



News & Notes

January 2024
Volume #414

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Xavier High School is a proud member of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System, and has been accredited by AdvanceED (formerly the North Central Association) since 1970.

Dear Xavier family,

During second term, we have our College Credit Leadership class in session. This assembly of aspiring leaders meets to discuss leadership theory, practice effective leadership, and prepare for roles as captains, club officers, community leaders and role models. It’s quite an experience. Still, there is one regular yet unexpected feature of our discussion – the question of “Is leadership even really a thing?”

Now, I am not leaving enough space for their bevy of arguments, but the underlying question is really this – is everyone a leader? And if so, who would be left to be a follower? This question sticks with me because I am convinced the answer is yes, we are all called to leadership. That doesn’t mean each of us needs to give a speech in front of the whole school, or that each of us needs to be a team captain or a future elected official. But leadership is the ability to positively influence others in order to help them achieve a common goal. Student leaders are at the heart of all that we do at Xavier. They should be celebrated.

Our school year begins with an orientation day during which 40-50 upperclassmen spend the day with our new students to welcome them, familiarize them with Xavier traditions and opportunities, and provide a friendly face during those first days in a new school. Just 72 hours later, the commons becomes a typhoon of activity as the Club Fair takes place. Imagine 500 high school students, all navigating the space to learn about the clubs and organizations for the year, with officers and student leaders literally standing on the tables holding signs, inviting new members, bribing with candy. Homecoming caps off the first month – each part of the Homecoming Week is student-planned and student-run. From the parade to the dance, the pep rally to Family Feud, our young people work behind the scenes to make the week a success.

Once the year is underway, our Honor Council is regularly visited by students with ideas for new clubs and activities. Fly tying club? Why not? Investment Club? Sure. Winter Gala? Let’s give it a try. The students give feedback on new school initiatives (I do not recommend asking them about dress code), provide direction for new clubs, and disseminate the information to their homerooms to make sure everyone knows what’s happening in our building. In addition, several times a week, students host shadows so that prospective new students can learn about a day in the life of a Xavier student. They give tours to families, talk about their activities with adults who have questions, and generally take the time to represent us with grace and honor.

And all of this is not even to mention the servant leaders – those who work in the booth or on stage to make the musical possible, those who volunteer to tutor their fellow students, those who use their off blocks to brush the snow from the windshields in the faculty parking lot. Each and every day, we are blessed by young leaders growing into their individual leadership styles. It’s part of what makes us a Catholic school – God made each one of us a unique combination of skills and traits in order to improve the world. Finding oneself and using one’s leadership capacity is a daily prayer of thanksgiving to God. As we begin 2024, join me in celebrating the student leaders of Xavier. Our future is in good hands!

For God’s Greater Glory,

Mike Mauthe
Principal



From the Business /Attendance Office



All tuition questions are handled through the Central Office. Please call the office if you have any questions regarding charges or payments to your account. The number there is 735-9380.

A sincere thank you to all parents who report absences and delayed arrival times for their students!! Accurate attendance is very important and this year calls to parents have been minimal. Please remember to send a written note or call 882-6903, or email attendance@xaviercatholicschools.org when your student needs an early dismissal, or for any attendance matters.

Lunch accounts should always have an available balance. You may access your student's lunch account at any time. Notices of overdrawn accounts are emailed from the Central Office. Please contact Central Office 735-9380 if you have any specific questions regarding an account.

ACT Test Prep

Attention Class of 2025 Parents and Students: ACT Test Prep will be offering a class at Xavier to prepare students for the upcoming test on February 10th. The prep class is scheduled for February 5th-8th from 4pm-7:15 pm. A practice exam, teacher-led instructional sessions, and materials will be provided to participating students. If you are interested in signing up for the **prep class**, please visit: www.act-testprep.com

This is a great opportunity for students who took the October exam to improve upon their scores. Any questions should be directed to Mrs. Jones.



Members of Mrs. Selenka's English 12 Class

In term 2, the senior English class embarked on a heartwarming legacy project that created lasting memories for both students and our cherished XHS community. In the spirit of the season, these seniors combined creativity, technology, and a dash of holiday magic to share their high school experiences and spread joy. Here are three highlights:

Elf on the Shelf Adventures: Our mischievous elf friends have found their way into XHS via a pair of nostalgic English students. Throughout the halls and classrooms, these elves were on a mission to create laughter and camaraderie among students and staff alike. Students kept an eye out for their escapades, and they brought a sprinkle of holiday cheer to our school days!

Capturing High School Moments: Ever wondered what a day in the life of a high school senior is like? Another pair of seniors are excited to share snippets of their high school journey through engaging videos. Get ready to follow their experiences, achievements, and candid moments as they unfold on social media platforms. It's a unique opportunity for parents to glimpse into the lives of their soon-to-be graduates, so stay tuned and share the joy!

