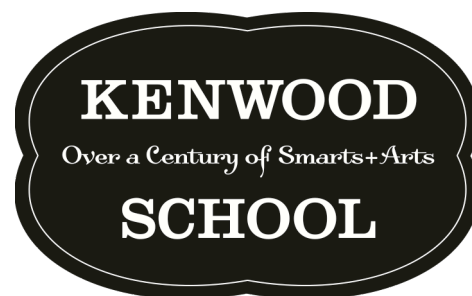


# Kenwood Courier

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Minneapolis, MN 55405

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**Happy New Year, from the PTA, and welcome back from the first snow day we've seen in some time!** With Winter Break behind us and Spring Break a couple months out, it is time to put our heads down and get to work. For students that means lots of learning and residency focus. For the PTA that means putting on the annual Kenwood School Auction. The auction is the biggest PTA fundraiser of the year, (the event raised over \$ 60,000 last year), and is vital to our ability to provide the extras that make Kenwood a special place for students to learn, grow and thrive. **The Kenwood Auction 2018 "Space Odyssey" is on Saturday, March 3rd at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.** Not only is this a fundraiser, it is also a fabulous party, complete with live music, libations and lite fare! This is an adults-only event you won't want to miss, so book your babysitter now! Invites will be coming home soon.

## **Auction 2018: How you can help.**

**The auction donations and Get Togethers** contributed by Kenwood Families are among the most favorite items available at the Kenwood Auction. We are hoping we can count on our generous families again this year! Whether you have something you have donated in the past or have thought of something new, we look forward to your contributions. Fill out the form that went home with students last week OR email us if you need a new form or have any questions. The donation deadline is **Monday, February 12th, 2018.**

- Contribute by donating and hosting a Kenwood Get Together. Get creative and host a specialized dinner, or wine-tasting, game night, or pool party! The possibilities are endless! Many of the fine-honored, fabulous Get Togethers are co-hosted. Find a friend and donate together! For more information or to donate a Get Together for the auction contact Christine Conner at [cjconner@yahoo.com](mailto:cjconner@yahoo.com) or Kristi Granacher at [kristi.granacher@gmail.com](mailto:kristi.granacher@gmail.com).
- Donate a silent auction item. Do you have a service or product you'd like to donate? Fill out the donation form that went home last week or contact Sarah Kreykes at [sarah.kreykes@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.kreykes@gmail.com).
- Consider volunteering for one or more of the many auction jobs. Keep an eye out for a SignUp Genius link with all the auction volunteer needs, in mid-February. Additionally, feel free to contact Cindy White ([cdocteurwhite@gmail.com](mailto:cdocteurwhite@gmail.com)) or Melanie LaMere ([lameremel@yahoo.com](mailto:lameremel@yahoo.com)), the auction co-chairs.
- Attend the auction and make purchases from the fabulous items offered. We can't do it without you!

**The Amazing Live Auction portion of the event is dependent on your contributions!** At the live auction bidders can score high-value ticket and dinner combos, group restaurant outings, and even vacations! These items are donated not only by local businesses, but also by generous Kenwood Families, as well as friends of Kenwood Families. We need your help to keep the Live Auction exciting and amazingly successful! Our wish list includes the following high-ticket items (or a variation):

- A family-fun cabin experience. We need your cabin to make it happen! We can work with you to outline any parameters (i.e. date range, minimum bid, etc.).
- VIP tickets or suite at an upcoming sporting or cultural event – your 2 to 4 tickets plus a limo ride there and back ... that would be an AMAZING experience!
- Tickets plus dinner or a hotel overnight, or all of it! A date night or staycation would be an incredible donation!
- A unique product, experience or adventure. Think outside the box!

For Live Auction donations or inquiries, please contact Coryn Petersen at [corynpetersen@gmail.com](mailto:corynpetersen@gmail.com).

