

2 Kenwood Courier

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
ISSUE NUMBER 2

Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School
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kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us 612-668-2760



PTA Executive Board:

Again this year, we have a good mix of new and experienced

members who meet once monthly as a group and then as needed on committees working on various events throughout the year. This Year's Board Members are; Co-Vice Presidents **Jennifer Bishop** and **Melanie LaMere**; Treasurer **Susan Krook**; Deputy Treasurer **Kim Sauvageot**; Secretary **Nicole Valentine**; Volunteer Coordinators **Traci Auger** and **Lori Smith**; and At-Large members **Cindy White**, **Heather Mickman** and **Christine Conner**; Emeritus **Stephanie Bell** and **Ruth Ehalt**. In addition, **Principal Aura Wharton-Beck**, Community Liaison **Chris Madden** and Staff Liaison **Darwin Lee** serve on the Board. Thanks to all of them for their involvement.

Sign up to help with a Conference Meal for teachers if you can. Watch future *Couriers* for information on Family Activity Night coming up on November 12th and remember that Kenwood Galactic Pizza day is Tuesday, September 22. Yummy pizza for dinner for a good cause — Kenwood School!

Anna Schmalzbauer & Julie Coykendall

★ The Kenwood Elementary School website calendar is updated with most of the important dates for the whole school year. kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us ★

★ Handbook/calendars will come soon. ★

FROM YOUR PTA CO-PRESIDENTS...

Welcome to the 2015-16 school year at Kenwood School! We're Anna Schmalzbauer and Julie Coykendall — Co-Presidents of the PTA. Anna has a 7th grade son at Anthony and a 4th grade daughter at Kenwood. Julie has a 4th grade daughter and a 2nd grade son. We were pleased to meet so many parents of Kindergartners for coffee on the playground on the first day of school. Thank you to the Lowry for providing the coffee and scones!

What We Do: The Kenwood PTA is busy all year long trying to build community, enhance communication between home and school, and raise funds to pay for residencies, supplies, and experiences that make Kenwood a unique place for kids to learn and grow.



Woody Woodchuck

Back-to-School PTA Events: Four weeks into the school year and the PTA has already sponsored two events — the Ice Cream Social and the Crawl. We hope you were able to attend the Back-to-School Ice Cream Social and Open House. It was fun! It is always great to meet your classroom teacher, see the specialists and eat ice-cream. Thank you to Heather Wulfsberg for chairing this event and to all the parents that helped. The Kenwood Crawl, chaired by 5th grade parents Anne Belzer & Suzanne Paki focused on fitness and fun. The weather was perfect and many families enjoyed a walk around the park with their kids. Some kids ran the whole way and Principal, Mrs. Wharton-Beck made the loop several times! Thanks to the 50 volunteers that made the event possible! The event was

a success and will help the PTA fund the many extra activities at Kenwood School!

Curriculum Night: Thanks to all the teachers for taking the time to help the parents understand what happens each day in the classroom. The night was well attended and helped to set the tone for a great year of learning at Kenwood. **Curriculum Night is meant to be an introduction to the goals and expectations of each classroom.** It is also an excellent preparation for parents for their individual meetings with teachers at conference time. Conferences are on Tuesday, October 13th after school into early evening and Wednesday, October 14 during the day (there is no school that day). If you have not yet scheduled an October Conference with your child's teacher — please do so. .

Giftwrap Sale: The PTA Innisbrook Giftwrap Fundraiser, Chaired by Ruth Ehalt will be held in October. Innisbrook offers high-quality, environmentally friendly products that many of our families like to buy. Kenwood PTA will keep 45% to 50% of the proceeds.

Because last year's opt-out option was very popular with families that were too busy, or simply didn't want their children to sell products, we will again be offering that option. Watch for more information.

Kenwood Directory: We are online! If you are new to Kenwood please use the following link to enter your family's contact information. <http://bit.ly/1uAdBdB>.

If you are returning family, please log-in and update your child's teacher. If you have questions or concerns please contact Anna Schmalzbauer or Christine Conner at Kenwooddirectory@gmail.com. *Note: There is a link to the Kenwood Online Directory on the Kenwood School Website.*

Dine for Dollars at Galactic Pizza

Tuesday, September 22
from 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Mention Kenwood School when you place your order and they'll donate 25% of your total tab to the Kenwood PTA!

Offer valid on dine in, delivery or take out orders!

Galactic Pizza— 2917 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls, 55408 612-824-9100



GALACTIC PIZZA
PLANET SAVING PIZZA

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ KENWOOD

★ **Kenwood Health Assistant Sue Brown** is a talented baker and earned many ribbons over the years at the Minnesota State Fair. Her latest ribbon winning creation? Kiwi Lime Bundt Cake. Yum!

IMPORTANT POLICY:
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. Forms are available in the school office.

This background check is good for two years from the date it was approved.

Classroom teachers have been given the master list from last year and will be informed as new parents are approved. You can check with them to see if/when you need to submit a new form.

It takes up to two weeks for processing.

