling them at the December Chorus and Band Concerts. All of the money we raise this way will be used to help defray any costs for staff members and then evenly distributed amongst everyone else.

More importantly, if you would like to sell these coupon books (to your parents, relatives, neighbors, family friends, parents' coworkers, etc), all of the profit will go to your individual account. To do this, find Ms. Mote and buy some books directly from her - preferably by check, but if you do need to pay in cash, please put it in an envelope with your name clearly on it. She will record how many books you bought and we will mail your profits directly to Gerber Tours to be placed in your account at the end of January.

Last year, we had students who were able to raise hundreds of dollars in one day by having a parent make a personal Facebook post. These books make great stocking stuffers and awesome gifts for a parent's workplace. I also know of some parents who regularly go to Dunkin's who have bought a few books for themselves to keep in their car. (Remember, since \$7 goes towards a student's trip, that parent only needs to find \$3 in savings to make each book worthwhile.) And again, the coupons don't expire until the end of the summer!

If you are interested in this fundraiser, you can buy 5-10 books from Ms. Mote for \$10 each (cash or check made out to "TFA"), sell them, and then come back to buy more if you do well. You can also take orders from people in advance and pick the books up all at once so that you can deliver them.

If you have any questions about this, let me know at g.mckenzie@tfanh.org or Ms. Mote at k.mote@tfanh.org.

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"The Choral Program is growing! This year, we will have four different levels of Chorus performing (Grades 6 - 11) and sharing the wonderful gift of music! Our choristers have earned the right to be "seen" by our growing audience and we need your help to purchase choral risers for these talented music students.

These choral risers will help highlight our performances by offering professional-looking concert events at our school and at other performance venues.

We are very proud of our Founders Academy performers and look forward to offering them, and our audience, a top-notch performance experience!"

~Mrs. Cormier

Donate here! - <http://bit.ly/2z2RI4y>

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As a newly-founded NH Charter School, The Founders Academy is excited about its budding arts programming. The Choral Program is asking for your assistance by donating to our “**Choral Supporters Donor Page,**” which will list your patronage in Founders Academy Choral Program in our 2017/2018 annual concert and production playbill programs. Your donation will be for the entire 2017/18 academic year.

Please see the following link for the donors form: <http://bit.ly/2y2HCzw>

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Regularly check the school calendar online link: <http://www.thefoundersacademy.org/calendar>

NOTE: Dates are continuously added and possibly changed throughout the year. Please check the online school calendar regularly.

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Be sure to follow Founders on Facebook here:  Æ

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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