



UNDERSTANDING EISENHOWER+XINXING PTO AND BEI DOU XING

Parents of Eisenhower + XinXing Academy students are members of the Eisenhower PTO. Parents of XinXing Academy students are also members of Bei Dou Xing, the Hopkins Chinese Immersion parent group. Each group has a different mission:

EISENHOWER + XINXING PTO

Eisenhower Parent Teacher Organization is the primary volunteer organization that supports all Eisenhower and XinXing students, parents and staff at Eisenhower Elementary. The PTO allocates funds to all teachers and all support staff at Eisenhower Elementary for supplies, teacher grants, and general use. Eisenhower's PTO provides school-wide activities which include BRAVO Music, Art Adventure, Popcorn Fridays, Imagination Fair, Fall Festival, Spring Fling, teacher and staff appreciation, to name just a few. PTO parent volunteers organize fundraisers throughout the year that include the Fall Festival, Silent Auction at the Imagination Fair, and the Eisenhower Plant Sale. All students at Eisenhower, including the XinXing Chinese Immersion program, are direct beneficiaries of Eisenhower PTO activities. Participating in the Eisenhower PTO's monthly meetings gives both Eisenhower and XinXing parents the opportunity to work together for the good of the whole school community.

BEI DOU XING

Bei Dou Xing, translated as "The North Star", is the name for the group of XinXing parents and community members who are dedicated to the success of the Hopkins' Chinese immersion program. (Our name is pronounced: Bei – sounds like "bay"; Dou – sounds like "doe"; Xing – sounds like "shing"). Our group of volunteers support Chinese curriculum and cultural activities for Hopkins Chinese immersion students. Bei Dou Xing is supported through grants and fundraising activities. Bei Dou Xing events throughout the year include parent meetings, fundraising dinners, the Lunar New Year Festival, Longevity Event and Silent Auction and the XinXing Family Picnic. Bei Dou Xing contributes to XinXing by providing grants to teachers for Chinese-related field trips and for the purchase of Chinese-related classroom supplies and providing volunteers and supplies for cultural events such as the Lunar New Year Performance. Bei Dou Xing also supports community-building within Eisenhower Elementary by helping to fund Chinese-themed cultural experiences or grants for the entire school. Bei Dou Xing will support students throughout their K-12 education which distinguishes it from the PTO that supports Eisenhower Elementary school. Bei Dou Xing does not operate as a separate Parent Teacher Organization but a non profit supporting Hopkins Chinese Immersion.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is Bei Dou Xing the XinXing PTO?

No, Bei Dou Xing is not a Parent Teacher Organization. All Eisenhower + XinXing parents belong to the Eisenhower PTO that supports the entire school community. Bei Dou Xing is dedicated to supporting the additional needs of a K-12 Chinese immersion program and supporting Chinese culture in the schools.



What is the purpose of BeiDouXing?

Bei Dou Xing contributes to the Hopkins District Chinese Immersion Program by providing grants to teachers for Chinese-related field trips and for the purchase of Chinese-related classroom supplies, providing volunteers and supplies for cultural events such as the Chinese New Year Performance and facilitating communication among XinXing families. Bei Dou Xing also supports community building within Eisenhower + XinXing by helping to fund Chinese-themed cultural experiences for XinXing students and the entire school. Bei Dou Xing has also established a relationship with the schools and district to communicate the unique needs of an immersion program and communicate to prospective parents and students.

I get fundraising requests from Bei Dou Xing and the PTO. Why should I support both?

The XinXing program is a program within Eisenhower elementary. This allows the XinXing program to benefit from an established school with services and facilities including a nurse, cafeteria, library, music and phy ed programs that Chinese immersion students participate in. The PTO supports the entire school community that XinXing is a part of, while Bei Dou Xing supports the unique requirements of a successful immersion program. XinXing students benefit from both the PTO and Bei Dou Xing therefore it's important to support both organizations.