

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 6, 2022 10:33 am
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / Windows
IP Address: 174.49.45.178
Unique ID: 1018518686
Location: 36.1723, -86.6608

Name Melissa Scrip

Email mscrip1229@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

I am a homeschool mama for 4 years now - we have an 8 and 9 year old and live in Williamson County. Some people think we are crazy for living in Williamson County and not putting our kids in the public schools here , but my husband and I both are on the same page that we feel WilCo schools are grossly lacking in their education and what they focus on.

I was born and raised in this area, I am not a new transplant, so I have 40+ years knowing the schools around here and what they teach, how they teach, and am not happy with the results. We would consider a private option, but we don't have the income to put 2 kids in private for the next 8 years, so what do we do? Well, for now we choose the curriculum, activities, electives and homeschool our kiddos! We are giving them a solid foundation in teaching them to love learning! There is a reason homeschooling is at its highest number ever right now in Williamson County - our community is desperate for something different!

I participate weekly with 100's of other homeschooling families here in Williamson County and I speak for several of them that Founders Classical is an option we are excited about and would love to get behind bringing to Williamson County! Their mission is strong in helping to equip our kids to be independent thinkers, take personal responsibility and foster a spirit of loving to learn! That is a quality education we are looking for!

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 6, 2022 11:48 am
Browser: Firefox 105.0 / Windows
IP Address: 172.1.251.69
Unique ID: 1018556783
Location: 35.9306, -86.8788

Name Kristie Browning

Email kbrowning5@yahoo.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

As a teacher, I have taught using the classical model for the past five years at one of Franklin's private schools. The varied approach from traditional teaching methods was extremely helpful for helping many students learn difficult material. The cyclical building approach allowed students to continue to refine and deepen their understanding of concepts as they built connections between literature, the real world, and the material we were working on. As a parent, my children have also been able to learn under the classical model. Their ability to dig into a variety of literature, break apart themes, biases, agendas, and build connections far surpasses their peers who have not had this opportunity. My children don't shy away from debates, but understand the importance of examining different perspectives, and maintaining respect during these debates. They are not personal attacks, instead a desire to gain an understanding. These skills have been taught, practiced, and improved upon intentionally because the classical teaching method has placed an emphasis on these values and skills. Addressing the obvious, yes there are several classical schools in Williamson County, however they are all private which comes with a hefty tuition bill. As a single mom with three school-aged children, this is not feasible to add to our budget and my girls have only been able to attend because I worked for their tuition at the school. By opening a classical charter school, my girls will be able to attend and continue to build a firm academic foundation without displacing our budget. Please support Founders Classical of Brentwood. It will open up doors for my children and many others.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 6, 2022 11:56 am
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6 / iOS
IP Address: 66.128.249.209
Unique ID: 1018560467
Location: 35.8094, -86.8897

Name Stephanie Garrett

Email garrettsr@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

Hi my name is Stephanie Garrett and I am the mother of four. Three of which are currently enrolled in Williamson County Schools. Like all children each one of my daughters is extremely unique with different interest and learning styles. Over the last few years I have realized that my oldest struggles with the current curriculum presented in Williamson County Schools. This has nothing to do with the teachers as she has had the most wonderful teachers that pour their hearts into her. They have also worked with me to support her. Her father and I would love to have the opportunity to try a classical education for our daughter as we believe it supports her strengths. With having four children in a extremely expensive county it is impossible financially for us to afford that private education. Approving Founders Classical Academy would give parents like me access to an education currently only the wealthy in this county have been able to obtain. Please approve Founders Classical Academy. Thank you for your time.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 6, 2022 6:36 pm
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.0 / iOS
IP Address: 107.119.65.23
Unique ID: 1018740873
Location: 36.1406, -86.7508

Name Max Finkbeiner

Email maxlfinkbeiner@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below. Parents and children need choices. If there is a need and a desire for a school such as this our local government should not be in a position to interrupt the wants and needs of the community it serves.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 6, 2022 7:05 pm
Browser: Chrome Mobile 105.0.5195.147 / iOS
IP Address: 38.53.173.16
Unique ID: 1018748657
Location: 35.9314, -86.6867

