

The History of the Turkey Bowl Challenge

The Turkey Bowl Challenge was started in 2016 as a friendly competition between Fordham Prep and Xavier High School. The goal of the challenge was to engage more young alumni at the two schools. The name “Turkey Bowl Challenge” is derived from the annual Thanksgiving Day football game between Fordham Prep and Xavier, called the “Turkey Bowl”.

In the first year of the challenge, the stakes were set high. Not only would the winning school take home the Turkey Bowl Challenge Trophy, but the losing principal would also have to don the baseball cap of the winning team.

The Prep’s young alumni rallied to the call, and defeated Xavier by a final score of 307-267. Within the Prep community, the Class of 2010 led the way with nearly 40 donors! The trophy was presented to Dr. Petriello in between the first and second quarters of the Turkey Bowl football game, and now resides in the Alumni Office at the Prep.

The Turkey Bowl Challenge was a great success for Fordham Prep. We took home the trophy, while also increasing our young alumni participation to a previously unseen level. This helped the Prep exceed our overall Alumni Participation Goal for the 175th Anniversary Year.

Participation is an important part of alumni giving, because it is used not only for benchmarking schools against each other, but also as an evaluation criteria for grant applications. It is a commonly used statistic in determining how alumni feel about their alma mater.

The stage is set for a rematch in 2017. Will Fordham Prep come out on top again, or will Xavier rise from the ashes of defeat? Help us keep the trophy at Fordham Prep by donating at fordhamprep.org/tbchallenge. If you make it to the game, we would love to have you join us on field for the trophy presentation.

The Turkey Bowl Challenge Victors

2016:
Fordham Prep

2017: