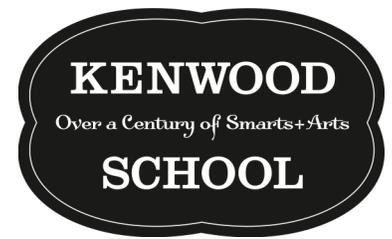


Kenwood Courier

2013 Penn Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55405

kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us 612-688-2760



Hello Sun, Hello Summer! And just like that, and in a matter of weeks, we've moved from blizzards to spring flowers to oppressively high summer heat! And what little troopers all the Kenwood Kiddos have been through this ever-changing, Minnesota weather. As we finish out the last two weeks of the school year, please use all the summer precautions. Apply sunscreen at home, dress children in light, comfortable clothing and send water bottles to keep in the classroom. Let's make sure the last days of the school year are as enjoyable and comfortable as possible.

It's hard to believe that incoming Kindergartners have already registered for the 2018-2019 school year! Kindergarten Registration was a packed house full of happy pre-schoolers, eager to walk the halls of Kenwood School. Thank you to our current and soon-to-be-veteran Kinder Kids and their outstanding teachers for providing such beautiful and welcoming music for the incoming class. Kindergarten Registration couldn't have been so successful without all the helpful parent and PTA volunteers. Thank you for assisting and offering words of encouragement, comfort and a warm welcome to families making the transition to Kenwood and Kindergarten. We're so excited to have a *FULL CLASS* of bright lights entering Kenwood Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

For any families with incoming Kindergartners... Please keep an eye out for communication on **summer Kindergarten 2019 playdates!** There will be 2 or 3 organized gatherings for families of incoming Kindergartners, throughout the summer. If you know an incoming family that may not be receiving communications, please have them contact Lori Smith for more information.

A big thank you to all who supported the Kenwood Plant Sale! The Kenwood playground was host to a beautiful selection of plants and flowers for purchase, with proceeds supporting the annual 5th Grade Eagle Bluff trip. Thank you to the Kenwood School Community, as well as neighbors of the school, who placed pre-orders and made purchases over the past week. The 2018-2019 5th Graders thank you for your support and will be sure to enjoy every minute of their Eagle Bluff adventure! A big thank you to 5th Grade Teacher and Eagle Bluff Leader, Darwin Lee and parent Holly Buchanan for organizing and overseeing the plant sale. And to all the volunteers who collected orders, sold plants, tended to plants throughout the week... we extend you and your green thumbs a massive THANK YOU.

And speaking of THANK YOUs... The PTA Volunteer Appreciation evening at The Lowry was well-attended! We were delighted to see so many familiar Kenwood faces for a brief moment of outside-the-hallway conversation and camaraderie. It was our hope we could see *ALL OUR FEARLESS VOLUNTEERS* at our Thank You event, but we understand that hectic May and Spring schedules don't always allow. On behalf of the PTA, the Staff and Administration at Kenwood School, we would like to thank each and every volunteer. From morning attendance greeters to lunchroom helpers to classroom volunteers to field trip chaperones to event co-chairs to book fair organizers to Parents As Partners experts to room parents to spaghetti dinner servers to auction leaders... You are invaluable. You are incomparable. You are so appreciated. Thank you for investing time in our school, our community, our events. You are a large reason this school is unique and warm and wonderful. We wholeheartedly look forward to working with each of you again, in the upcoming school year.

If you haven't had a chance to volunteer and are interested in opportunities for the 2018-2019 school year, please contact Coryn Petersen or Lori Smith. Additionally, the PTA is looking for new members! Open positions are as follows: Member At Large, Volunteer Coordinator, Site Council Liaison, Marketing Co-Chair. For any information regarding PTA positions or opportunities to support PTA, please contact Coryn Petersen at corynpetersen@gmail.com. A very special thank you to our graduating PTA members, Traci Auger: Marketing Co-Chair, Cindy White: Co-Vice President, and Melanie LaMere, Co-President. We will do our very best to follow in their steadfast, dedicated, all-heart footsteps, but we will certainly not fill their shoes.

As we prepare to say goodbye to the 2017-2018 school year, we would like to take a moment to recognize our departing families. Our 5th graders will soon be taking on new middle school adventures, taking many of our wonderful Kenwood families away from Kenwood and on to new communities. While we are thrilled for those families as they embrace a new chapter, we will undoubtedly miss having them as part of our daily elementary experience and our day-to-day community. However, once a Kenwood School community member, always a Kenwood School community member. As part of the bigger Kenwood family, we send you away with cheer and excitement, and we will happily welcome you home with open arms, any time. Don't be strangers! We'll be anxiously waiting to hear from you. All our very best.

Have a fulfilling and lovely summer, and we will see most of you back at Kenwood School in late August!

Coryn Petersen and Melanie LaMere
Kenwood PTA Co-Presidents

Congratulations to **Yuval K.** who performed in MacPhail Center for Music's Spring II Honors Recital on Friday, May 18th. The MacPhail Spring II Honors Recital is a high-level recital for MacPhail music students. Yuval was one of ten students selected for the recital upon auditioning in front of faculty judges. He played *Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. posthumous* by Frederic Chopin. Of his participation in the recital, he said, "I am really excited about the recital. It is the biggest recital I have ever done."

