



News & Notes

May 2024
Volume #428

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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,

Every senior class has its own story, its own journey. As we count down the days until graduation (some of us more than others), it's a great time to look back on the life and times of the Class of 2024 and the legacy they leave for us as lifelong members of the Xavier community.

This class spent its orientation day in social distancing mode. I didn't see any of their full faces until months into their high school careers. They learned how to navigate high school while spending all of every class in "work spaces" like the Torchy Gym. Our first interactions were often related to phrases like "close contact," "quarantine," and "why weren't you in attendance at my Google Meet lecture?"

Freshman Homecoming? No dance. Athletic events? No crowds. Many of the things that we remember from our high school experience weren't available to the Class of 2024 when they started at Xavier. Still, they've certainly made up for lost time.

- Their first Homecoming dance was outdoors in a tent (which, for the record, they still beg me to bring back as the standard Homecoming)
- They may not have been able to have traditional State games or competitions in some sports at the beginning, but they've spent as much time winning or competing at State tournaments as any class in our history.
- They returned us to normalcy by jumping into clubs, starting new clubs, offering leadership even when they were underclassmen. They've set an example of passionate school spirit, even if they're sometimes a bit too zealous.
- They've been flexible as we navigated the changing landscapes around us. But let's be clear – unlike most high schools' graduating classes this year, the Xavier Class of 2024 has been here, in person, for all four years. Every single day. That's something to be proud of, and it reflects a drive which will serve them well in their next endeavors.

For many of us, these are memories we'd like to keep in the distant past. Times were uncertain and challenging. Those times were formative to the young men and women who are now about to graduate and move on to new communities as people of faith, servant leaders, and scholars. As we celebrate them this month, let's remember the place from which they began this high school journey. It is a tribute to them as individuals and to their class that they arrived here in such style and with such a list of accomplishments.

As our seniors join the prestigious community of Xavier alumni, join me in holding them in prayer. May the relentless spirit of St. Francis Xavier be enkindled in them, that the same courage and passion by which he lived may be seen in each of them. May the faithfulness of Mary our Mother and the trust in God of Joseph, her husband, inspire each of them to greater faith and trust in the Lord. May they live Jesus in their hearts forever. As much as we are sad to see them go, we rejoice in the promise of what God has in store for them. Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

For God's Greater Glory,

Mike Mauthe
Principal



Senior Celebrations and Events

SENIOR AWARDS CEREMONY- Senior Awards will be held on Sunday, **May 19** from **7PM** in the Xavier Theatre. Students are asked to dress up for this formal event. We will present academic and extra-curricular awards as well as several community scholarships. All seniors and their families are welcome to attend, but award recipients will be notified ahead of the event.

BACCALAUREATE MASS - Baccalaureate Mass will take place on **Tuesday, May 21** at **10:50 a.m. in the theatre**. Seniors will wear the graduation gowns (but not caps). Family members are welcome to attend.

SENIOR EXAMS - Senior exams will take place on **Thursday, May 23** and **Friday, May 24**. Thursday is a full day of school. Seniors will go to their morning classes and then take their third and fourth block exams. On Friday, seniors will take their blocks one and two exams and be finished by 11:35.

GRADUATION PRACTICE—This rehearsal is mandatory for all seniors and will take place at **1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29** at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Seniors are asked to enter through the valet parking entrance at the PAC (these are the doors to the right of the main entrance on the corner of Division and College). Practice usually lasts about an hour. Seniors should make sure they are not scheduled to work at this time.

GRADUATION—We will celebrate the **Class of 2024** on **Wednesday, May 29** at **7:00 p.m.** (doors open at 6 p.m.) at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Tickets are required for entry. Seniors will receive their 6 VIP tickets for graduation practice but additional tickets for the upper levels can be picked up from the main office. All guests must have a ticket.

College & Scholarship Essay Bootcamp

Enrollment Cap: 5 students

Unlock your path to academic success! Join our exclusive three-day workshop for expert guidance writing standout college and scholarship essays. Get hands-on experience crafting captivating Common App responses, individual college supplements, and scholarship essays through personalized small-group sessions and one-on-one coaching. Every student will leave this session with one ready-to-submit essay they can use to start their college application journey and the skills they need to tackle other application essay writing prompts moving forward.

Secure your spot today by sending an inquiry email to nselenka@xaviercatholicschools.org

From the Business/Attendance Office



Lunch Accounts:

All **lunch accounts** are expected to have an available balance at all times. Funds remaining in an account at the end of the school year will carry over to 2024-25. We will refund

account balances to families of seniors who have neither outstanding financial obligations nor younger siblings in the system.

