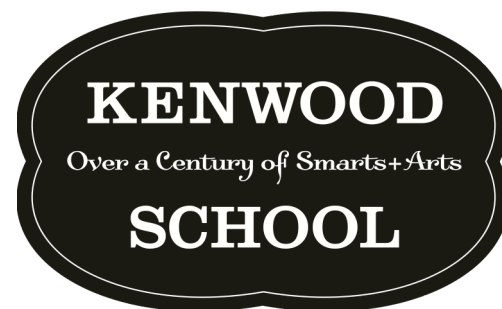


Kenwood Courier

2013 Penn Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55405

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



A Note from your PTA Co-Presidents:

Kenwood PTA presents another Top 10: Woodchuck Winter Wonderland Wonderment

10. Woodchuck Spirit! Who doesn't love showing Kenwood pride and spirit by donning our friendly woodchuck mascot on a hat, t-shirt or sweatshirt?! Thank you to Erin Eggenberger for bringing us Woody's Winter Pop-Up, on Friday, December 14! What a turn-out! Keep your ears to the ground for more spirit wear pop-ups when we resume in 2019. Go Kenwood!

9. Burrrrr-itos, Baby! Thank you for attending our winter Chipotle Dining for Dollars event! It was a packed house for 4 straight hours - thank you for braving the long line! Our community consumed enough burritos and tacos to raise \$377.72 for the Kenwood PTA. Bravo, team!

8. Book Fair Brings it Home! Another huge shout-out to our fantastic Scholastic Book Fair Co-Chairs, Kristi Granacher, Amy Sanborn, and Leah Harp, for their tireless efforts coordinating and operating the book fair. Additionally, the many volunteers who took shifts and assisted our young readers deserve a round of applause. Our community purchased \$10,760 in books, earning around \$2500 for our media center. These funds will provide updated computer lab equipment, online subscriptions, software, books and more! And a very special thanks to the many families who purchased a combined 75 books for our teachers and social worker. Thank you for your kindness!

7. Techies! i.e. People who are good with computers! You help make this digital world go round. We love you and we NEED you... specifically to help out with the Kenwood Auction (which is coming up on Feb. 23rd). We need computer and AV people! Contact us today if you can help out. It'll be fun, we promise.

6. Midwest Food Connection! Did you know that Midwest Food Connection is a paid, PTA-sponsored residency? Are you familiar with MFC? Your PTA Co-Presidents recently had the pleasure of attending an MFC event, where we were presented with three mini instructional lesson plans, like those presented in the classroom. Wow! We were so impressed with this instruction! This is so much more than food taste-testing. Their global focus on the land, sustainable food-sourcing, health and wellness, as well as highlighting cultural differences and similarities between countries and communities is indispensable learning. If your child brings home an MFC handout, ask questions! Who knows, you may learn something, just as we did!

5. December Dining For Dollars! And speaking of food... it's time for another locally-partnered Dining For Dollars! Please join fellow Kenwood School families at The Lowry on Wednesday, December 19, from 5pm-8pm. (Please note, this is the correct date). Remember, when you mention Kenwood School, a percentage of your bill will come back to Kenwood PTA. Thanks for dining out, supporting local restaurants and your Kenwood PTA!

4. Calling all Grant Writers! Are you familiar with writing grant proposals? The Kenwood PTA is interested in adding a Grant Writing Chair to our board. Please contact Coryn Petersen or Jane Wolke for more information. corynpetersen@gmail.com wolke.jane@gmail.com Thanks for your consideration.

3. Sales People! Are you good with sales? What about RUMMAGE SALES? The annual spring/summer Rummage Sale is in need of a new Chair or Co-Chair team. Please contact Lori Smith if you are interested. kenwoodcommunitycoordinator@gmail.com

2. Warm Hands, Warm Hearts! The Kenwood Student Council is currently focusing on their annual community giving event. Please help by donating NEW mittens or gloves and hand warmer packs to the collection box in the school atrium. Student Council members will then make and attach notes to each pair of mittens. Finally, on January 15, in honor of Dr. King, the Student Council will deliver the mittens to the Catholic Charities Distribution Center. From there, our Kenwood donations will flood the city via shelters and daytime service centers. Thank you to our Student Council for their good work and to all of you for donating.

1. Winter Break Wonderment! We wish our beautiful community of teachers, staff, students, parents, grandparents, friends and volunteers a restful and delightful winter break, surrounded by family, friends, good health and bright cheer. All our very best.

See you in 2019!
Coryn Petersen & Jane Wolke
Co-Presidents, Kenwood PTA

Is Your Background Check Valid?