**Attention Kenwood parents with community businesses.** The Kenwood Auction team is also seeking corporate sponsors for this year's auction. If you have a local business that could benefit from the visibility the Kenwood Auction brings to the school community and would like to join our list of amazing and generous Auction Sponsors, please let us know. For more information about Sponsorship Levels and Benefits please contact Cindy White ([cdocteurwhite@gmail.com](mailto:cdocteurwhite@gmail.com)) or Melanie LaMere ([lameremel@yahoo.com](mailto:lameremel@yahoo.com)).

**February is a busy month at Kenwood School.** In addition to auction preparation, the MLK celebration, choir concert, school play and Kindergarten African Drumming are all happening in February! We have a lot to look forward to as a school community with many talented students, artists, instructors and dedicated teachers and volunteers. We're excited to see you or work with you at one of the many upcoming Fabulous February events. Thanks for being a part of it all!

Best,

*Coryn Petersen & Melanie LaMere*

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## Congratulations Ms. Bettes - and family!

Brooks Ward Bettes was born on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:08pm. He weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. Mom, Dad, and Brooks are all doing well.



### Attention Earthlings!

Don't miss out on your chance to attend the best party in the galaxy on Saturday, March 3. Mark your calendars for the Kenwood Odyssey Auction, the PTA's largest fundraiser of the year. We need your help and attendance to make it a success. Book your babysitters for the evening now!

#### A few important dates:

Feb 5 - Watch for invitation in your child's blue folder

Feb 12 - Donations (including Get Togethers) deadline

Feb 21 - RSVP and registration deadline

Feb 26 - Wine Wall donations deadline

#### We are in need of:

- Corporate Sponsors. If you own a business or know of a business that would like to support Kenwood Elementary, please let us know.
- Live Auction items. Experiences, getaways, sports tickets are all popular items. Please think about connections you might have!
- Volunteers for set-up and night of event. Watch for a SignUp Genius to be circulated via email in mid-February.

#### Winter Weather and School Cancelations

From time to time, school closures and the cancelation of after school activities occur. Every effort is made to inform parents about these changes in a timely manner. In the event that closures must occur, decisions will be made by 6:00pm the day before or 5:30am the morning of. Decisions regarding after school activities will be made by 11:00am. MPS informs families about school changes with phone calls, their website, facebook, twitter, radio, and TV. If you would like more information about weather related school closings, please visit the district webpage at [http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/school\\_closing](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/school_closing). If you would like to change how you receive information from the district, please visit the MPS website at [http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/school\\_messenger](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/school_messenger). You can sign up to receive information by phone, email, or text.

#### A reminder of what the PTA provides, each year:

- Teacher classroom supply stipend, and other school needs that inevitably arise.
- All grade-level artist residencies (African & Taiko drumming, Tap Dancing, MN Center for Book Arts)
- School- wide artist residencies (Midwest Food Connection, ROOTS Dancing/Barn Dance, Native American Art)
- Art Adventures with the MIA
- Field trip buses
- Support for the school play & Safety Patrol
- Community Building events (Ice Cream Social, Barn Dance & Family Activity Night)
- Community Liaison
- Scholarships for field trips and after school activities

The impact of all those things is huge on the quality of the Kenwood experience. The PTA spends approximately \$170 per student, per year. Please contact Melanie at [lameremel@yahoo.com](mailto:lameremel@yahoo.com) or Coryn at [corynpetersen@gmail.com](mailto:corynpetersen@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming a part of this worthwhile organization.

### Calendar

Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 7:30 - 8:15am

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and African American History Celebration (You are invited to stroll the halls of Kenwood to view work created by students. There will not be a performance)

Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:45 - 8:15am

Choir Concert (Grades 3, 4, & 5)

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 4:00 - 5:30pm

Site Council Meeting

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 5:00 - 10:00pm

My Burger – Dining for Dollars

Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 7:50 – 8:50am

Kindergarten African Drumming Performance

Wednesday & Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

School Play - Seussical

Friday & Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

NO SCHOOL – Conferences & President's Day

Tuesday, February 20 – Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

5<sup>th</sup> Graders at Eagle Bluff

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grades at CONNECT Concert field trip