Name Kimberly Swanson

Email kjswanson16@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We completely support CHOICE for Williamson County families and students! We currently have a 4th grader enrolled at Nolensville Elementary and we welcome the choice of a school alternative to what we currently have. We cannot afford to send our child to an expensive private school and currently the only other alternative is to home school which is not our first option. We want to right to CHOOSE what is best for our child and we feel strongly that Founders Classical of Brentwood is just that! It's foundation and core teaching are what we grew up on and what we believe is best for our child. Please let us have our rights as parents in Williamson county and let us CHOOSE where to send our child to school! Thank you!

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 7, 2022 7:44 am
Browser: Safari 15.4 / OS X
IP Address: 66.128.251.217
Unique ID: 1018893639
Location: 35.8094, -86.8897

Name Erin Mitchell

Email mrserinmitchell@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

I am in support of the Founders Classical of Brentwood. Children need a better option than public schools. With the increasing number of people moving to our area, our classrooms are overcrowded and teachers are overworked. We need this for our community.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 7, 2022 1:27 pm
Browser: Chrome Mobile 106.0.5249.92 / iOS
IP Address: 73.58.238.63
Unique ID: 1019036709
Location: 36.0964, -86.8212

Name Cherisse Redmond

Email cherisseredmond@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We want founders classical Academy as an option for our children. We would love to be able to offer our children a classical education here in TN. Bill Lee has stated in the past that he is for education all choice and I think that having a charter school locally here in middle Tennessee makes perfect sense. We are FOR Founders Academy and are looking forward to seeing more charter school options in Tennessee.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 7, 2022 6:56 pm
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS
IP Address: 66.128.255.210
Unique ID: 1019144338
Location: 35.8094, -86.8897

Name Braeden Weygandt

Email braedenmarie@yahoo.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

I write today and beg you to please approve Founders Classical Academy. I believe a Classical Education is far superior then what is being offered currently in any Williamson County school, public or private. Founders has over 85 other campuses with a proven record of academic success. Please vote yes.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 7, 2022 9:45 pm
Browser: Safari 15.6 / OS X
IP Address: 71.228.248.7
Unique ID: 1019171010
Location: 35.9306, -86.8788

Name	Francis Weaver
Email	mybnl1@gmail.com
Organization	Founders Classical of Brentwood
Please provide your written comment below.	Please allow the opening of Founders Classical school. Our county needs choice. Education is not a one size fits all program. Children and parents need options and Founders Classical Academy allows great choices for families who need an alternative for their child.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 8, 2022 2:55 pm
Browser: Chrome 105.0.0.0 / OS X
IP Address: 76.228.105.114
Unique ID: 1019312758
Location: 35.9306, -86.8788

Name Jennifer Scoggins

Email jennifer.scoggins@comcast.net

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

I am writing today to ask you to approve the charter application for the Founders Classical Academy of Brentwood. Classical education is an incredible addition to a community, because it's goal is to create critical thinkers and life long learners. The main goal of classical education is to teach a student HOW to learn. It empowers students to first learn HOW to learn, and then to find things they want to learn about for the rest of their lives.

It's fosters the idea that "education" is not meant to encompass 12 or 16 years of life, but rather it's meant to be a life long pursuit. Our middle school and high school daughters have been in classical education since preschool, and I WISH there had been an option like Founders Classical Academy for them when they were in elementary school. We very likely would have chose to participate in the public school system if there had been a classical charter school. Instead, we have chosen to homeschool, because we are such big believers in the classical education method.

I have watched children who are on the spectrum, children who are excellent students, and children who are very average students - all thrive in classical education. Please approve this charter and give more students in Williamson county a choice to participate in this robust curriculum. I believe that approving this charter will help keep more families, who care about classical education in the public school system. I think you will find that Thales, the private classical school in Williamson county is busting at the seams and growing by leaps...because parents want this option. If you give families this option, you will help to support the public school system and keep more families, by giving them a choice.

Thank you for your time.

