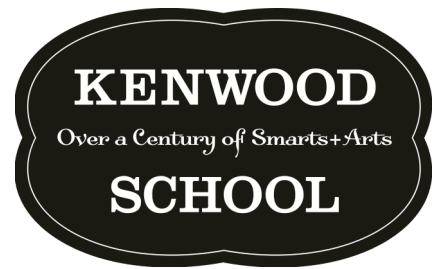


# Kenwood Courier

2013 Penn Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55405

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



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Dear Kenwood Families,

**Welcome SPRING!** There were times this winter when it didn't seem like we would ever feel the warm sun on our faces but low and behold... the season is changing once again and our moods are soaring along with the temperatures!

**Looking back...** the Kenwood PTA Auction raised more than \$70,000! We (the co-chairs and committee) are SO pleased with how it all turned out and thankful for our generous community. This allows the PTA to keep funding more enriching programs and necessities for our kids next year. See below for a sampling of what the PTA has funded this year at Kenwood.

Heading into March, with no rest for the weary, we forged ahead with a few more fundraisers. We had some delicious pizza from **Red Savoy. Nico's Tacos & Tequila Bar** (a Kenwood family-owned business) was busting at the seams with happy, guacamole-smearred Kenwood kids! Again, we are SO grateful to our D4D restaurant partners. **THANK YOU and YUM!** And a big thanks to Sarah Kreykes and Debra Altschuler for coordinating the entire 2018-2019 Dining for Dollars campaign. Our spring **Evereve** shopping event was a ball! Thanks to all who stopped by to mingle and pick up some fun spring items and to our PTA members for donating drinks and food. Kudos to Sarah Kreykes again for organizing this **FUN**draiser!

**Looking forward...** These next couple of months are a golden time at Kenwood but don't blink because they go by in a flash! We have our next Dining for Dollars event coming up at **My Burger on April 17th**.

The **School Dance** is **April 26-27th** (sponsored by Student Council). Do NOT miss this fun event - the kids have a blast!

April 26: 6:30-8:30pm Grades 3-5, \$5.00 donation at the door requested

April 27: 10:00-11:30am Grades K-2 \$3.00 donation at the door requested

DJs: Kenwood Alumni, Southwest Seniors, Carly Madden and Lucie Allen

This dance is for currently enrolled Kenwood students only

The **Plant Sale** will be happening on **May 17-18th** (raising money for the annual 5th grade Eagle Bluff trip). Mark your calendars for the annual all-school **Spring Picnic on May 18th**. The PTA is always working hard to build community; please join in the fun! Watch for more info coming soon. Also, we have the annual **Rummage Sale** coming up on **June 8th**. If you get the spring cleaning 'bug' - please remember to put aside items for the sale.

The PTA is thinking ahead to next year and looking for new volunteers and members! We are also looking to add a new position: Grant Writer. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to Jane Wolke ([wolke.jane@gmail.com](mailto:wolke.jane@gmail.com)) or Coryn Petersen ([corynpetersen@gmail.com](mailto:corynpetersen@gmail.com))

Enjoy the sunshine!  
Your PTA Co-Presidents,  
Jane Wolke & Coryn Petersen

Here are some of the PTA-funded/supported activities & programs for the 2018-2019 school year.

**Grade-Level Art Residencies \* Kenwood Crawl \* Field-trip Busses \* School Play \* Yearbook**

**Midwest Food Connection \* All-School Barn Dance and Family Activity Night**

**Transportation for Families \* Back-to-School Ice Cream Social \* Kenwood Office Supplies**

**Teacher Support (including supply stipends) \* Staff Appreciation \* School Safety Patrol**

**Student Council \* Teacher Emeritus \* Kindness Retreat \* Community Coordinator \* Scholarships**

## Thank You Volunteers!

Thank you to all the volunteers who help at Kenwood - whether you are volunteering in the classroom, in the lunchroom, on field trips, on a committee, serving dinner at the Barn Dance, cutting papers at home, helping with the school play, working with students during Parents as Partners, assisting in the media center, or any of the many other ways you volunteer, we greatly appreciate your time and effort in helping all Kenwood kids.

