

# 11 Kenwood Courier

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## Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School  
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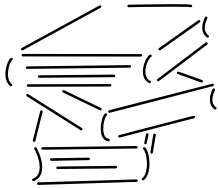


## FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

**Budget 2016-17 Forecast:** The budget season began with all schools receiving their individual allocations on Friday, February 12. I will be working closely with the Kenwood Site Council to identify specific program needs for our school. As a school that places a high value on preserving and integrating the arts through arts residencies and classroom instruction, it will be vital for all stakeholders to weigh in on the budget process. I pledge to keep you informed regarding ALL budget conversations. During the next few weeks, I urge you to look for Budget 2016 updates through the Kenwood eBlast and a letter outlining the Kenwood budget process.

### I LOVE TO READ MONTH —

Focus on Children's Literature – "(Dis) Ability Awareness." As a former special education teacher and a parent of a 26-year-old disabled adult daughter, I can attest to power of using children's literature as a meaningful way to teach empathy and understanding of disabilities. According to a recent article by Alicia Rieger and Ewa McGrail, reading stories about children with disabilities serves as a platform in helping all students to develop acceptance and respect for their disabled peers. During



"I Love to Read Month", I urge you to explore the following books with your children:

#### **Brian's Bird**

by P.A. Davis (Albert Whitman, 2000) – Visual impairment, grades K-3

#### **Do You Remember the Color Blue?**

by S.H. Alexander (Viking, 2000) – Visual impairment, grades 4-7

#### **Granny Torrelli Makes Soup**

by S. Creech (HarperCollins, 2003) – Visual impairment, grades 5-8

#### **Things Not Seen**

by A. Clements (Philomel Books, 2002) – Visual impairment, grades 6-12

#### **Waiting for No One**

by B. Brenna (Red Deer Press, 2011) – Asperger's syndrome, grades 6-8

#### **When My Worries Get Too Big!**

by K.D. Buron (AAPC Publishing, 2006) – Autism, grades PreK-3



#### **Ian's Walk**

by L. Lears (Albert Whitman, 2000) – Autism, grades K-3

#### **Ben, King of the River**

by D. Gifaldi (Albert Whitman, 2001) – Developmental disability, grades 3-6

#### **Moses Goes to the Circus**

by I. Millman (Frances Foster Books, 2003) – Hearing impairment, grades K-3

#### **Wendy on Wheels Saves the Day**

by A. Ruzicka (Angela Ruzicka, 2011) – Physical

disability, grades PreK-3

#### **What's Wrong with Timmy?**

by M. Shriver (Warner Books, 2001) – Intellectual disability, grades K-3

#### **Me and Rupert Goody**

by B. O'Connor (Straus and Giroux, 1999) – Intellectual disability, grades 4-7

#### **The Kenwood Totally 80's Auction is coming!**

If your closet still houses vintage 1980's apparel, you are in luck! I hope to see you at the annual Kenwood Auction on Saturday, February 27 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Thanks to the 2016 Auction Chairs, Cindy White and Melanie LaMere, for their leadership and the huge efforts of the whole auction team for producing this amazing event!

#### **Annual School Play 2016**

This year's musical promises to exceed your expectations! On February 24th and 25th, Kenwood will once again take to the stage with their off-Broadway production of "Pinocchio". A special thank you to Ms. Cynthia Quehl, Kathleen Bloom, Scott Kohanek, Steve Cornelius, and the numerous parents who have been helping with the production.

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Friday, February 26

•• Book Character Day ••

Dress up as your favorite Book Character

Kenwood Elementary School Proudly Presents



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2016  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2016

6:30 p.m. Multi-purpose Room

If you have a child ready for kindergarten this fall (2016) — you must fill out a Request Card

(even if the child has older siblings at Kenwood).

School Request Cards are due this Saturday, March 5!

Request Cards are available online at the MPS school district website.

