



August 20, 2013

Dear XinXing Parent and Bei Dou Xing Member,

Bei Dou Xing welcomes you to the 2013-2014 school year. This time of year is always exciting to welcome the kindergarteners to XinXing as they embark on this fantastic learning journey. The Bei Dou Xing board members are looking forward to another successful year working with parents, teachers and the Hopkins school district to support the Chinese immersion program. Since the start of the program, XinXing families have been a significant part of the success and we want to thank you for your on-going support and commitment.

Along with the many great events that Bei Dou Xing supports, we are excited to announce the addition of Chinese Family Bingo Night. The event will be held October 4th in the cafeteria and will be an opportunity for families to get to know each other or get reacquainted while playing bingo XinXing style. In the spring, we will also be supporting our first sixth grade class on their overnight at Concordia Village at Marine on the St. Croix. The trip, funded by the Cultural Fund, will be a great opportunity for our sixth grade class to enjoy a two day immersion experience in a camp setting. We will also prepare to celebrate the success of our first XinXing class to complete the elementary program and prepare them to move to XinXing at West Junior High.

Due to our exceptional fundraising efforts, we were able to support many activities and grants last year. Through our new Laoshi fund that supports teacher education and licensure, we awarded two \$1000 grants to our teachers to help pay for tuition expenses. We also purchased calligraphy brushes for three grades, abacuses for the Kindergarten classes, two video cameras for the 5th grade classrooms and a Chinese book library for the 6th grade classroom. In addition, all of our classrooms went on a Chinese themed field trip supported by Bei Dou Xing. We are looking forward to making more great contributions to our community in 2013-2014 school year.

Bei Dou Xing is able to support our activities and events through the efforts and contributions of parents like you. Whatever time and support you are able to give, your contribution benefits our children and the XinXing program.

We are looking forward to another successful year.

Sincerely,

The Bei Dou Xing Board

*Kimberly Ruthenbeck
President*

*Wende Pemrick
Secretary/Communication*

*Erika Pals
Member at large*

*Kara Lovell
Vice President/Fundraising*

*Mary Fabian
Community Building*

*Alyssa Barott
Member at large*

*Sarah Bennett
Treasurer*

*Abby Schrader
Teacher Liaison*

*Melissa Ketelsen
Member at large*

 **A non-profit organization dedicated to elevating, expanding
and supporting Hopkins Chinese Immersion Programs**