### MCA Math and Science Tests

Grades 3 – 5 have completed the reading MCA's and are moving on to math and science (Grade 5 only for science) this month. The MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment) is designed to measure the success of instruction based on the Minnesota Academic Standard, which specify what students in a particular grade should know and be able to do. The best way for students to prepare for these assessments is to attend school on time each day, work hard in class, get a good night's sleep, and eat a nutritious breakfast.

For information about statewide testing, please visit the Department of Education website at <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/tests/>. You will find numerous sections on that site including Frequently Asked Questions and a Parent Fact Sheet, which will answer most of your questions regarding the tests.

To view sample test items, please visit <http://minnesota.pearsonaccessnext.com/item-samplers/>. You can view by subject and grade level.

### Tips for Parents – Day of the Test

- Make sure your child arrives at school on time, is well rested, and eats a healthy breakfast
- Encourage your child to do his or her best
- Do not remove your child from school on test days
- Maintain a calmness about tests – they are one portion of a child's overall education and performance
- Ask your child how he or she feels about the upcoming test. Do your best to calm anxieties
- If your child is experiencing anxiety, communicate this to the teacher

### Summer Programs Minneapolis Kids

Offered through Minneapolis Community Education Minneapolis Kids provides fun, engaging and educational summer care for children entering grades 1-7. Registration is based on available space. Minneapolis Kids summer program runs from Thursday, June 13th - Friday, August 23rd. Kenwood will not have a summer site, but there are a variety of other locations to choose from. Please visit <http://mplskids.mpls.k12.mn.us/summer> for more information or to register.

### Summer School & GEMS/GISE

MPS offers FREE summer options for students. For more information and to register for summer school, please visit <http://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us/> For more information and to register for the summer GEMS/GISE program, please visit [http://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us/gems\\_gise\\_stem\\_3](http://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us/gems_gise_stem_3). Both the general summer program and GEMS/GISE run June 17th through July 25th; Monday through Thursday (Closed July 4th). Transportation and lunch are provided. In order to have transportation the first day of summer session, registrations were due March 22<sup>nd</sup>, although transportation will work to assign bussing as quickly as possible. The second deadline, for transportation at a point after summer session has started, is May 6th.

### Minneapolis Community Education

Community education offers a variety of programs including Cahoots, Sports Arts Plus, Super Summer at Southwest High School and more. Visit [youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/summer](http://youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/summer) for more information and to register.

### Pits & Alleys: April 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

Pits & Alleys week is coming soon to the Kenwood Gym. Pits & Alleys is something Mr. C., Kenwood's Physical Education teacher, has been doing since 1992. It's a complicated obstacle course set up in the gym with mats, cones, ropes, and more. Over the years it has evolved into something much grander than when it first started. In the early days, the course was taken down and set up daily. Now it takes roughly 5 hours and all Friday afternoon to have it set up for Monday. All students have the opportunity to participate during their scheduled P.E. time. There are things to climb or jump over, crawl through, or avoid which could get you out for that game. In other words, it's a game of tag within an obstacle course.

There is a lot of critical thinking going on during the game. Players have to determine which pathway or "ALLEY" to take, as well as what order to run in order to avoid becoming trapped in a one-way street or being tagged and put into the "PIT" by a tagger. Mr. C feels it is the most popular activity students do in gym class. It has become so popular, that it's offered as a sign up evening event at Kenwood's annual auction for students in grades 2- 5 as well as alumni students. The evening event typically sells out every year raising thousands of dollars for our school. Ask your child about gym class next week. I am sure you will get a smile. Thanks Mr. C.!

### Pits and Alleys Evening Event: April 18<sup>th</sup>

There are still a few spots left for purchase in grades 2, 4, 5, and for alumni students from the auction fundraiser. If you would like to purchase a spot, please email PTA treasurer Amy Sanborn ([amysanborn18@gmail.com](mailto:amysanborn18@gmail.com)). Checks can be made out the Kenwood PTA and dropped in the PTA Treasurer mailbox in the office. Each spot is \$25, and goes to Kenwood PTA to support all kids.

Grade 2 - 6:15pm  
Grade 4 – 7:15pm  
Grade 5 – 7:45pm

## Calendar

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

Dining for Dollars – My Burger, 4:00-10:00pm

Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

Site Council Meeting, 4:00-5:30pm

Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

School Dance – Grades 3-5, 6:30-8:30pm

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

School Dance – Grades K-2, 10:00-11:30am

Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

Plant Sale Pick Up

May 18<sup>th</sup>

School Picnic