Attendance:

Your cooperation in reporting absentees is sincerely appreciated. If you are planning a vacation that does not coincide with the vacation that is scheduled in our school calendar, it is your responsibility to notify school, stating the days your student will be missing. It is also your responsibility to contact your student's teachers. See the school web site for an "Anticipated Absence Request Form", this form is then turned to the Attendance office.

You are reminded that although the absence is considered excused, the number of days missed is counted as part of the maximum of five days allowed per term.

Senior Final Transcripts

Attention Seniors! Final transcripts will be sent to your selected college or university after grades for term 4 are posted. This typically happens during the last week or so of June. Your school may ask for one to be sent or you may be asked to provide one at a student orientation day, but we cannot provide a final transcript until grades are posted. We appreciate your patience! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Carpenter in the Counseling Suite.

Junior Transcript Requests

Attention Juniors! Please do not make any transcript requests for colleges you are applying to over the summer. The counselors will meet with you during the first week of school and will accept transcript requests at that time. Remember to use the [Junior Timeline](#) as a guide!

Junior Timeline 2024

February - July: ACT & SAT Testing

- Register for one of the ACT Tests: www.actstudent.org HS code: 500-063
 - April 13 test Deadline March 8
 - June 8 test Deadline May 3 (**finals are June 3 & 4**)
 - July 13 test Deadline June 7
 - Fee Waivers available - see your counselor
 - Testing accommodations - see Mr. Neiswender
 - Sending score reports, writing portion, subtests
- Register for an ACT prep class if desired
 - ACT Test Prep: Act-testprep.com
 - WI ACT Test Prep: email wiaactprep@gmail.com for info
 - ACT: act.org/prep
- Take the SAT Test if needed. Register at www.collegeboard.com
 - March 9 Deadline February 23
 - May 4 Deadline April 19
 - June 1 Deadline May 17
 - SAT school day - watch for announcements to sign up for SAT school day

February

- Complete Career lesson with counselor in class (or in 4th term, depending on your schedule)

March

- Begin researching colleges
- Xavier College Fair: March 12 (<https://tinyurl.com/CollegeFairXHS>)
- Visit colleges during spring break (March 29-April 7)

April

- Enter a list of "Colleges I'm Thinking About" in Naviance Student
 - Make sure you know what the 'colleges you are thinking about' require for admission
 - Consider general admit vs. direct admit programs

May

- Line up letters of recommendation for next year (some teachers work on them over the summer; bosses, coaches, community members...)
- AP Tests

Summer

- Work on college essay
- Consider a pre-college enrichment experience
- Visit preliminary colleges (visit final list while students are on campus, if possible)
- Wisconsin Private Colleges week takes place in July
- Refine your list of "Colleges I'm Thinking About"
- Create a draft resume of activities, leadership, work, and volunteering
- Consider a summer job or volunteer experience to earn money or learn more about yourself or an occupation that might interest you. Job Shadowing opportunities - check the Xavier counseling [website](#)
- Students will receive an unofficial transcript via email in mid-late June to use if visiting colleges over summer

September

- Earliest application deadline is November 1
- Counselors visit seniors in classes within the first two weeks of school
- Appointments begin to be scheduled for senior one-on-one visits with their counselors
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Transcript requests will NOT be processed until we are back in school (Sep 1)

Campus Ministry

Service Hours are due May 20!

- Service hours for this school year are DUE MAY 20! Participation in spring sports, musical, extracurriculars, graduation, et al may be in jeopardy if this requirement is not met.
- Every Tuesday, students receive a “SPIRIT Stuff” email update with new service opportunities, and opportunities are also listed under “Events” on their MobileServe app.
- It is up to students to follow up on any pending (not-yet-approved) hours.
- With any questions, please contact Mrs. Geenen.

Final All-School Mass for the Year

Our final all-school gathering for this school year will be our Baccalaureate Mass - Tuesday, May 21 at 10:45am in the XHS Theatre.

All-School Retreat Day - April 12!

Students had the opportunity to participate in an all-school retreat day on Friday, April 12...all kinds of faith and fun!



Weekday Mass Opportunities

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

Individual Reconciliation

Fr. Patrick is available during X on Thursdays for confessions in the chapel sacristy. Watch for Fr. Patrick's 'Chaplain Chat' email to sign up.

World Language Students Honored

The World Language Honor Societies will be recognizing their members on May 8th during X period. Congratulations and these new and continuing members.

