

Kenwood Courier

2013 Penn Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55405

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Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

In spite of record snowfalls, a polar vortex and too many closed school days to count, the ROARING TWENTIES took Kenwood by storm and gave us a reason to get out of hibernation and work together to raise money for our enchanting community school. The Kenwood PTA Auction 2019: ROARING TWENTIES was a night FOR THE BOOKS! From the stunning and striking décor, to the impressively generous donations, to the delicious eats, to the fabulous and giving attendees, to the lively music, to the packed dance floor... the entire night was a smashing success. We blew our goal of raising \$55,000 out of the water, and our community gave over \$67,000 at this year's auction. Spectacular! What an exceptionally giving community!

Thank YOU for your support, for your participation, for your time, for your efforts! Monies raised through the auction are used to enhance Kenwood's arts curriculum through grade level and school-wide residencies, build community and assist with multiple student, school and classroom needs. Additionally, the auction has also become a wonderful social event and community builder for Kenwood parents. There's something for everyone at the auction, be it a behind the scenes data-entry shift, a wine wall purchase, a live auction bidding battle, a dance off! Thank you for every piece you played in participating. If you missed out this year, we do hope we will see you at next year's event.

Our second year using online software, which helped reduce previous auction costs (catalogs, signs, etc), allowed more families to participate, and improved the overall efficiency of the event. It allowed bidders to bid who could not attend the auction and also afforded us the ability to easily sell late donations and reopen bidding/purchasing for items that didn't sell on auction night. We will continue to use this modern and efficient database for our auction. Please give us feedback if you encountered any issues with this system.

Let's hear it for the Kenwood PTA Auction 2019: ROARING TWENTIES Auction Committee! Ariel Carter, Mary Beth Aamot, Jen Brower, Amy Sanborn, Julie Coykendall, Edith-Nicole Cameron, Hellen Bassett, Christine Connor, Kristi Granacher, Ann Tozer, Tara Saylor, Heather Mickman, Alicia Gibson, Leslee Johns, Mark Abbott, Sarah Madison, Lindsay Reiske, Deborah Spirn, Greta Schmitt, Brett Thompson, Matt Dawson, Nikki Bottolene, Marion Collins, Leah Harp, Dan Jenney, Renita Faye, Rachelle Morken, Marjorie Hegstrom, Britta Gustafson, Sean Murphy, Carrie Brassler, Brad Brassler, Corey China, Latricia Askew, Lisa Hedges, Jen Brower, Jenny LeFevere, Sarah Kreykes, Jane Wolke, Coryn Petersen. This entire team poured creativity, ingenuity, commitment, heart, time and hustle into all pieces of this very large and complex puzzle, making it one of the most successful auctions in Kenwood PTA Auction history. Hats off to all of you!

Thanks to all of our staff and parent volunteers who assisted during the event and helped with the huge tasks of setting up, cleaning up, and data entry. It certainly takes many people to make this important auction happen, and we are so grateful to this generous and multi-talented community.

A special thank you to our auction sponsors who value strong public schools. Many of the auction sponsors are Kenwood parent-owned businesses. Thanks to: Bogart's Doughnut Co, Nico's Taco & Tequila Bar, Lakes Area Realty, NRD Landscape Design Build, Kenwood Isles Area Association, The Kiernat Family, Kate Roos Design, Allen and Kathleen Lenzmeier, Saylor Heating & Air Conditioning, Sue & Bill Payne, and Petersen Real Estate Team. Thank you for supporting Kenwood School's most important fundraising event of the year!

We look forward to funding more great residencies, school-wide activities, field trips, bussing, office and classroom needs, scholarships, and much more, in the coming school year. This could not happen without all the community-wide support. Thank you for continuously giving time, resources and energy to our public school PTA and its events. We'll see you out in the snow!

Best,

Coryn Petersen & Jane Wolke
Kenwood PTA Co-Presidents

Are you on the eblast list?

If you would like to be added, please email Lori Smith at kenwoodcommunitycoordinator@gmail.com. Eblasts are sent at the beginning of the week and then on an as needed basis. It's a great way to keep informed about what is happening at school.

Background Checks

All chaperones attending field trips must have a completed background check on file. Please visit http://kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us/background_check_forms_-_click_here.html for directions on how to fill out the online form.

Kenwood Budget Update

The Kenwood budget allocation for the 2019/2020 school year has been released, and Principal Johnson has been meeting with Site Council, the Instructional Leadership Team, staff, and the PTA executive board. Updates will be shared with families before the March 15th submission deadline. For information about the district budget, please visit the district webpage at http://mpls.k12.mn.us/2019-2020_budget.

MCA Testing: March 18th – April 26th

Kenwood 3rd - 5th graders are scheduled to take the MCA's (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments) during the above testing window. The primary purpose of the MCA is 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. Assessment results can be used to determine whether all students are mastering key content knowledge and attaining the skills necessary for future success in education and the workforce. During these testing periods, it is extremely important that students are relaxed, have a good night's sleep, and a nutritious breakfast. Good attendance every day and arriving on time ready to learn are extremely important aspects of doing well in school and on tests.

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

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

Tips for Parents – Before the Test

- Note test dates on your calendar; schedule appointments on non-testing days
- Encourage your child to take responsibility for homework and class study, and to ask questions at home and in class
- Attend parent-teacher conferences
- Help your child set realistic yet ambitious goals
- Be sure your child knows you value a good education
- Praise your child's efforts – recognize hard work and persistence

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

Tips for Parents – After the Test

- Ask your child about the test - be positive
- Examine any reports that are sent home and share them with your child as appropriate
- Share your child's area of strength and help make a plan to address any weaknesses
- Talk with the teacher if other information is needed
- Support your child in setting and achieving new goals

Auction Thank You

Massive thanks to the Kenwood PTA Auction 2019: ROARING TWENTIES Auction Leadership Team of Sarah Kreykes, Jane Wolke and Coryn Petersen. Their tireless and whole-hearted approach to the entire auction planning process was seen in every aspect, and their steadfast dedication to Kenwood School has been unwavering. Thank you, and congratulations, Auction Co-Chairs!

Winter

Please make sure to take note of the winter parking restrictions for Minneapolis. At this time, you may not park on the even side of non snow emergency streets. For more information, visit http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/snow/snow_winter-parking-restrictions

As winter continues, please make sure children come to school prepared to go outside with winter gear. The school supply of boots, snow pants, and gloves has been nearly exhausted. As the weather turns warmer and the snow begins to melt, it's a good idea to keep an extra pair of dry socks in the backpack for kids to change into after recess.

Plant Sale

Kenwood holds the annual plant sale every spring. All proceeds from the sale go to offset the cost of the grade 5 Eagle Bluff trip, making it more affordable for each child to attend. Forms for preordering should be coming home soon, and are due back to school on Friday, March 15th.

Calendar

Wednesday, March 6th & Thursday, March 7th
Alice in Wonderland, 6:30pm

Friday, March 8th
True Colors Day

Saturday, March 9th
Check it Out Chess Tournament
(Edison High School)

Thursday, March 14th
EVEREVE Shopping Event, 7:00-9:00pm

Friday, March 15th
Plant Sale Orders Due

Thursday, March 21st
Dining for Dollars – Nico's Tacos

Thursday, March 28th
Site Council, 4:00-5:30pm

Friday, March 29th
NO SCHOOL – Teacher Record Keeping Day

Monday, April 1st – Friday, April 5th
NO SCHOOL – Spring Break