

11 Kenwood Courier

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Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School
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FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

Budget 2017-18 Forecast:

The budget season will begin with all schools receiving their individual allocations on March 1st. This time has been recently postponed from the original time of February 17th. I will be working closely with the Kenwood Site Council to identify specific program needs for our school. As a school that places a high value on preserving and integrating the arts through arts residencies and classroom instruction, it will be vital for all stakeholders to weigh in on the budget process. I pledge to keep you informed regarding ALL budget conversations. We are committed to establishing smaller class sizes for Kenwood students. During the next few weeks, I urge you to look for Budget 2017 updates through the Kenwood eBlast and a letter outlining the Kenwood budget process. Learn more about how MPS

budgets work at http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/mps_budget

Our next Site Council

Meeting is scheduled to take place on **Thursday, February 23rd at 4:00 p.m.** in the Kenwood Media Center. A **community meeting** to share the 2017-18 budget will be held in **early March TBD.**

The Kenwood Las Vegas Auction is coming!

If your closet still houses vintage 1950's apparel, you are in luck! I hope to see you at the annual Kenwood Auction on **Saturday, February 27 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church at 6:30 p.m.** Thanks to the 2016 Auction Chairs, Cindy White and Melanie LaMere, for their leadership and the huge efforts of the whole auction team for producing this amazing event that benefits all Kenwood students!

Annual School Play 2017

This year's musical, "*Beauty and the Beast*" exceed all expectations! On February 15th and 16th, Kenwood took to the stage with their off-Broadway production of "Beauty and the Beast". A special thank you to Ms. Cynthia Quehl, Kathleen Bloom, Scott Kohanek, Steve Cornelius, and the numerous parents who have been helping with the production.

How to celebrate Black History Month with your child. I celebrate Black History every day. As a child, I remember the day my parents purchased the book, *Great Negroes Past and Present*. I spent many nights reading the biographies of famous Black Americans and writing book reports about their achievements. Inspired by the narratives in this 1968 edition of this book, I fell in love with these accomplished men and women. This book introduced me to notable men and women such as Marcus Garvey, Sojourner Truth, Duke Ellington, and Dr. Charles Drew.

While we often seek to expose students to iconic figures of Dr. King, Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver, and Harriet Tubman, I believe it is important for students to become familiar with other notable scientists, inventors, entertainers, sports figures, and innovators who have made significant contributions to the American history.

The movie, "*Hidden Figures*", introduces a new generation to the story of three African American women mathematicians who used Friden calculators, slide rules, and pencils to calculate complex formulas to launch astronaut John Glenn into space on February 20, 1962. Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson and Christine Darden, called human computers, worked in segregated offices at NASA's "West Computing" group. "Hidden Figures" traces the lived experiences of these courageous women as they defied socially constructed

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KENWOOD SCHOOL DANCE

Sponsored by the Kenwood School Student Council

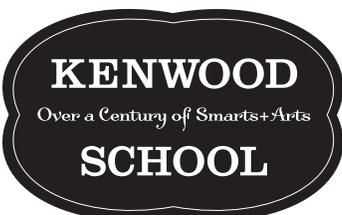


GRADES 3-5 FRIDAY, MARCH 3RD
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M. — MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

GRADES K-2 SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH
10:00 TO 11:30 A.M. — MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

SUGGESTED DONATION OF
\$3.00 PER STUDENT*

This dance is a fundraiser to help raise money for playground equipment for the Kenwood School student community. The goal is to raise enough money to have a playground cart with playground equipment – one for grades K-2, one for grades 3-5.



LET'S DANCE KENWOOD!

Only currently enrolled students are invited to the dance (no younger or older siblings will be admitted.)

Friday, February 24
•• Book Character Day ••
Dress up as your favorite Book Character

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perceptions of the Black women mathematicians in prior to the dawn of the Civil Rights movement.