World Language Honor Societies 2024

FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY

First-year members

Samu Dube
Sam Haerberle
Delaney Janes

Second-year members

Amelia Burgoni
Regan Conrad
Ava Gilligan
Violet Hyde
Harris Janu
Sarah Rettler

Third-year members

Nana Berko
Annie Strick

GERMAN HONOR SOCIETY

First-year members

Emily Bakey
Brynn Krull
Joy Krull
Cameron Jones
Allison Judd
Jennifer Lueck
Aidan Martin
Keaton McKinley
Allison McKinnon
Sadie Mignon
Makenzie Ness
Payton Newhouse
Abby Ourada
Brock Polzin
Nick Ritchie
Jordan Rosenbaum
Gabby Schreiter
Sydni Wanty

Second-year members

Gia Heid
Ava Leyden
Sophia Nevarez-Padilla
Taylor Sabo
Ali Tylinski

Third-year members

Noah Donnermeyer
Lilie Fouts
Joel Pfaff
David Wagener

SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY

First-year members

Sophia Bento
Jena Bunks
Keira Daniels
Elle Downs
Ella Heyndrickx
Randi Hofacker
Hailey Holub
Emerson Huebner
Kate Jannette
Annalise Kippenhan
Mariel Pante
Keira Peterson
Eva Stankewicz
Sophia Van Straten
Isabella Velasquez

Second-year members

Noah Arndt
Anna Bettag
Fin Blohowiak
Ryan Brown
Addison Hervey
Halle Keesler
Camille Marquardt
Gabriella Stammer
Elsa Thiel
Luke Wolske

Third-year members

Lindsey Baehler
Jon Bertram
Austin Faeth
Aidan Hackl
Nate Hall
Josh Horak
Josephine Kwasny
Evan McCormick
Lizzie Schubbe
AJ Seidler
Kylie Standish
Allison Taylor
Sean Utric
Anthony Weyers

Xavier High School - Important 2024-25 Athletic Information

All incoming families are invited to reach out to coaches for more information or with questions.

- Athletic code video and eligibility paperwork will become available at the beginning of June. Please watch for more information.

2024 Football

Head Coach Dave Hinkens
dave.hinkens@hudl.com

2024 Girls Golf

Parent-Player Meeting (including incoming freshmen)
May 15, 5:30PM XHS Commons
Head Coach Tom Rettler
tmrettler0718@gmail.com

2024 Volleyball

Player Sign up Meeting (current students only - incoming freshmen will be invited at a later date)
May 8 - after school—XHS Team Room
Head Coach Luke Herriges
lherriges@xaviercatholicschools.org

2024 Cross Country – Coed

Head Coach: Sam Pawlak
samuel.pawl5484@gmail.com

2024 Boys' Soccer

Head Coach: Modeste Rouamba
rmomotega@gmail.com

2024 Girls' Tennis

Head Coach: Kieran Wallace
kwallace@xaviercatholicschools.org

Strength & Conditioning Club

Strength & Conditioning Club is for students entering Grades 5 - 12 ...
This includes over 200 sessions of programming throughout the year ...

Time-tested benefits for those involved in the program:

- Less Injuries
- Better Performance
- Elevated Confidence
- Increased Desire
- Earned Trust and Respect (from Coaches and Peers)
- Strong Bonds that Win Championships

Please go to <https://xcsscclub24.givesmart.com/> to learn more about the program and/or to register for this opportunity...

Remember, this is a "come when you can" program, so please do not worry about conflicts with camps, vacations, etc. ...



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

Open Auditions for Christmas Stars!



Performing in Christmas Stars is a fun way to celebrate the Christmas season and support fine arts programs in the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System.

Christmas Stars has provided well over **one million dollars** to enhance fine arts in the system schools through disbursements to the XCS schools and by funding Christmas Stars scholarships to assist XCS students in pursuing fine arts enrichment activities.

Sign up online!

Auditions will be held by appointment and Saturday morning, May 11 and Thursday evening, May 16. It's easy to get started, here's what you need to do:

1. Go to www.christmasstars.org
2. Click or tap the "Join Our Cast" button.
3. Fill out a brief, online application and submit.
4. Follow the link to get audition information and schedule your audition.

Practice music and additional info is on the audition page. Accompaniment is provided at auditions.

What else should you know?

- Auditions, rehearsals and performances are held at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre at St. Francis Xavier High School.
- Students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade in the 2024-2025 school year and adults of any age who love to sing and dance are welcome to audition. There are four choirs; Adult: high school and up, Youth: grades 6-8, Children: grades 3-5; Cherub: grades K-2.
- Parents of students are invited to participate as a cast member or as a volunteer. Please note: all adults volunteering to participate in Christmas Stars in any capacity, including cast, are required to complete VIRTUS training.
- Most rehearsals are Sunday evenings, beginning at the end of August for the Adult choir and mid-September for the Cherub, Children and Youth choirs.
- Show dates for 2024 are December 5-15.
- Auditions, rehearsals and performances are held at the Xavier Fine Arts Theatre.



