

## BeiDouXing Meeting

Monday, October 3, 2010

7 pm, Room 233, Eisenhower Community Ed Building

### Welcome and Introductions

2011-12 BeiDouXing Executive Board

President	Mary Fabian (4th)
Vice-President/Fundraising Committee Lead	Kimberly Ruthenbeck (4th)
Treasurer	Sarah Bennett (4th)
Secretary/Communication Committee Lead	Wende Pemrick (3rd)
External Fundraising Committee Lead	OPEN
Room Parent Committee Lead	Abby Schrader (K and 3rd)
Community Building Committee Lead	Karmen Mannella (2nd)
General Member	Kara Lovell (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4th)
Kindergarten Representative	Alyssa Barott (K)

### Board Updates

- BeiDouXing is officially recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 non-profit – August 31, 2011
- BeiDouXing starts communication with district
- Approved Grant Updates (Implemented New Process – available on BDX web site)
  - Karin McKenzie – Leveled Readers
  - Phy Ed Department – Ping Pong Tables
- Treasurer Update – Sarah Bennett
  - Activity Fees: Still haven't received payment from roughly 100 XinXing families. There may be confusion about what the activity fees are for. These fees go to cover things for the immersion program that aren't funded elsewhere, such as the XinXing-only field trips. Collecting the fees all at once up front reduces the number of times teachers need to request money from parents throughout the school year.

### Committee Updates

- Fundraising Committee – Kimberly Ruthenbeck
  - Chinook Book: This will likely be the last year BDX has the Chinook Book Fundraiser. We want to avoid competing with the Entertainment book fundraiser for the PTO.
  - Fundraising Dinners
  - Kimberly reviewed the Fundraising Overview handout. The handout defined the General Fund, the Cultural Fund, and (new) the Teacher Fund. It also listed which fundraisers support which fund. The Teacher Fund can potentially be used to help support licensure requirements for XinXing teachers. Much of this information is already available on the BDX website, but will be cleaned up to match the hand out soon.
  - Volunteers are needed for the 1.) Silent Auction to solicit large businesses to donate items, and 2.) External Fundraising Lead. For more information send an email to [beidouxingmn@yahoo.com](mailto:beidouxingmn@yahoo.com).
  - Longevity and the Silent Auction will be on April 21<sup>st</sup> at Pinstripes in Edina.
- Communications Committee – Wende Pemrick
  - New communications scheme: In the past, BDX strategy was to send a single weekly email to update XinXing parents on any relevant happenings. Starting this year, there is a schoolwide email every Friday that the BDX communications are being incorporated into. The format of the schoolwide email is still evolving, but it's important to read through it in order to be informed about any schoolwide, PTO, and BDX events. Once the bugs are worked out, BDX will not be

sending weekly updates (although you will still receive emails directly for any information that isn't appropriate for schoolwide distribution.)

- Contact Info: There are several new Kindergarten families that have not yet submitted their contact info to BDX. Families that aren't in the BDX member database will not receive email communications from BDX and will not have contact info included in the BDX member directory. Please go to [www.beidouxingmn.com](http://www.beidouxingmn.com) to submit your info (click on "Submit Your Contact Info" under the Recent News section), or email [beidouxingmn@yahoo.com](mailto:beidouxingmn@yahoo.com) if you need assistance.
- Community-Building Committee – Karmen Mannella
  - Guest Volunteer Teachers Update – Mary Fabian  
Xuebin Zhao hosted by Deb Anderson and family  
Zhu Zhu hosted by Melissa Barrett and family Guest teachers are here through support of the Confucius Institute. If you're interested in inviting one of the guest teachers on an outing with your family, please send an email to [beidouxingmn@yahoo.com](mailto:beidouxingmn@yahoo.com).
  - Chinese Book Fair (November Conferences) Alyssa Barrott is taking this over. The Chinese book fair will likely be held in conjunction with Scholastic during conferences.
- Room Parent Committee – Abby Schrader
  - School Supplies : There was about 50% participation in the online school supplies, resulting in nearly \$550 proceeds. The funds were allocated to each grade level and are being used to purchase items on the classroom wishlists.
  - This year all communications will be coming through the teachers rather than from room parents.

### **General Discussion Topics**

- New sister school – CNU Elementary in Beijing – Mary Fabian The new school has more advanced technology which will allow better communication between students, and it's location in Beijing is easier to get to. For more information, see the Sister School page on [www.beidouxingmn.com](http://www.beidouxingmn.com).
- FLAP Grant Update – Molly Wieland Funding is in place for the current year, but will likely be up in the air again for the next school year. The FLAP Grant funds the conversion of STEM units to be used as part of the Chinese immersion curriculum. The third grade units are being tweaked based on learnings last year, and a single unit on Transportation will be developed for fourth graders this year.
- Parent Advisory Committee Update – Molly Wieland Work is underway on secondary planning for the immersion program. Jeff Braun, and Evelyn Orr are the parent representatives on the committee. They are in the info gathering stage and have already met with contacts from the Spanish immersion program in St. Paul to find out how their middle school program works. Molly is also meeting with District (Diane S.) staff to discuss logistics such as which Jr. High will house the program, transportation needs, and staffing. BDX will see if Diane is available to attend our next parent meeting in December to discuss status and provide an opportunity for parents to ask questions/give input.

Meeting Wrap-Up and Discussion

Next BeiDouXing Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2011