U.S. Representative John Lewis's trilogy, "March", brings to life the events of the Civil Rights movement through the personal account of a young student activist, John Lewis, as he encounters Alabama state troopers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Young readers will find it hard to put down these award winning graphic novels. All three books serve as perfect conversation starters for our students as they become familiar with this contemporary figure from the South.



Here are a few of my favorite books featuring contemporary African Americans authors and illustrators:

- Trombone Shorty* by Troy Andrews
 - Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson
 - Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales and True Tales* by Virginia Hamilton, Leo Dillon, Diane Dillon
 - We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball* by Kadir Nelson
 - Testing the Ice: A True Story about Jackie Robinson* by Sharon Robinson, Kadir Nelson (Illustrator)
 - Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans* by Kadir Nelson
- Happy Reading! Spring is right around the corner!*

Sincerely,

Eagle Bluff Trip for 5th Grade

Today Kenwood 5th graders' depart on their annual Eagle Bluff field trip. Students and chaperones pack their sleeping bags, journals, and necessary winter gear for four days of intense environmental seminars. Under the supervision of our 5th grade teachers, our School Social Worker and parent chaperones, Kenwood students will spend 4 days and 3 nights at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center which is located in Lanesboro, Minnesota. During these four days, they will broaden their appreciation and knowledge of the environment, learn critical team-building and problem-solving skills, and strengthen their understanding of the importance of respecting our natural environment. The annual Eagle Bluff field trip has been organized by 5th Grade teacher Darwin Lee, who, for over 15 years, has led students through this dynamic hands-on experience.

Kenwood School Plant Sale

Participate in the Kenwood School Plant Sale to show your support and help lower the price of the 5th grade Eagle Bluff Field trip for every student as well as to provide scholarships so that ALL 5th graders will be able to attend. Any additional funds raised will help support the PTA. Plant sale forms will be coming home soon.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 21 – Friday, February 24
5th Grade leaves for Eagle Bluff Trip

Friday, February 24
Dress up as your favorite Book Character

• **Saturday, February 25** •
• **Kenwood School Auction** •

Tuesday, February 28
5th Grade Ski Trip

Thursday, March 23
Site Council Meeting 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 31- Friday, April 7
NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 10
School resumes

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

This background check is good for two years from the date it was approved.

Note: It takes 5-10 days for processing. Forms are available in the school office.

TOP 10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE KENWOOD IN VEGAS 50S STYLE AUCTION

- 1. RSVP IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO!** We are still accepting RSVP's this week. The Kenwood in Vegas Auction is this **Saturday, February 25th at 6:30 pm.** Tickets are available at the door for \$30/person, but sending in your RSVP now will reduce lines at check-in. All parents and staff are invited. (Note: This is an adults-only event.)
- 2. BOOK YOUR BABYSITTER!**
- 3. BE COOL!** Sign up for a volunteer shift by visiting the link below. Help make the event a success and get to know other parents at the same time.
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4ba9aa2aa2fd0-kenwood1>
- 4. READ THROUGH THE AUCTION CATALOG** which came home in backpacks this week or visit the Kenwood School website for information about the evening and peruse over 300 amazing silent, live and raffle items.
- 5. CHECK YOUR CALENDAR** to see which Kenwood Get-Togethers you might want to attend and Live Auction items you might want to bid on.
- 6. COME EARLY!** Come for great food and drink and get your bidding started early.
- 7. STAY LATE AND GET READY TO HEAR SOME MUSIC** and do some mingling! The DJ will continue after the live auction and the party will continue on until midnight.
- 8. DRESS HOW YOU WISH!** Show up as you are or break out some hip threads, bouffants and ducktails. Think rat pack, mad men, cocktail dresses, glam, and even casual Palm Springs/Vegas vacation wear. Everything from jeans to casual dress to costumes is perfect.
- 9. BRING YOUR CREDIT CARD** – it will make check-out a breeze!
- 10. THINK DRINKS!** There will be a cash bar and a chance to take home lots of great wine.

Kenwood in Vegas
FIFTIES STYLE