A Special Announcement from Associate Superintendent Ronald Wagner:

Dear Kenwood Community,

I am pleased to announce that Heidi Johnson has been chosen to continue leading Kenwood as our new principal, effective July 1, 2018.

Ms. Johnson has rich experience in education and equity. She has been an educator for the past 12 years after working for years on behalf of immigrants and international students in a variety of venues. She stepped in for our retiring Principal Wharton-Beck after serving as the assistant principal at Jefferson Community School for the past two years. Throughout her career, Ms. Johnson has demonstrated her belief in and commitment to helping each student reach their highest potential.

Ms. Johnson received her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and Spanish from Bates College, and a juris doctorate from the University of Minnesota Law School, where she focused on immigration and international human rights. She followed that with work towards a Master's degree in interdisciplinary studies for international educators at Buffalo State in Buffalo New York, as well as K-12 administrative licensure from Minnesota State University.

In talking about her new role, Ms. Johnson said she is excited to move into the role of principal at Kenwood and is committed to the success of our students. "It's been my dream to lead an elementary school that prioritizes joy and rigor for all. I'm thrilled to continue our work together to support the academic, social, emotional, and artistic growth of Kenwood's children."

Please join me in welcoming Principal Heidi Johnson to the Kenwood community. If you have any questions, please contact me at 612.668.0140.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our students' academic success.

Sincerely,
Ron Wagner
Associate Superintendent

A Special Note From Melanie LaMere, Kenwood PTA Co-President:

After what seems like the blink of an eye, it's time for me to say goodbye. I had absolutely no idea how our elementary school decision would forever change our lives. I know my daughters will take with them knowledge, experiences, lessons and a world-view that is so unique to Kenwood. And I will take with me true lifelong friends whom I can't imagine life without. It has been a true honor to be alongside so many remarkable teachers, staff, parents and volunteers over the years... Especially my PTA co-president Coryn Petersen and my PTA Auction co-chair Cindy White. My family and I leave with our hearts full of love and gratitude for this wonderful community. No doubt about it, Kenwood will always feel like home. To all of you returning next year, never stop believing in what makes Kenwood special and never give up the fight to keep our school the treasure that it is!

Sincerely,
Melanie LaMere
Kenwood PTA Co-President

End of Year Medication Pick Up

District regulations now state that all student medications must go home at the end of the school year.

* With parent/guardian permission, students can bring home asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors (i.e. EpiPen®, Auvi-Q®) on the last day of school.

* Parents/guardians must pick up all other medication from the school health office.

* Medication not picked up by the last day of school will be destroyed.

* Parents/guardians are responsible for delivering medication to summer school if their student will attend a summer program
Sincerely - Traci Cruikshank, RN, MaED, Licensed School Nurse

Ways to Help Kenwood Over the Summer

Kenwood Benefit Rummage Sale:

Donate items or shop at the Kenwood Rummage Sale! Drop off times after school on June 8th or stop by the rec center on June 9th for some shopping.

Kenwood Veggie Garden:

The Kenwood School Veggie Garden, located on West 21st Street across from Birchbark Books, has been helping children grow since 2010. Families are needed to prep, design, plant, water, weed, and pick from mid-May through October. Please contact Angie Erdrich or Majorie Hegstrom with questions at kenwoodgreenteam@gmail.com. To sign up to help, visit our website <http://kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us/index> and click on the link provided. Thank you!

Do you already shop at these establishments or buy these products?

Purchase through **Amazon Smile** and raise money for Kenwood School. Anytime you purchase from Amazon, 0.5% of your purchase could go back to the Kenwood School PTA. Follow this link for your next purchase and don't forget to Bookmark it. At the top of the Amazon order page you will see in red: "Supporting: PTA Minnesota Congress 004884 Kenwood Elementary PTA". Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-6040599>.

Put your grocery receipts in the Kenwood designated box at **Kowalski's** on Hennepin and earn money for the school.

Save your trimmed **Boxtops for Education** and earn money for the school.

Calendar



Wednesday, May 30th
Choir Concert, 6:30pm

Thursday, May 31st
Kindergarten Field Day, 8:00-9:15am
Grade 3 Wax Museum, 8:00-8:30am (playground)

Friday, June 1st
Student Awards Ceremony, 7:45-8:30am

Wednesday, June 6th
Kindergarten Celebration, 1:00-1:30pm

Thursday, June 7th
Grade 4 Bike Trip
Grade 5 Completion Ceremony, 8:00am
Grade 5 Roller Skating Party, 2:00-4:00pm

Friday, June 8th
Last Day of School

Saturday, June 9th
Kenwood Rummage Sale, 9:00am-2:00pm

Looking Ahead

Thursday, August 23rd
Back to School Ice Cream Social, 4:00-5:30pm

Monday, August 27th
First Day of School, Grades 1- 12

Wednesday, August 29th
First Day of School, Kindergarten
Kindergarten and New Family Coffee

Saturday, September 15th
Kenwood Crawl