Form Name:	October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time:	October 11, 2022 11:29 am
Browser:	Safari 15.5 / OS X
IP Address:	71.228.248.7
Unique ID:	1020264285
Location:	35.9306, -86.8788

Name	Francis Weaver
-------------	----------------

Email	mybnl1@gmail.com
--------------	------------------

Organization	Founders Classical of Brentwood
---------------------	---------------------------------

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 11, 2022 11:29 am
Browser: Mobile Safari 16.0 / iOS
IP Address: 104.28.33.132
Unique ID: 1020264305
Location: 36.1671, -86.7861

Name Kelly Short

Email kellyshort5982@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Thank you,
Kelly Short
(Williamson County, TN Parent)

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 11, 2022 12:14 pm
Browser: Chrome Mobile 106.0.0.0 / Android
IP Address: 166.196.103.85
Unique ID: 1020284996
Location: 39.9664, -75.1685

Name Scott Weygandt

Email scott.veygandt77@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 11, 2022 5:19 pm
Browser: Android browser 4.0 / Android
IP Address: 69.139.57.169
Unique ID: 1020420229
Location: 26.2845, -81.7563

Name Dr. Ken Schultz

Email zukey46@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below. Please uphold commitment to the absolute option of School of Choice!
This is paramount in today's atmosphere of government control!

Form Name:	October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time:	October 11, 2022 6:28 pm
Browser:	Safari 14.1.2 / OS X
IP Address:	68.52.122.221
Unique ID:	1020441469
Location:	36.0048, -86.7886

Name	Tonya Homme
Email	tonya.homme@gmail.com
Organization	Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 11, 2022 7:19 pm
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS
IP Address: 184.88.102.146
Unique ID: 1020456350
Location: 28.6623, -81.4136

Name Beth Brooks Vogel

Email eabrooks@me.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 12, 2022 8:39 am
Browser: Chrome 106.0.0.0 / Windows
IP Address: 104.129.204.115
Unique ID: 1020624702
Location: 33.8775, -84.5017

Name Elliott Franklin

Email elliot@elliottfranklin.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Thank you!

Elliott Franklin
Franklin, TN

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 13, 2022 11:42 am
Browser: Firefox 105.0 / Windows
IP Address: 38.53.159.199
Unique ID: 1021204576
Location: 35.7854, -86.7569

Name Roberta Swank

Email robertanashville@gmail.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

Please approve Founders Classical of Brentwood. Our county needs a public classical education option, especially for families that cannot afford private classical education. Classical education students have a proven track record of performing better than traditional public school students. Students need this option. It will provide the opportunity for students to read and study classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics while learning from the founding documents, and study math in a way that allows students to learn and excel. Options are important and Founders Classical of Brentwood is very much needed in our community.

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 13, 2022 9:43 pm
Browser: Mobile Safari 15.6.1 / iOS
IP Address: 172.127.78.201
Unique ID: 1021489229
Location: 35.9306, -86.8788

Name Mary Berck

Email maryberck@me.com

Organization Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

We are thrilled about the prospect of Founders Classical Academy opening in Williamson County. Classical education offers a rigorous environment with classes ranging from English Literature to Latin to Civics.

As parents, we likely all strive to have children that will contribute to our community, and this style of education has consistently produced well rounded and well-educated members of our society. Our family feels that the addition of Founders Classical Academy will continue to enrich our already high performing county and continue to draw families from all over to be a part of such a robust school district.

We are excited about an education focusing on not only contemporary themes but also the chance to read and dissect classic novels, study multiple languages from a young age, study comprehensive civics detailing the founding documents, and study math in a way that has produced students that are excelling across the world. During the last couple of years, it has become abundantly clear why a charter school choice of this type is necessary and important.

Please approve Founders Classical Academy in Williamson County at the Oct. 17th Tennessee Public Charter School Commission meeting.