For Kindergarten and First grade fieldtrips coming up very soon — the forms will be expedited.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held on **October 13 & 14th**. All parents are expected to attend conferences. We believe that through these conferences we, as well as you, will gain a better understanding of your child. We hope you will make a sincere effort to **schedule a conference with your teacher** if you have not done so already. If you are unable to attend the conference, please send a note or call the teacher to arrange another time. Please be aware that you may request a conference with your child's teacher at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Conference Meals

Kenwood's PTA has a long-standing tradition of treating our dedicated teachers to good eats at Parent-Teacher Conference time. Our teachers strive to meet with every single family, so these are extremely busy days for them. To keep them energized, we'll provide tasty and nutritious meals, including **after-school snacks & dinner on Tuesday, October 13th, and breakfast & lunch on Wednesday, October 14th**. We need YOUR HELP to carry on this great tradition! If you can contribute a breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack item (home-made or store-bought), OR if you can help with set-up or clean-up, please contact Lori Smith at volunteer4kenwood@gmail.com. **If possible, please send food in disposable containers.** It will help greatly with clean-up!



Chess Club at Kenwood

The after school Chess Club is starting again run by the Twin Cities Chess Club. Forms are in the school office. The first 10 week session will start on Tuesday, September 22nd. Registration is limited. Registration is now online at www.twincitieschessclub.com. *We cannot accept last minute sign ups.* Questions? Call TCCC at 952-457-4800.

Yearbook Photos Needed.

We are always in need of parent photographers. We will need many photos of student events for the yearbook. If you are taking pictures of your child, try to take pictures of other kids too — especially groups of kids. We try to include a candid photo of every child at Kenwood School in the yearbook. Please submit your pictures to Jen Wise, at jen.wise@ergoninc.com and contact her if you are available to take pictures at an event.



School Site Council

Kenwood's Site Council addresses policies that govern the school and its administrative budget. This group is comprised of parents and school staff and meets monthly throughout the school year. While other schools have Site Councils, the true collaboration that exists at Kenwood among the teachers, administration and parents is unique and something we should all appreciate. Meetings are generally the third Thursday of each month from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center. If you are interested in attending a meeting or would like more information, please contact Site Council co-chairs, Brad Ehalt (bradehalt@gmail.com) or Sonja Elias (sonjaelias@comcast.net).

SITE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Parents: Brad Ehalt (Co-Chair), Sonja Elias (Co-Chair) Stephanie Fink, Eliza Goodwin, Jenny Kriha, Leslie Nall

Staff: Aura Wharton-Beck, Principal; Chris Madden, Family Liaison; Jacquelyn Williams, 3rd Grade teacher, Cindi Quehl, Music teacher

Spotlight Performances

We have our first two **Spotlight performances of the year** coming up on **Wednesday, September 30th** at 8:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Spotlights are informal, low key performances featuring individuals or small groups. Students audition in their classrooms. Two "acts" are chosen from each participating class to perform. Join us in the multi-purpose room to cheer the kids on and enjoy the entertainment! **Note: there are two shows a day — on four dates this year. Each show has different participants. Teachers will let you know if your child has been chosen to perform in a Spotlight.**



PRIDE at Kenwood

PRIDE is the positive behavior program at Kenwood School. Kenwood Kids show their **PRIDE** every day by demonstrating the following qualities: **Peaceful, Respectful, Integrity, Dependable and Engaged.** Teachers provide lessons about each quality. Students who demonstrate our Kenwood **PRIDE** values will be recognized during weekly announcements by the Student Council. Parents are asked to talk about the **PRIDE** values with their children and support the school's efforts to promote a safe and respectful environment for all students.

Drop Off & Pick Up Times

7:15 am is the earliest time that you can drop off your child. 2:10 p.m. is the latest you can pick up your child from Parent Pick Up after school located by Door 8. After 2:10 p.m., students are escorted to the office. **Parent/guardians who fail to respect the 2:10 pick-up time will be required to meet with the principal to resolve the matter.**



CALENDAR

Thursday, September 17

Site Council Meeting
 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. — Media Center

Monday, September 21

Circle of Peace
 8:00 a.m. – Kenwood Playground

Tuesday, September 22

Kenwood Galactic Pizza Day
 11:00 a.m. – Midnight

Wednesday, September 30

The first Spotlight Performances of the year
 8:00 a.m. – Multipurpose Room
 1:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room
Note: Each is a separate show.

Monday, September 28

Innisbrook fundraiser begins

Wednesday, October 7

Bike/Walk to School Day

Monday, October 12

Innisbrook orders are due

Tuesday, October 13

Parent-Teacher Conferences
 2:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 14

NO SCHOOL – Parent-Teacher Conferences
 7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 15 &

Friday, October 16

NO SCHOOL – MEA: Statewide Teacher Professional Days

Thursday, October 22

Site Council Meeting
 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. — Media Center

Friday, October 23

Picture Day

Wednesday, October 28

Spotlights
 8:00 a.m. – Multipurpose Room
 1:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room
Note: Each is a separate show.

Thursday, October 29 & Friday, October 30

NO SCHOOL