Gifts of Kindness to Clover Elementary in Menasha: In the spirit of giving, another pair of students wrapped and delivered special gifts to the kindergartners at Clover Elementary. This heartwarming gesture not only builds a bridge between the upper and lower grades through a holiday wrapping project, but it also cultivated a sense of community and kindness that will resonate for years to come.

We invite parents, teachers, and fellow students to join us in celebrating this special project that left a lasting legacy within our school community.

*News & Notes is a periodical which is published
monthly by Xavier High School, 1600 W. Prospect
Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914*

Current Freshman Parents

We will be sending out videos with information about your students registering for their sophomore year courses. We plan to get this information to you by January 24th, so keep an eye out for it in your inbox. The deadline to register for classes is February 12th. After watching the videos, please feel free to reach out to your student's counselor with any questions you may have.

(Last names beginning with)
A-H Mrs Schuh
I-M Mrs Hammen
N-Z Mr Neiswender

Online Course Selection

The school counselors will be visiting classes to advise students about course selection for the 2024-2025 school year. It takes a few weeks to reach all of the students, so thanks for your patience. Teachers and counselors are ready to answer any questions that you may have about course choices.

Students have until Feb. 12 to enter their choices in Powerschool.

PreACT Results Being Returned to Freshmen and Sophomores

The Counseling Department will return the Pre-ACT results at the end of term 2 or beginning of term 3 when we go into classrooms to discuss course registration. For Sophomores, these results will be discussed individually with students and parents during our Sophomore Planning Conferences.

Junior Parent Night

All parents of juniors are invited to Junior Parent Night on Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 PM in the XHS theater. We will cover junior course selection, graduation requirements, college visits, creating the college application list, and extras like placement exams (ACT/SAT), faith exploration opportunities, and using Naviance Family Connections to manage their college applications. Your students do not need to attend because they will receive this information in school over the course of the second semester. Counselors also discuss these topics individually with students during their junior visit. We look forward to seeing you!

Sophomore Parent Conferencing

Sophomore parents and guardians should look for information to be coming via mail and email in late January regarding the meeting that will occur with you, your child, and your child's counselor. In this conference, which is tailored to address the needs of students at the midpoint of high school, we will discuss your child's talents, areas of interest, educational development, and career interests.

We will also share information helpful in your planning for the rest of high school, including graduation requirements, test results, course selection, and post-secondary options.

Conferences generally last 45 to 60 minutes, and take place throughout the school day. Your involvement is very important and we hope for 100% participation by the parents/guardians of our current sophomores. When you receive the letter in late January with details about scheduling your conference please be sure to contact Beth Carpenter, our registrar, to secure a meeting time. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Class of 2024 Information

Measurements for graduation gowns will be taken on Tuesday, January 9th. Students will be issued the gowns as well as caps & tassels in the early weeks of May. Information will be given to the students on Jan. 9th regarding ordering graduation announcements and other graduation products. The representative will be available on January 23 during lunch periods to take orders. For more information, please visit [the Counseling Department website](#).

Changes to FAFSA - Senior Parents!

The new FAFSA form is now available!

We suggest every family fill out and submit the FAFSA as soon as you possibly can. Colleges will be scrambling to get this information so they can create financial aid award packages and get those out to admitted students as quickly as possible. We are already seeing some schools set February 15th as their priority date in order to be eligible for all aid money available (grants, scholarships and loans).

For more information about the FAFSA, please [go to this link](#). As always, feel free to reach out to your student's counselor if you have any questions or if we can help in any way.

Campus Ministry

Catholic Schools Week January 28-February 3

We are so grateful for the support and guidance we receive from our parishes, and look forward to celebrating this special week with you!

Upcoming All-School Masses

Join us for our upcoming all-school masses at 10:45am at St. Bernard:

- Wednesday, January 10
- Wednesday, January 31 (Catholic Schools Week)
- Wednesday, February 14 (Ash Wednesday)

All are welcome!

Weekday Mass Opportunities

Join us during X on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:15am for Mass!

“Duncan Donuts”

Join us from 7:20-7:40am Thursday mornings in Room 131 to share a faith moment from your week. Informal. Free doughnuts. All are welcome.

Bible Study

Students are invited to join Ms. Wesolek in Room 134 Wednesday morning at 7:25 for a bible excerpt and reflection.

Service Hour Opportunities

Every Tuesday, students receive a “SPIRIT Stuff” email update with new service opportunities. New parish and community service opportunities are also posted on the Mobile Serve app and on Instagram (xhscampusministry).