Thank you,

Mary Berck

Form Name: October 17 & 18, 2022 Commission Meeting Written
Submission Time: October 14, 2022 9:38 am
Browser: Firefox 102.0 / Windows
IP Address: 142.190.91.82
Unique ID: 1021640130
Location: 34.4825, -85.3298

Name	Nicole Hargrove
Email	nikki.hargrove712@gmail.com
Organization	Founders Classical of Brentwood

Please provide your written comment below.

Dear Tennessee Public Charter School Commission,

I am a Williamson County resident, taxpayer, and most importantly, parent of 2 young children. I currently have a first grader at Thompsons Station Elementary, and a 3-year-old who will likely be a student in WCS in a few years. As a mother, I believe that education plays a monumental role in the shaping of my children for their futures. With Founders Classical Academy, I feel that my children will have a rigorous and rewarding educational experience that they could not receive anywhere else in Williamson County.

I was a student in Williamson County Schools from 4th grade through high school graduation, attending Trinity Elementary, Kenrose Elementary, Woodland Middle, and graduating from Ravenwood High. I received an excellent education in Williamson County Schools, and I remember my parents strategically planning where to buy a home when we moved back to Tennessee from Georgia when I was in elementary school (both of my parents are native middle Tennesseans as well -- my roots here run deep). Because of the great education I received and Williamson County's reputation, I insisted that we buy in Williamson when my husband and I moved back here as well.

However, I am finding that the curriculum that is currently in our schools is not as challenging or educationally valuable as that with which I grew up. I understand that just tossing out the current Wit & Wisdom curriculum for the entire county and replacing it immediately may not be financially feasible. I would love to see another option for parents than opting our children out of multiple books and having them sent to the library to sit alone for weeks at a time doing an "independent study". That's not a valuable education experience, especially for elementary schoolers.

I have attended informational meetings, and I have been extremely impressed by the curriculum provided. There is an extensive focus on phonics in elementary grades, which I feel is necessary, and severely lacking in our public schools as they stand now. I love the idea of our kids learning Latin earlier than I had the opportunity (high school) and how that will open them up to a better understanding of English and many other languages. What I am most excited for is the classical, age-appropriate literature my children would read and discuss at this school, such as Charlotte's Web, Peter Pan, The Jungle Book, The Adventures of Robin Hood, The Iliad, Swiss Family Robinson, and the list goes on and on.

I attended both of the public appeal hearings, and many of the "deficiencies" that WCS noted in their denial of charter approval appear to have been rectified, from the lack of funding to the operational structure. There seemed to be much concern over how the school will handle students with IEPs. Forgive me for being blunt, but might that concern be a bit overblown? Founders has already said that they will partner with an outside resource to best structure education for any students who attend.

Afterall, doesn't IEP stand for Individualized Education Plan? Meaning they would need to actually know who the students are and what their needs are before they can set a concrete plan?

Additionally, WCS in-house council Dana Ausbrooks noted several times in her presentation that there was not sufficient funding for student laptops or a transportation plan fleshed out. As a parent of a first grade bus rider, I have to say that WCS doesn't have either of those problems all figured out themselves. First things first: many of us parents are frankly sick of dealing with the laptops to begin with and would prefer our children NOT have a school issued laptop at all. Our kids are smart, and as much as WCS would like to say that only educational activities are occurring on these Chromebooks, that is a blatant lie, as I know for a fact that kindergarteners and first graders have figured out how to access Youtube and watch all kinds of ridiculous videos. I would much prefer that my children be learning from actual books, textbooks, workbooks than using a school issued computer. Secondly, the bus situation: WCS doesn't have nearly as many bus drivers as they need themselves. We live 5 minutes from my child's school, but her bus driver drives a double route, so it takes roughly 35-45 minutes for my child to get home after dismissal. Please rest assured, those of us parents who intend to send our children to this charter school are willing to drive our children to and from school if that's what is necessary for them to get a quality education.

We absolutely plan on sending our two children to Founders Classical Academy when it opens in 2023, as they will be entering kindergarten and second grade. This school will be a welcomed addition to Williamson County, and I strongly believe it will become the standard of what education should be in Middle Tennessee. I urge you to please not deny us this opportunity to gift our children with a great education.

Warm Regards,

Nicole Hargrove