Anyone attending a field trip must have a completed background check on file. Background checks are valid for 2 years, so if it has been awhile since you have filled one out you may need to do it again. You can find more information about the process as well as fill out the form at http://kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us/background_check_forms_-_click_here.html

To find out when your background check expires, please contact Lori Smith at kenwoodcommunitycoordinator@gmail.com

A Note from our art teacher, Ms. Swenson

Thank you to Kenwood parent alumna, Dr. Angie Erdrich. She wrote and received a \$750.00 Assistance League of Minneapolis/St. Paul grant for our school. The money is to be used for the Native American Artists Residencies. These residencies were recently completed. The student artwork resulting from these experiences is on display outside the Art and Music rooms through December 21. The exhibit is titled, "Native American Art: Teaching in the Present Tense". The Assistance League funds innovative projects that improve student achievement/self-esteem, encourage parent/community involvement and improve curriculum.

Our school would also like to thank Dr. Erdrich and her nephew, Aaron Erdrich for speaking to the three third grade classes on November 16. Dr. Erdrich, Ojibwe, showed the students Ojibwe baskets. She taught them what they are made of and used for. Aaron Erdrich, Dakota and Ojibwe, works as a nurse in Fargo, North Dakota. He is from Sisseton, South Dakota. He showed the students some of his Native American flutes, including one he made from a dried Sunflower stalk from the Kenwood garden. He played his flutes for the third graders. He also taught the students how Native American corn is grown and used.

Middle School Tours

Attention 5th grade families! Our pathway middle school (Susan B. Anthony) is holding daytime tours at 10:15am and 2:15pm on Wednesdays starting December 19th. Please call Anthony Middle School at 612-668-3240 if you are interested in scheduling a daytime tour. <http://anthony.mpls.k12.mn.us/>

Green Team

The Green Team is seeking volunteers and will be holding its first meeting of the school year the week of January 7th, details TBD. At that meeting, the Team will review the many projects and programs established to date, brainstorm new areas of interest or concern to explore, and help plan out the remainder of this year's Green Team-supported activities.

For those new to Kenwood School, these include the DNR School Forest/Oriole feeding site at Cedar Lake, vegetable garden, rainwater garden, end-of-school community rummage sale, annual spring plant sale, and more.

If interested, please join this dynamic and fun group of volunteers in helping build on the tremendous work of others toward an enhanced Kenwood School environment for all. Stayed tuned for the date/time/location of the January meeting.

In the interim, please feel free to contact Marjorie Hegstrom at marjoriehegstrom@gmail.com or Holly Buchanan at hollybuc@gmail.com with any questions or requests.

Composting

Composting is coming to Kenwood! We are pleased to be able to partner with Hennepin County and offer this service in the new year. Stay tuned for more details.

Third Grade Used Book Sale

The third grade students are still looking for book donations for their annual Kenwood Used Book sale. The sale is being organized and run by the third graders on Thursday, December 20th and Friday, December 21st in the third grade hallway. Books will be 25 cents each. All proceeds of the sale will go to update the book selections for the Kenwood School Book Room, a small room on the second floor which houses multiple copies of books for book club use in all Kenwood classrooms.

This book sale is designed for our students, so please do not send in books written or intended for adults. The most popular and needed books tend to be chapter books. Book donations can be brought to room 221 (Mrs. Gregory's classroom). We appreciate your donations!

Holiday Food Boxes

Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring in a full or partial meal for this annual tradition. Donations should be brought to school on Wednesday, December 19th. Please drop off donations between 7:50-8:45am in the hallway outside the art room. All food donations should be unprepared and non perishable - ie frozen, canned, boxed or able to last a week or more. If your family would like to receive a food box this year, please contact Social Worker Amanda Talan at 612-668-2784 to request one. She can also share information about other holiday resources that may be helpful for your family.

Winter Break Resources

Minneapolis Public Schools has compiled a list of resources to assist families over the winter break. These include parks that offer snacks or meals; programs and activities such as recreation center and library services, locations, and hours; and organizations that provide assistance with other needs. Please visit http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/winter_break_resources for more information.

Calendar

Wednesday, December 19th
Dining for Dollars – The Lowry

Thursday, December 20th
Grade 5 Appalachian Studies
Open House: 8:05-8:30am
Performance: 8:45-10:00am

Thursday & Friday, December 20th & 21st
Third Grade Used Book Sale

Monday, December 24th – Friday, January 4th
NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

Monday, January 7th
School resumes

