

# Kenwood Courier

2013 Penn Avenue South  
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## Dear Kenwood Families-Welcome to the 2017-18 School Year!

**The Kenwood Ice Cream Social** — this event served as the perfect venue to meet students, parents, and extended families members of this dynamic school community. The Kenwood playground felt like an old-fashioned family reunion. Through this informal exchange, you can immediately identify Kenwood students by their confidence, poise, ingenuity, intellectual curiosity, boundless energy, artistic sophistication, and charm.

A special thank you to event chair, Heather Wulfsburg, the PTA Board, and the many other parents who helped organize this very special get-together.

**Kindergarten/New Family coffee** — Thank you to the PTA for organizing this event for parents on the first day of Kindergarten and thank you to The Lowry for providing the delicious scones and coffee. It was nice to connect with new families.

**For our new families**, you will discover that Kenwood Community School offers the ideal setting to inspire, challenge, and enrich your child's educational experience. The teachers and staff invest their time and expertise in creating learning communities aimed to tap into the intellectual curiosity and creative spirit of your child. Our dedicated parents, families, and community partners lend their resources, time, and talents to ensure that all Kenwood students receive excellent educational opportunities from kindergarten through fifth grade.

**Minneapolis Public Schools now require that all parent volunteers going on school field trips submit a Criminal Background Check form by mail to the district along with a \$5 fee.**

They are good for 2 years from the date they were approved. \*Please note: It takes 5-10 days for processing. A link to the forms can be found on the Kenwood website

## Please join us for Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 14

**5:30pm:** New families are invited to gather in the multipurpose room for a Principal's Welcome.

**6:00 – 6:20pm:** Visit your child's classroom to hear about curriculum, homework policies, and academic goals.

**6:30 – 6:50pm:** Classroom presentations repeated for parents who have more than one student at Kenwood

To allow for sufficient space for parents, children may not attend the curriculum presentations. There will be free childcare available for ages 3 & up at the Kenwood Rec Center. We have space for 60 children, so please contact Lori Smith to reserve your spot/spots at [lori.smith@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:lori.smith@mpls.k12.mn.us) or 612-668-2778.

## Kenwood Crawl!

Mark your calendars! The Kenwood Crawl will take place on **Saturday, September 16**. Students, staff, family members, friends and neighbors are invited to participate with the goal of raising funds to support Kenwood's performing arts programs.

The Crawl is not only fun, it is an important PTA fundraiser—funds raised support the school's arts programs. Students return the provided donation envelopes to their teachers by **Friday, September 15** or bring them to the Crawl on Saturday morning. Last year's donations totaled more than \$17,000. *If every child raises \$40, Kenwood School will reach its goal!*

- Enjoy breakfast generously donated by Isles Bun & Coffee, Lunds & Byerlys, and Kowalski's Market.
- Children's activities will include an ARTrageous Adventures station and scavenger hunt, as well as a Kenwood Gymnastics demonstration.
- Children's Minnesota and Kohls Foundation ([childrensMN.org/flu](http://childrensMN.org/flu)) will provide flu shots (three years of age and older). This service is optional and free (please bring a health insurance card if you have one). Children's Hospital/Kohls Foundation is providing a grant to cover the cost of uninsured adults. Uninsured children will be covered by the Minnesota Vaccines for Children (MnVFC) program through the Minnesota Department of Health.

### Details + Timing

- The Crawl begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 11 a.m. Each grade walks around the park separately.
- Walk schedule: Kindergarten – 9:30 a.m., 1<sup>st</sup> grade – 9:45 a.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 10 a.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – 10:10 a.m., 4<sup>th</sup> grade – 10:20 a.m., 5<sup>th</sup> grade – 10:30 a.m.

### Prizes!

- The class with the highest number of event participants will receive the Kenwood walking stick and a recess-in-the-park pizza party.
- The class with the highest amount of donations will win a recess-in-the-park pizza party.
- First, second and third place prizes will be awarded to individual students with the most donations (prizes include Science Museum passes, Minnesota Zoo passes and a Big Thrill Factory gift card).

