



St. Francis Xavier School Common Questions and Answers

Welcome! We're so glad you are interested in joining the St. Francis Xavier School faith community! The following are the answers to common questions new families ask.

1. When does the school day start and end?

School starts at 7:45 A.M. Supervision is provided and students may gather in the cafeteria starting at 7:20 A.M. until they head to their classrooms at approximately 7:35 A.M.

On regular dismissal days, grades K-4 are released at 2:30 P.M. and grades 5-8 at 2:40 P.M. Most Wednesdays are "early release" days.

K-4th grade students are dismissed at 1:05 P.M. and 5th-8th grade are dismissed at 1:15 P.M. After dismissal, the faculty collaborates on instruction and curriculum, holds faculty meetings and participates in staff development to keep abreast of the latest trends in education. There are many enrichment programs offered on Wednesday, and the extended care program is available immediately after dismissal.

2. Is childcare offered before and after the school day?

Extended Care is offered on campus on school days through the local YMCA until 6 P.M. There are times when school is closed and childcare is offered at the YMCA.

3. Are parents welcomed on campus?

Yes! "Pledge and Prayer" is held in the courtyard most mornings (except Fridays because of Mass) and parents may participate. The designated parents' area is by the entrance to the school cafeteria or in front of the library.

Parents, grandparents, and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend the Friday all-school Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church. Mass starts at approximately 8:00 A.M. Parent participation in the classroom is determined by individual teachers.

4. What steps does SFX take to ensure the safety of our children?

During the school hours, all parents and visitors are required to sign-in at the office and obtain an ID badge before going on campus. All school volunteers must have participated in the Safe Environment Training Workshop mandated by the Diocese. Courtyard egresses are equipped with security gates.

5. Are there opportunities available for parents to volunteer?

Yes, each family is responsible for 30 hours of service. Of those 30 hours, a minimum of 5 must be completed on the Auction and/or Family Fun Fest. There are many other opportunities available such as volunteering in the library, classroom, office, playground and computer lab. There are a host of parent groups in which families can be involved.

6. What types of communication does the school use to keep parents informed?

St. Francis Xavier School publishes a monthly electronic newsletter at the end of the month and sends weekly e-mail blasts. Classroom teachers send home weekly newsletters. St. Francis Xavier also has Renweb, a web based information management system by which parents can log-on from home and access daily lesson plans, report cards, newsletters, daily announcements, and a directory of names and addresses of families. The principal hosts a monthly forum in which parents can learn about the curriculum and educational programs of the school.

All parents are invited and encouraged to attend the Parent Association and School Advisory Board meetings. Attendance at these meetings qualifies for parent participation hours because SFX wants you to be informed. Guest speakers will be featured at some Parent Association meetings.

7. When are tuition payments dues?

Tuition may be paid in full before the school year begins or families may elect to participate in a ten month payment plan. The first installment for tuition is due either on June 5 or June 20. The last installment is in March.