

# 1 Kenwood Courier

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016  
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## Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School  
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## FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

Dear Kenwood Families! Welcome to the 2016-17 School Year!

**The Kenwood Ice Cream Social** — this event served as the perfect venue to meet students, parents, and extended families members of this dynamic school community. The Kenwood playground felt like an old-fashioned family reunion. Through this informal exchange, you can immediately identify Kenwood students by their confidence, poise, ingenuity, intellectual curiosity, boundless energy, artistic sophistication, and charm.

A special thank you to event chair, Heather Wulfsburg, the PTA Board, and the many other parents who helped organize this very special get-together.

**Kindergarten/New Family coffee** — Thanks for the PTA for organizing this event for parents on the first day of Kindergarten and thank you to The Lowry for providing the delicious scones and coffee. It was nice

to connect with this new group of parents.

**For our new families**, you will discover that Kenwood Community School offers the ideal setting to inspire, challenge, and enrich your child's educational experience. The teachers and staff invest their time and expertise in creating learning communities aimed to tap into the intellectual curiosity and creative spirit of your child. Our dedicated parents, families, and community partners, lend their resources, time, and talents to ensure that all Kenwood students receive excellent educational opportunities from kindergarten through fifth grade.

**Curriculum Night is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 15th** from 5:30-7:00 p.m. After a brief welcome from the Principal & presentation from the Specialists, parents will hear specifics

from their child's teacher regarding classroom procedures, homework policies, curriculum pacing, and academic goals. Two sessions will be scheduled to

accommodate families with more than one student. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Fall parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 18th & 19th. Hopefully many of your questions will be answered that night to allow for a more focused conference time.

### New Socio-Emotional Curriculum at Kenwood —Second Step

The **Second Step** program teaches skills in the following four areas:

**1. Skills for Learning:** students will gain skills to help themselves learn, including how to focus their attention, listen carefully, use self-talk to stay on task, and be assertive

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## KENWOOD SCHOOL WEEKLY E-BLASTS — The best way to keep informed about what is happening school-wide.

If you did not receive an e-mail on the first day of school from Family Liaison Chris Madden, please e-mail [christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us) to get on this valuable e-mail list. E-blasts are sent out every Monday with occasional extra reminders for important information & events.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 17**

# Kenwood Crawl

**It's Super Cool to walk for your School!**

9-11 am in Kenwood park (rain or shine)  
Food & Drinks for all walkers (treats, fruit, coffee & water)  
Free Flu shots available  
Walk times: Kindergarten 9:30 1st 9:45  
2nd: 10:00 3rd: 10:10 4th: 10:20 5th 10:30

*Need a ride? Call Chris Madden 612-668-2778 by Thursday, Sept 15th.*

Please join us for the  
1st PTA Meeting of the Year:

## CURRICULUM NIGHT!

**Thursday, September 15th**  
**5:30-7:00 p.m. \*\*NEW TIMING\*\***

**5:30 p.m.**  
Gather in the Multipurpose Room for a Principal's Welcome. The Specialist Teachers (Art, Media, Music & Physical Education) will also give an overview of the year to come.

**6:00 to 6:20 p.m.**  
Visit your child's classroom to hear about curriculum, homework policies & academic goals.

**6:30 to 6:50 p.m.**  
Classroom presentations repeated for parents who have more than one Kenwood student.

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: To allow sufficient space for parents in the :  
: classrooms, we **DO NOT** want children :  
: to attend the curriculum presentations. :  
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There will be free childcare available for ages 3 & up in the Kenwood Rec Center next to the school. **We have room for 60 children so please reserve your space now.** Contact Chris Madden if you need childcare — [christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us) or 668-2778.

Please note: • Childcare staff cannot change diapers.  
• Due to concerns about food allergies, snacks will not be provided for children, so be sure to feed them before the meeting.

For transportation, call Chris Madden at 612-668-2778.

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when asking for help with schoolwork.

**2. Empathy:** Students learn to identify and understand their own and the feelings of others. Students also learn how to take another's perspective and how to show compassion.

**3. Emotion Management:** Students learn specific skills for calming down when experiencing strong feels, such as anxiety or anger.

**4. Problem Solving:** Students learn a process for solving problems with others in a positive way.

Throughout this school year, your child will be bringing home **Home Links**, a supplemental guide that accompanies the Second Step lessons. **Home Links** are simple, fun, and engaging activities for you and your child to complete together. **Home Links** are a great way for you to understand what your child is learning and your child to demonstrate to you what he or she knows.

**IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION**

• **Classes begin promptly at 7:30 a.m. Please note that 7:15 a.m. is the earliest time that students may arrive at school.**

Teachers will be in their classrooms at that time, ready to receive students. It is not safe for students to be in the building unsupervised before 7:15 a.m.

• **Students who are "walkers" must go home and check-in** with their parents or day care providers before they may come back and play on the playground.