All-School Retreat & Service Day

Students get to participate in an all-school retreat and service day on Friday, April 26. Please avoid scheduling appointments or time away from school that day. If you should have any questions or are interested in leading a group, please contact Kate Geenen (kgeenen@xaviercatholicschools.org).

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held the first Friday of each month in the Chapel from 7:45am - 3:00pm. Please contact Katie Wesolek to sign up. (kwesolek@xaviercatholicschools.org).

Sport & Society TRat Field Trip

Term 2 Sport & Society classes toured the Wisconsin Timber Rattler offices and facilities at Fox Cities Stadium and learned about the business side of sports from one of the area's most successful entertainment options.



ALL RISE!

THE NORTHEAST WISCONSIN PASSION PLAY
2024

This inspiring, uplifting, musical drama is an original work focused on the ministry, Passion and Resurrection of Our Lord.

The story is told through contemporary Christian music, exuberant dance and drama with volunteer performers from various communities in Northeast Wisconsin.

Performances are at the accessible, state-of-the-art Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, 1600 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton.

7:00 pm March 21, 22, 23
1:00 pm March 23, 24

\$14 Adult • \$12 Senior Citizen • \$9 Student

Opening Night Discount: Adult & Senior \$10 • Student \$6

Ticket prices do not include service fees on credit card purchases.

These fees are established by Showtix4u, our box office vendor, and are non-refundable.

www.newpassionplay.org

(920) 733-8840

Tickets on sale January 15

9am online, Box office: noon - 3:00 pm, M & W

A Program of the St Francis Xavier Catholic School System

Spring Sport Starting Dates

Baseball – Monday, March 18
 Head Coach: Tim Harikkala
harikkala@new.rr.com
 Open Gyms starting January 14, 6-8PM in the Blue Gym
 Sign up Meeting, Wednesday Jan. 10 after school in the team room

Golf, Boys – Monday, March 25
 Head Coach: Ross Visocky
ross.visocky@gmail.com

Soccer, Girls – Monday, March 18
 Head Coach: John Meyer
jmeyer@mortonsafety.com
 Open Gyms starting January 7

Softball – Monday, March 11
 Head Coach: Courtney O'Connor
coconnor95@comcast.net
 Open Gyms starting January 14, 4-6PM in the Blue Gym

Tennis, Boys – Monday, March 25
 Please contact Kieran Wallace with questions.
kwallace@xaviercatholicschools.org

Track & Field – Monday, March 4
 Head Coaches: Luke Frommelt & Sarah Nortman
lfrommelt@xaviercatholicschools.org
snortman95@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

January 10	All School Mass – 10:50 at St. Bernard's
January 12	XSC Blood Drive
January 19	No School – End of Term 2
January 28-February 3	Catholic Schools Week
January 29-30	Incoming Freshmen Registration Nights
January 31	All School Mass – 10:50 at St. Bernard's (Catholic Schools Week)
February 3	Celebrate!
February 7	Orchestra Concert (7:00 at XHS)
February 8-13	Valentine's Revue
February 14	All School Mass (10:50 at St. Bernard's) – Ash Wednesday
February 21	Half Day – Parent-Teacher Conferences (4-6pm)
March 6	Fine Arts Night
March 8	XSC Blood Drive
March 12	College Fair
March 13	All School Mass (10:50 at St. Bernard's)
March 13	Jazz Benefit Concert
March 14	Xavier Acting Showcase (7:00 in theatre)
March 18-19	Half Days – Final Exams
March 20	End of Term 3 – No School
March 28	Half Day – Beginning of Easter Break
March 29	No School – Easter Break

Athletic Calendars

Are available on the Bay Conference [website](#) or by downloading the ASMobile Activity Scheduler app.

Spring Sport Eligibility

If you have not completed the athletic eligibility requirements, the athletic video should be watched first.

1. The video should be watched on a computer. There are questions that must be answered alongside the video, so a computer is best. If you absolutely need to complete the video on a mobile device, you'll be prompted to install the EdPuzzle app. *The video is 25 minutes, so please watch it when you have time to get all the way through it.
2. **Please enter all your first and last name** at the start of the video.
 1. <https://edpuzzle.com/open/fawanur> (CLICK ON THE ASSIGNED VIDEO)

Here is the [link](#) to the online paperwork for eligibility. Typically, parents will fill this out or help the student, because info about doctor, insurance, etc are needed.

Before you begin, you'll need insurance info, contact info, last physical date, and emergency contact info to complete the forms. *The password is XavierHawks23-24.

Please also make sure to contact Greg Schultz, our licensed athletic trainer, to schedule your Sportgait baseline concussion test. (gregory.schultz@ascension.org)