(continued from front)

*Music is a Science...It demands exact acoustics.*

*Music is Mathematical...It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time in space into fractions...*

*Music is a Foreign Language...a highly developed kind of shorthand.*

*Music is History...reflecting the environment and the times of creation.*

*Music is Physical Education...it requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which must respond instantly to the sounds the ears hear and the mind interprets.*



*Music is all of these things, but most of all, music is art...That is why we make music. Not because we expect to major in music, not because we expect to play*

*music all our lives, not so we can relax, not so we can fun...but so we will be human and sensitive, so we will be closer to an infinite beyond our world, so that we'll have something to cling to, so that we have more love, more compassion, more greatness, more good... in short, more life.*

— Anonymous

Sincerely,

## Kenwood School Plant Sale

Participate in the Kenwood School Plant Sale to show your support and help lower the price of the 5th grade Eagle Bluff Field trip for every student as well as to provide scholarships so that ALL 5th graders will be able to attend. Any additional funds raised will help support the PTA. Plant sale forms will be coming home soon in backpacks and are available in the school office.

## Parent Advisory Councils (PAC)

PACs create and support a space for vibrant family groups to come together around shared interests and experiences focused on ways to support and sustain student academic and social-emotional success. They increase parent and family involvement in their children's education through effective communication and leadership development while empowering and advocating for all families. By attending an Advisory Council you can:

- Connect with other parents and community leaders
- Provide input concerning school-related issues
- Make recommendations in support of enhancing learning opportunities and environments
- Advocate for issues vital to the success of schools, youth, and families in their community

Each Parent Advisory Council selects two people to represent them on the District Parent Advisory Council

Visit <http://osfce.mpls.k12.mn.us/pac> for more information.

These meetings will be family led, staff supported, and open for anyone to attend. They are based on the Board of Education Districts so there are more opportunities for families to meet, in more locations, and across communities.

## Top 10 things to know about The Kenwood Totally 80's Auction

1. **RSVP if you haven't done so! We are still accepting RSVP's this week. The Kenwood Totally 80's Auction is on Saturday, February 27th at 6:30 pm. Tickets are available at the door for \$30/person, but sending in your RSVP now will reduce lines at check-in. All parents and staff are invited. (Note: This is an adults only event.)**
2. **Book your babysitter!**
3. **Be rad! Sign up for a volunteer shift by visiting the link below. Help make the event a success and get to know other parents at the same time.**  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4ba9aa2aa2fd0-totally>
4. **Read through the auction catalog which came home in backpacks last week or visit the Kenwood School website for information about the evening and peruse over 300 amazing silent, live and raffle items.**
5. **Check your calendar to see which Kenwood Get-Togethers you might want to attend and Live Auction items you might want to bid on.**
6. **Come early! Come for great food and drink and get your bidding started early.**
7. **Stay late and get ready to do the Moonwalk and Electric Slide! Live music starts after the live auction and the party will continue on until midnight.**
8. **Dress how you wish! Dress like it's the 80's or today. Everything from jeans to casual dress to costumes is perfect. Acid wash and mullets and scrunchies and shoulder pads are of course encouraged, but NOT required to join in the fun.**
9. **Bring your credit card – it will make check-out a breeze!**
10. **Think drinks! There will be a cash bar, a chance to take home lots of great wine and your very own souvenir cup to help remember the night.**

# totally eighties.

## Kenwood School

## CALENDAR

**Wednesday, February 24 &**

**Thursday, February 25th**

*Pinocchio* — Performances

6:30 p.m. Multi-purpose Room

**Friday, February 26**

Dress up as your favorite Book Character

**Saturday, February 27**

Kenwood School Auction

**Thursday, March 3**

5th Grade Ski Trip

**Saturday, March 5**

School Request Cards are due

**Wednesday, March 16**

SPOTLIGHT — 8:00 a.m. Multi-purpose Room

SPOTLIGHT — 1:00 p.m. Multi-purpose Room

**Friday, March 25- Friday, April 1**

NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK

**Monday, April 4**

School resumes