• **Students who are picked up at the end of the day will wait in the gym with staff members until they are picked up by a designated adult.** Please enter through **door 8** (Franklin Ave. side near the Rec Center) when picking up your child. Remember, no parking is allowed on the school side of Penn Ave. at the end of the school day. We have



seven buses that must line up there to transport children home.

• **DROP OFF/PICK UP Penn Avenue is the location for family drop-off.** If possible, please use the east side of the street (school side) for stopping and/or parking. Buses will be lining up on this side of the street as well. We ask that you stop your car north of the fence arch way when dropping off your child in the morning.

• **If you plan on dropping your child off on the west side of Penn Avenue,** please be sure that you and/or your child use the crosswalks where school patrols are located (see next column). Your child should exit the car on the sidewalk side, walk down to the crosswalk and wait for school patrol to help him/her cross. **Please do not block the driveways of homes or businesses with your car. DO NOT HAVE YOUR CHILD CROSS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET!**

# The Kenwood Crawl is coming!

## The Kenwood Crawl will take place on Saturday, September 17.

Students, staff, family members, friends and neighbors are invited to participate with the goal of raising funds to support Kenwood's performing arts programs.

**The Crawl is not only fun, it is an important PTA fundraiser** — funds raised support the school's arts programs. Students return the provided donation envelopes to their teachers by Friday, September 16 or bring them to the Crawl on Saturday morning.

- Enjoy breakfast generously donated by Isles Bun & Coffee, Lunds & Byerlys, Kowalski's Market and Caribou Coffee.
- Children's activities will include an ARTrageous Adventures station and Kenwood Gymnastics demonstration.
- Kohl's Cares and Children's Hospitals & Clinics (childrensMN.org/flu) will provide flu shots (Three years of age and older). This service is optional and free (please bring a health insurance card if you have one).

### DETAILS & TIMING:

The Crawl begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 11:00 a.m. Each grade walks as a group around the park separately.

• Regular education buses will line up on Penn Avenue. Arriving students will enter through door #1 and go directly to breakfast or to their classrooms.

• **DO NOT drop off students in the back parking lot** near the kindergarten classrooms.

• **All visitors should enter at door #1 by the flagpole.** As you enter the outer door, ring the bell at the inner set of doors. The office staff will buzz you in with a minimum of delay/disruption. Please come directly to the office to sign-in and get a Visitor's badge.

• **Bicycle policy: Students may ride their bicycles to school.** Bike racks are located in front of the Kenwood Rec Center and on the Franklin Avenue side of the building. Parents and children must understand that there are serious safety ramifications to the decision to use bike transportation. Kenwood School does not assume responsibility for the security of the bicycle or the safety of the biker. **Please note that students MUST wear helmets, which can be stored in their lockers during the school day.** Become familiar with the Bicycle Regulations in the Handbook/Calendar that will be coming soon.

*Thank you for your support.*



**Walk Schedule: Kindergarten — 9:30 a.m., 1st Grade — 9:45 a.m., 2nd grade — 10:00 a.m., 3rd Grade — 10:10 a.m., 4th grade — 10:20 a.m., 5th Grade — 10:30 a.m.**

### PRIZES!

- The class with the highest participation will receive the Kenwood walking stick and a recess-in-the-park party.
- The class with the highest amount of donations will win a recess-in-the-park party.
- First, Second & third place prizes will be awarded to individual students with the most donations.

Please watch for an email providing the opportunity to volunteer. Parent volunteers are needed to make this event a success — We have been using a software program called Sign Up Genius to help recruit and keep track of volunteers for school events. If you would like to be including in our master volunteer list — please e-mail volunteer4kenwood@gmail.

Contact Crawl co-chairs, Traci Auger (traci\_auger@comcast.net) or Hellen Basset (hellen.basset@gmail.com) with questions. If you need transportation, please call Chris Madden at 612-668-2778 by Thursday, September 15.

**Show your school spirit by participating in the 2016 Kenwood Crawl!**

## CALENDAR

- Thursday, September 15**  
PTA Meeting and Curriculum Night  
5:30 to 7:00 p.m. — Multi-purpose Room
- Saturday, September 17**  
Kenwood Crawl 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
Kenwood Park (rain or shine)
- Tuesday, September 20**  
Galactic Pizza Day
- Wednesday, September 21**  
Kenwood Circle Of Peace
- Wednesday, September 28**  
Spotlights 8:15 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.  
(different classes participate at each show)
- Wednesday, October 5**  
International Bike/Walk to School day
- Friday, October 14**  
PICTURE DAY 
- Tuesday, October 18**  
Parent-Teacher Conferences  
2:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 19**  
NO SCHOOL – Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 20 & Friday, October 21**  
NO SCHOOL – MEA: Statewide Teacher Professional Days

**Minneapolis Public Schools now require that all parent volunteers going on School Fieldtrips submit a Criminal Background Check form by mail to the district along with a \$5 fee.**

They are good for 2 years from the date they were approved.

Note: It takes 5-10 days for processing. A link to the forms will be available on our Kenwood website.