Xavier Children's Theatre presents *The Emperor's New Clothes*

Directed by Maureen Milbach

The Emperor's New Clothes by Kathryn Schultz Miller is a clever play within a play based on the original Hans Christian Anderson story. The Emperor of Kostrama cares for nothing but wearing the fanciest clothing. He loves his extravagant clothes so much that he even wakes up several times each night to change his pajamas. One day, a lowly tailor seeking his fortune arrives and convinces the royal family that he can make the most extravagant clothes from his "magic" cloth. The emperor is tricked and both he and the tailor learn a lesson about vanity and greed. Told with humor and some audience participation, this play promises to be fun for children and entertaining for all ages.

The story is enriched by full scenic and costume design by the Children's Theatre Production class and assistant artists.

Friday, May 17

7:00 PM public performance

Tickets online at www.xaviertheatre.com or through the box office, (920) 733-8840, open from noon to 3:00 pm

Wednesdays, May 1 and May 8

Monday, May 13, Wednesday, May 15 and Thursday, May 17.

Also open one hour before curtain on May 17.

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, 1600 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton.

A program of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System

A Prayer for Graduating Seniors

Our God in Heaven,

Thank You for blessing us with these people. Thank You for giving us time with some truly amazing humans. Thank You for the friends, acquaintances and peers that have influenced us in ways we may not even be aware of. Thank You for the conversations, meals, events, late nights, study sessions and weekends that we have been able to spend with these people. Thank You for creating these humans.

I pray that You continue to push them in the direction You want their life to go. And I pray that they follow without too much of a fight. I pray that the coming years would be full of new opportunities and that You show them parts of themselves they have yet to discover. I pray that in moments of stress, anxiety or fear, You would be there to comfort and guide them.

I pray that those who do not know what after-graduation holds for them don't fear the coming months. I pray that You would open up doors for them and motivate them to try new things. I pray that they would take advantage of this time that they get to spend freely. I pray that they would get to spend more time with You and build a strong relationship with you that will last a lifetime.

I pray that those who do know what after-graduation holds for them are able to rejoice in You. I pray that they take time to reflect and that if they find that what they are doing isn't their calling, they are able to walk away. I pray for ears to listen to Your voice and the ability to discern the right path for them.

I pray for strength, wisdom and discernment. I pray for grace, joy and peace. I pray that all of the graduating seniors know how much You love them and how much we love them. I pray that they will walk across the stage without fear of what's on the other side. I pray that they are aware of Your presence on graduation day. I pray that they know how proud You are of them.

I pray that no matter where life takes them, they know You are with them. I pray that they know how much love and support surrounds them from family, friends and peers. I pray that they remember the people and places they are leaving behind and that they remember to come visit.

Most of all, I pray that regardless of all circumstances, they know that You are always on their side, and You have a plan for them.

Amen.

Orchestra Notes

WSMA Honors Orchestra

Congratulations to **Halle Keesler** (violin) for acceptance into the WSMA State High School Honors Orchestra. Students were selected by audition from 1600 students throughout Wisconsin for this orchestra. She will attend a camp this summer to rehearse the music with a guest conductor. In October, she will perform at the State Music Teacher Convention at the Madison Overture Center representing Xavier High School. Congratulations!

May Concert News

Please be sure to mark your calendars for our final concert of the season on May 22nd at 7pm at Xavier High School. This will be a combined 7th through high school concert displaying all the students' hard work this school year. In addition, the concert will feature seniors **McKenna Andrews** in a viola concerto written by Bruch, **Pamela Barquet** in a violin concerto written by Brahms, **Alayna McKinnon** in a cello concerto by Vivaldi, **Grant Polzin** in a violin concerto by Lalo and **Gabby Schreiter** in a violin concerto by Accolay, all accompanied by the orchestra as well as other orchestra features.

Upcoming Orchestra Events

Saturday April 27 – State Solo and Ensemble, Oshkosh
 Saturday May 4 – State Solo and Ensemble, Green Bay
 Wednesday May 22¹ – Combined Spring Orchestra Concert, 7:00pm XHS

Laura Kenney, Orchestra Director
 lkenney@xaviercatholicschools.org
 (920)733-6632 ext. 4214



Upcoming Events

May 3	Xavier Day
May 6	No School – Teacher Inservice
May 8	Spring Choir Concert (7:00 in theatre)
May 15	Spring Band Concert (7:00 in theatre)
May 17	Theatre Production Class Public Performance (7:00 in theatre)
May 19	Senior Awards Night (7:00 in theatre)
May 20	XSC Blood Drive
May 21	Baccalaureate Mass (10:45 in theatre)
May 22	Spring Orchestra Concert (7:00 in theatre)
May 29	Graduation (7:00 at PAC)
June 3-4	Half Days – Final Exams