*Donations are optional. Everyone walks!*

## KENWOOD SCHOOL WEEKLY E-BLASTS — The best way to keep informed about what is happening school-wide.

If you have not received email updates from Family Liaison Lori Smith, please e-mail [lori.smith@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:lori.smith@mpls.k12.mn.us) to get on this valuable email list. E-blasts are sent out every Monday with extra reminders for important information & events sent on an as needed basis.

### IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION

- **Classes begin promptly at 7:30 a.m. Please note that 7:15 a.m. is the earliest time that students may arrive at school.**

Teachers will be in their classrooms at that time, ready to receive students. It is not safe for students to be in the building unsupervised before 7:15 a.m.

- **Students who are “walkers” must go home and check-in** with their parents or day care providers before they may come back and play on the playground.
- **Students who are picked up at the end of the day will wait in the gym with staff members until they are picked up by a designated adult.** Please enter through **door 8** (Franklin Ave. side near the Rec Center) when picking up your child. Remember, no parking is allowed on the school side of Penn Ave. at the end of the school day. We have seven buses that must line up there to transport children home.

#### DROP OFF/PICK UP

**Penn Avenue is the location for family drop-off.** If possible, please use the east side of the street (school side) for stopping and/or parking. Buses will be lining up on this side of the street as well. We ask that you stop your car north of the fence arch way when dropping off your child in the morning.

- **If you plan on dropping your child off on the west side of Penn Avenue**, please be sure that you and/or your child use the crosswalks where school patrols are located (see next column). Your child should exit the car on the sidewalk side, walk down to the crosswalk and wait for school patrol to help him/her cross. **Please do not block the driveways of homes or businesses with your car. DO NOT HAVE YOUR CHILD CROSS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET!**

- Regular education buses will line up on Penn Avenue. Arriving students will enter through door #1 and go directly to breakfast or to their classrooms.
- **DO NOT drop off students in the back parking lot** near the kindergarten classrooms.
- **All visitors should enter at door #1 by the flagpole.** As you enter the outer door, ring the bell at the inner set of doors. The office staff will buzz you in with a minimum of delay/disruption. Please come directly to the office to sign-in and get a Visitor's badge.
- **Bicycle policy: Students may ride their bicycles to school.** Bike racks are located in front of the Kenwood Rec Center and on the Franklin Avenue side of the building. Parents and children must understand that there are serious safety ramifications to the decision to use bike transportation. Kenwood School does not assume responsibility for the security of the bicycle or the safety of the biker. **Please note that students MUST wear helmets, which can be stored in their lockers during the school day.** Become familiar with the Bicycle Regulations in the Handbook/Calendar that will be coming soon.

*Thank you for your support.*

### PTA News

The PTA is looking to fill the following positions ASAP! PTA meetings take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 8am.

#### **PTA Board Secretary**

- Attend and take minutes at PTA board member meetings. Forward minutes to board members for review and make any necessary edits.
- Co-Chair or take on a larger volunteer role for one PTA event per year
- Attend PTA events throughout the year when possible
- Time commitment: 2-4 hours/month

#### **Read A Thon Co-Chair**

- Compile and distribute promo materials/reading logs. (There is material from last year that can be updated)
- Select and order prizes
- Review logs and distribute prizes
- Time commitment: Oct/Nov

#### **Barn Dance Chair or 2 Co-Chairs**

- Coordinate with a local restaurant regarding dinner
- Work with the ROOTS Residency for the all school barn dance
- Work with the volunteer coordinator regarding volunteer needs
- Help publicize event
- Time commitment: Oct/Nov

For more information, please contact Melanie Lamere at [lameremel@yahoo.com](mailto:lameremel@yahoo.com) or Coryn Petersen at [corynpetersen@gmail.com](mailto:corynpetersen@gmail.com)

### Calendar

Thursday, September 14

Curriculum Night 5:30 – 7:00pm

Saturday, September 16

Kenwood Crawl 9:00 - 11:00am

Thursday, September 21

Circle of Peace

Wednesday, October 4

International Walk/Bike to School Day

Friday, October 13

Picture Day

Tuesday, October 17

Parent Teacher Conferences 2:00 - 7:00pm

Wednesday, October 18

NO SCHOOL - Parent Teacher Conferences 7:30am – 2:00pm

Thursday, October 19 & Friday, October 20

NO SCHOOL - MEA Statewide Teacher Professional Days

