

Kenwood Update

November 15, 2021

KENWOOD

Over a Century of Smarts+Arts

SCHOOL

Give to the Max: Thursday, November 18

Kenwood Community School PTA is a non-profit organization devoted to enhancing the experience of *all* students of Kenwood Community School, a K-5 public elementary school in the heart of Minneapolis focusing on Smarts + Arts. Kenwood Community School fosters the development of the whole child and empowers children with life-long learning skills. Kenwood Community School's culture of arts, academics, diversity and parent involvement sets us apart from other schools. We educate both the head and the heart. We provide students with opportunities to learn through an astonishing range of artists in our community.

The PTA's missions are to build community and support Kenwood's "Smarts + Arts" enrichment opportunities. Money raised during Give to the Max Day will allow the Kenwood PTA to continue its mission, including:

- Supporting all-school and grade-level arts enrichment programs designed by Kenwood teachers, often in partnership with local artists;
- Sponsoring community-building events and provide scholarships and transportation to allow access for all; and
- Funding educational online subscriptions and learning lab supplies.

Please visit givemn.org or [click here](#) to make a donation to Kenwood PTA. Thank you for your support!

Vaccine Clinic: Wednesday, November 17

Please arrive at door 4 for the vaccine clinic. To make the process easier, make sure children wear clothes with short sleeves and fill out the consent form ahead of time. There are still [slots available](#), open to anyone ages 5-11. Additional vaccine clinics for children and teens can be located at mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/vaxforkids/

[Potter's Pasties and Pies](#) will be onsite during this vaccine clinic as well. The food truck is open to anyone for purchase - whether you attend the vaccination clinic or not! They have been voted "Best Food Truck in the Twin Cities" 8 times. Stop down to grab a bite.

Hat Day: Friday, November 19

We have replenished the stock of Kenwood winter pom hats. Please reach out to Lori Smith for purchase - hats are \$15 and scholarships are available. Show your school spirit this Friday by wearing your favorite hat!

ROOTS Dance Residency: A Note from Dr. Bob and Ms. Julie

We are delighted and grateful to the Kenwood PTA for funding a Roots Dance Residency again this year at Kenwood. The Roots Dance Residency, featuring Julie Young and Bob Walser, has been a tradition at Kenwood for more than 15 years. (Bob and Julie are both musicians, dancers, and Kenwood alum parents, Bob has a PhD in ethnomusicology and music education, and Julie is a former classroom teacher at Kenwood School!) Every year we are rewarded to see not only the musical development in the students, but the development of a culture of mutual respect, cooperation, and genuine enjoyment of one another in the larger school community. This year it has been particularly moving to realize how hungry the students are for the kind of connection that comes from a joyful, shared, music and dance experience.

Over the past week Kenwood students have danced to banjo, guitar, button-accordion, and various hand-and frame-drums. They have sung together. They have participated in social dance and play traditions from the Georgia Sea Islands, Turtle Mountain in North Dakota, Jakarta Indonesia, Northern England, Israel, Appalachia, a Mexican community in southern Minnesota, and many other, equally rich cultures!

A Note From Ms. Swenson

Hello Kenwood Families - I will begin Adoption Leave this week. My husband and I adopted a little boy that we have been taking care of since he was a baby. His name is Aaron. He will be three years old in January. There is a window of time in which I may take a leave, that is why I'm doing it now. My leave ends in March.

I will miss teaching and working with your children. I am so fortunate and grateful to have them as students. Principal Johnson found an art teacher who will substitute teach for me after Winter Break. I met with her, and she has great things planned.

Please visit the exhibit of artwork made during the Native American artists residencies. Most of it is displayed in the Fine Arts hallway (near the lunchroom) and in the hallway outside the office.

Attached is a recent picture of our son. This was taken two weekends ago when we were raking. He loves jumping in leaf piles. He is beginning to understand how to play hide and seek too, which he is doing here.

North High School Winter Gear Drive

Our pathway high school is in need of warm winter gear for students. If you have coats, boots, hats, gloves or scarves in adult sizes to donate, please drop them off in the school atrium.

Upcoming Dates

Below are some dates to be aware of. [Click here](#) to view the district calendars.

- November 8-18: Roots Dance Residency, all grades
- November 15-19: American Indian Awareness & Family Involvement Week
- November 18: Give to the Max
- November 19: Kenwood Spirit Day – Hat Day
- November 24-26: Thanksgiving Break (NO SCHOOL)
- December 2: Dining for Dollars - Amore Uptown
- December 3: Picture Day
- December 16: Picture Retakes
- December 17: Kenwood Spirit Day - Pajama Day
- December 20-31: Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)