

5 Kenwood Courier

NOVEMBER 2, 2015
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Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School
2013 Penn Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55405
kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us 612-668-2760

FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

Dear Kenwood Families.

Math is alive and well at Kenwood School this year! We would like to share with you our efforts to promote rigor in our mathematics instruction.

Advanced Differentiation

Teachers are administering unit pretests to determine which students require additional challenge and/or have demonstrated mastery of learning targets. We will choose from a variety of advanced resources to increase intellectual demand. These activities all are aligned with the same learning targets but prove greater depth, complexity, novelty, and or acceleration. Teachers formatively assess all students throughout the unit in order to move advanced students back into core materials if necessary (mid unit). Teachers will continue to move other students who demonstrate a need for increased challenge into advanced resources and continue to keep all groupings very flexible and fluid throughout the unit by responding to student readiness level.

Math Problem of the Week

We are encouraging all students to participate in the Math Problem of the Week, posted on the bulletin board in front of the main office each week. These students have correctly

solved the problems and shown all their mathematical thinking:
Campbell M., Megan W., Olivia E., Olivia H., Holden V.

Each quarter, the weekly problem solvers will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the principal and the math specialist. At the end of the year, these math scholars will be recognized at our all-school awards ceremony. I urge all Kenwood students to stretch their mathematical thinking by solving the weekly challenge problems.

4th Grade Curriculum Compacting

We are excited about a new Mathematics opportunity for our 4th graders. Minneapolis Public Schools is implementing an accelerated math program across the district beginning in grade 4. With the vision that all students will recognize and develop their talents as a result of enrichment and appropriately challenging



learning opportunities, this acceleration would introduce 1½ years of mathematics each year in grades 4 and 5 at Kenwood School. This creation

of systemic pathways for equitable development of math talent for all MPS students will prepare them for the opportunity to participate in continued acceleration in Middle School Math Instruction. Students' Spring MCA III Math scores identify eligibility for this class. These students also scored in the 89th percentile among 3rd graders last Spring. During the 2015–2016 school year, the Telescope Math Instruction will occur each day during the same time period as all the other 4th grade students. There are 15 students in this accelerated math group.

Telescope Math Class

Our Telescope Math Class is taught by Kenwood's Math Specialist, Ms. Kelsey Passa. Ms. Passa has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematics. She also has a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Ms. Passa has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematics. She also has a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

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Family Activity Night

FREE Pasta Dinner ★ BARN DANCE
Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday, November 12th 4:00-7:00 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- ★ 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
FREE Dinner: Multi-purpose Room
Please be our guest for a delicious pasta dinner, catered by *The Lowry*
- ★ 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Scholastic Book Fair: Media Center
- 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Kenwood Spirit Wear Sales: 1st Floor
- ★ 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
All-School BARN DANCE: Gymnasium
This is a culminating event of the PTA-funded all-school Roots Dance Residency.
- Sword Dance,** presented by the fifth graders, follows Barn Dance at 6:45 p.m.

If you need transportation, please contact Chris Madden at 612-668-2778.

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Conference Meals: On behalf of staff, I want to express our heartfelt appreciation for the delicious meals provided by parents during those busy days. Special thanks to Lori Smith and her volunteers for organizing all the food and making the lunchroom warm and welcoming.



Family Activity Night is coming soon so put **November 12th** on your calendar. I hope to see many of you there. It's an event that shouldn't be missed!

Picture Retake Day

Picture Retake Day will be **Thursday, November 19th** in case your child was absent on the first go-round or you do not like the first photo that was taken. Remember to send in your original packet of photos with your student if they are getting are getting retakes. Thank you!

School Policies:

ATTENDANCE OFFICE: When your child will be absent from school for any reason, please call the school attendance line at 612-668-2780. Even if you have sent a note to the teacher — you still need to call the attendance line, preferably by 8:00 a.m. or you will be receiving a call from school to confirm your child's status.

Kenwood Tours

School Tours will be starting after Thanksgiving for parents of children starting Kindergarten in the Fall of 2016. If you know someone interested in a tour of Kenwood Elementary School, have them contact Kenwood School Family Liaison Chris Madden at 612-668-2778 or christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us. The 2016-17 School Fair Showcase will be held on February 6th, 2016 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The MPS School Request Cards for 2016 Kindergarten are due on March 5, 2016. Kenwood School will also be having an information night for Prospective Parents in mid February.



Drop Off & Pick Up Times

7:15 am is the earliest time to drop off your child. 2:10 p.m. is the latest you can pick up your child from Parent Pick Up after school. After 2:10 p.m., students are taken 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.

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 contact Jen Wise, at jen.wise@ergoninc.com if you have pictures to contribute or if you are available to take pictures at an event.

Transportation Changes:

PLEASE remember to send a note to the teacher at the beginning of the day if your child's after school transportation plans are out of the ordinary. We understand that exceptions will occur, but it is very disruptive to classrooms when we have to interrupt them with messages and bus passes during the day. It is difficult for staff to manage and communicate last minute changes and can be confusing for students too. We do not have extra staff available to leave the office and find your child in the building at the last minute. **THANK YOU!**



No School Full Day & Half Day Art Camps

No School Day Camps are offered at beARTrageous conveniently located across the street from Kenwood School. Check out the Cultural Creations camp days. Half & Full days offered.

- Wednesday, November 25th — *be KIND (Give Back to Community)*
- Friday, November 27th — *be KIND (Give Back to Family)*

Please call the beARTrageous studio at 612-423-7554 to reserve a space or visit www.be-ARTrageous.com.

P.R.I.D.E. is our social/behavior program at Kenwood

Kenwood Kids show their Kenwood **PRIDE** every day by demonstrating the following qualities: **Peaceful, Respectful, Integrity, Dependable and Engaged.** Teachers provide lessons about each quality, what they look like in the classroom and what they look like in the common areas around Kenwood School. Students who demonstrate our Kenwood **PRIDE** values are recognized during weekly announcements by the Student Council. A different classroom will be highlighted each week and 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 at our school.

Auditions for this year's School Play are this happening this week.

Auditions for this year's 4th & 5th Grade School Play, *Pinocchio*, will be held after school on November 3rd & 5th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please send a note to school for your child's teacher — letting them know about your child's after school plans. A flyer went home last week with students who were interested. Extra copies of the flyer will be available in the Kenwood School office.

TO THE MAX
give DAY
NOV 12, 2015

We need your help!
November 12th
is our opportunity to

Give to the Max

for Kenwood School !

We have an opportunity to
raise funds for
academic enrichment
at Kenwood School.

Check out the **Give To The Max** information table on the first floor outside the media center at **Family Activity Night** on November 12th.

CALENDAR

- Thursday, November 12**
Family Activity Night
Give To The Max Day
Native American Involvement Day
- Friday, November 13**
Innisbrook Delivery Date
- Thursday, November 19**
PICTURE RETAKE DAY
Site Council Meeting
Media Center 4:00-5:30 p.m.
State of the School time TBD
- Wednesday, November 25, Thursday, November 26 & Friday, November 27**
NO SCHOOL — Thanksgiving Holiday
- Wednesday, December 16**
Holiday Food Box contributions are due at school by 8:00 a.m.
Choir Concert 7:30 - 8:00 a.m.
- Monday, December 21- Friday, January 1**
NO SCHOOL — Winter Break
- Monday, January 4**
School Resumes