

Xavier Charter School Parent Faculty Association
Thursday, October 13, 2011
Agenda

Executive PFA Committee:

President: Delynn Bird

Vice President: Cindy Bezas

Treasurer: Mikal Bone

Treasurer: Christine Rasmussen

Secretary: Jodi Mehta- absent

1. Please be sure to sign in on volunteer computer

2. PFA Mission: The mission of Xavier Charter School PFA is to support the students, teachers and parents of the school; by raising funds we can develop and implement activities that build community and enrich the learning environment. It is our belief that children become motivated to be life-long learners when they are a part of a thriving learning environment that includes the participation of family, school and community. We agree to positively uphold and model the vision of Xavier's Great Expectations

3. New Board Member Introduction: Cindy has two children enrolled at XCS. She is a free lance writer and has experience with grant writing and participation of various committees. The PFA board is thrilled to welcome Cindy Bezas as Vice President.

4. Treasurers Report – Mikal and Christine: Ending balance is \$30,243.00. Deposits- Interest of \$3.73. Expenses-\$50.00 for XCS staff breakfast for welcome back to school.

5. Principal's Report: Mel Wiseman and Kelly Murphy introduced themselves. They are retired public school administrators that together have a combined 50+ years of experience. They have accepted the charge of interim administration as Murphy Consulting on a month to month basis. They are asking questions, doing the required reporting, and preparing for Xavier's 5 year accreditation review which will be discussing in more detail at the school board meeting. Kudos to the mission and charter of Xavier- with 600+ kids discipline has been fairly easy to handle.

Mrs. Robbins gave activities update-October 21 is Sadie Hawkins dance for secondary students. New school coordinated events similar to the summer day at the swimming pool. The school coordinates the event but parent provide the supervision. High school went to Laser Mania last week and 5-8 grades will go this week.

6. Xavier Helping Hands: Cindy-Explained the idea of Xavier Helping Hands. It would be a community service event with students wearing vests that say "Xavier Helping Hand" on the back. The vests would be used for specific community service events that could be done 2-4 times per year like a canned food drive. Discussion: We get credit for a portion of Highway 30 cleanup, yet we're not doing the work. Make sure existing projects to build positive PR before going door to door. Need to not wear out kids or parents. Mel Wiseman asked about central coordination of events. Discussion that role historically has been the school administration.

7. News Letter: Cindy suggested a school wide newsletter that could be used to help communicate upcoming events and showcase achievements. Suggested a student section for poetry or artwork to showcase students work. Parent suggestion to make it fun so as including pictures of dances, highest GPA, etc. Power school is used for primary communication but not all parents have internet and some check email infrequently.

8. LED lighting system for dances, etc: PFA received a requested to help purchase a LED lighting system for school dances. Since the request was received, the graduating class of 2011 and the student body decided to split the cost. The light system together with the school's PA system can be used instead of hiring a DJ to provide lights and sound for school dances.

9. Tentative Events Schedule:

- a) Fall Frolic-scheduled for Saturday October 29th from 11-2. Admission is a bag of candy per family. The Dance Company will be offering hot dogs, chips, snacks, and drinks. Each of the K-6 grade classes will have a game booth. The teacher's room reps are coordinating the game booths.
- b) Xavier Helping Hands-TBD
- c) College Prep-The secondary faculty are teaming up to offer afterschool college prep events. Mrs. McCallister asked for snacks as an added incentive. The PFA is asking for parent volunteers to provide the snacks. The first college prep day will be on October 18th.
- d) Dance-a-thon-scheduled for May.

10. Fundraisers

- a) Box Tops: Keep collecting
- b) Soup Labels-Keep collecting
- c) Ink Cartridges-Need new collection box.
- d) New ideas: penny wars, auction and dinner. Open discussion: Some parents were feeling last year like there were a lot of fundraisers. Parents/students are not obligated to participate in everything. Pick the ones you want to participate in. Several schools have had great success in silent auctions: really nice dinner, different baskets and items for silent auction, plus also desserts. A parent said she would be willing to head it up. We've had the suggestion of the penny wars with the big bottles; pennies count toward your class, anything other counts against the class. Run for maybe a month or so; the winning class would get a pizza party or something like that. Maybe even in the future the penny war could be longer and team up with a community entity. There's no going door-to-door, etc. People could participate or not. Last year we had a matching sponsor for a fundraiser breakfast and were able to purchase table and a freezer. If we did this, it would be for a dishwasher for the lunch program. A dishwasher would eliminate the need for the disposable trays and would be a cost-saving for the lunch program plus being more eco friendly. A couple parents about the Barnes and Noble book fair. The book fair can be done in store and online; could be emailed to friends and relatives, etc. Discussed ways to make the Dance/Jog-a-thon more parent friendly such as sending a family form instead of individual forms. There would be less expense, less work for parents to address, less work for people tallying, and more eco friendly.

11. Sweatshirts and Directories-Preordered items will be available for pick-up at the Fall Frolic. The final order for sweatshirts will be sent out in November. All orders will need to be in by December 1st for delivery before Christmas.

12. Questions or Comments on Agenda Items-no further questions.

Adjourned.