

# 14 Kenwood Courier

APRIL 17, 2017  
ISSUE NUMBER 14

## Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School  
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## FROM YOUR PTA CO-PRESIDENTS...

**Spring is here!** We cannot believe that Spring Break has already come and gone and that we are in the final push of the school year – only 2 months until summer vacation! So much happens in these two months that we know they will fly by... as the PTA begins to plan for next year our primary task is looking for **VOLUNTEERS**. The Kenwood Community is strong because so many donate hours to classrooms, special projects, fundraising and so much more.



### 2017-2018 School Budget Update.

Principal Dr. Wharton-Beck submitted Kenwood's budget to the district just before spring break. As it does this school-year, Kenwood will have 17 classroom teachers next year. As a community, we will need to fundraise in the coming weeks to support Smarts + Arts, put students first and support our teachers and staff in 2017-2018. More information will be shared in the coming days. We will need your help and generosity to keep Kenwood Strong!

MPS is still having conversations about the district budget. The following meetings will be held at The Davis Center:

- School Board of Education Tuesday, April 18 at 5:30 p.m.
- Finance Committee Thursday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m.
- Policy Committee meeting Wednesday, April 19 at 9:00 a.m.
- The full 2017-2018 MPS budget will mostly likely be presented to the Board at the regular School Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, May 9 at 5:30 p.m. to be voted on June 13.

For more information about School Board meetings, go here: <http://board.mpls.k12.mn.us/>

For more information about the budget process, go here: [http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/mps\\_budget](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/mps_budget)

**Shop at Talbots** — at 50th and France in Edina. Saturday, April 22 from 10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m. is Talbots Day for Kenwood School! 10% of all pre-tax sales from the day will be donated to Kenwood Community School PTA. Please join us to help make a difference. It's a great place to shop for a Mother's Day gift! Two special Kenwood grandmothers – Julie Sutherland and Mary Krook, and Principal Dr. Wharton Beck will



be on site to help you shop.

### Picnic Time! Mark your calendars to celebrate!

The date for the all-school picnic is Saturday, May 20th. The time is tentatively set for 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Look for more details in the coming weeks. Thank you to Lisa Thompson and Jenny Kriha for volunteering to co-chair this exciting new, Kenwood community building event!



### Where do your

**donations to Kenwood PTA go, you ask? One of the most important places it goes is to support Grade Level Artist Residencies.**

One example is Adventures in Cardboard. Kenwood Kindergarten just completed their third year working with the imaginative artists at Adventures in Cardboard. Adventures in Cardboard is a residency that allows student learning about the genre of Fairy Tales in the classroom to become reality. Students imagine a character with fairy tale attributes (enchanted, evil, good, royal) and a place where that character might live (castle, cottage, village, tree house) and the Adventures in Cardboard the students to create that character, that world out of cardboard. Each child creates a fairy tale costume to wear and keep and each classroom creates a cardboard structure in which to play for weeks. The residency builds vocabulary, ability to give and understand "how to" directions, students see their 2D drawings become 3D objects, and we live in the genre of fairy tales during the whole experience.

All of the Kenwood community views their creations during the Cardboard Parade that ends the week.

**Dining for Dollars** continues to be a success. Please join us on May 23rd for the Kenwood Dining day at Galactic Pizza!

**As you can see** a lot of great things going on at Kenwood!

*Thank you for your continued support!*

*Melanie LaMere & Julie Coykendall*

# TALBOTS

LOOK *good.*  
FEEL *good.*  
DO *good.*

Talbots and Kenwood Community School PTA invite you to shop for modern classic styles ALL DAY and all for a cause!

10% of pre-tax sales will be donated to Kenwood Community School PTA in Minneapolis.  
a 501(c)(3) not for-profit organization (the "charity")

Saturday, April 22  
50th & France  
3936 West 50th Street  
Edina, MN  
952-925-6155

Julie Sutherland & Mary Krook  
in Attendance  
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM



# National Bike/Walk to School Day!



## Wednesday, May 3rd

**Promote exercise, reduce traffic, show school spirit!**

Upon arriving at school, sign our school poster and receive a sticker.  
(Bus Riders can do a short course around the playground to sign the poster & receive a sticker too!)

**Cyclists:** Wear helmets, use bike paths & lanes, bring a bike lock.

**Walkers:** Use safe routes, cross at intersections, wear comfy shoes.

Questions? Contact Chris Madden at [kenwoodpta@yahoo.com](mailto:kenwoodpta@yahoo.com) or 668-2778

## It's Pits & Alleys this week in the Kenwood School Gym! Yeah! Ask your kids about it.

**It's Pits & Alleys week in the Kenwood Gym.** Pits & Alleys is something Mr. C. (Steve Cornelius), 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 etc. Over the years it has metamorphosed into something much grander than its meek beginning. 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, K-5, have the opportunity to do this during their P.E. time.** Basically, it is a game of tag inside an obstacle course. There are things to climb or jump over, crawl through, or avoid which could get you out for that game.

There is a lot of critical thinking going on since you have to determine which pathway (alleys) to take and order to not get tagged and put into the "PIT" or get trapped on a one-way street by the taggers.

**Mr. C feels overall it is by far 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 and has sold out every year raising thousands of dollars for our school. Many parents have been told by their children to not to come home from the Auction if they didn't sign them up for Pits & Alleys.

Ask your child about gym class this week. I am sure you will get a smile.

Thanks Mr. C.!

## Minneapolis Kids Enrollment for 2017-18 School Year

for **CURRENT** Kenwood Minneapolis Kids enrollment begins at **noon on Monday, April 17.**

for **NEW** Kenwood Minneapolis Kids enrollment begins at **noon on Monday, May 1**

**ENROLL AT:**

[www.minneapolis.thatscommunityed.com](http://www.minneapolis.thatscommunityed.com)

## CALENDAR

### Monday, April 17

Parent Listening Session about Grade Configuration 4-5:00 p.m. in Multi-purpose Room

Start of Pits & Alleys week in the Kenwood Gym

### Thursday, April 20

Site Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.

### Saturday, April 22

Talbots Fundraiser — Edina (50th & France) 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 25

Chipotle (Calhoun location)/ Ben & Jerry's Night Fundraiser for 5th Grade Eagle Bluff Trip

### Thursday, April 20

Site Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, May 2

Registration for 2017-18 Kindergartners

### Wednesday, May 3

National Walk/Bike to School Day

### Monday, May 8— Friday, May 12

Teacher Appreciation Week

### Thursday, May 18

SMARTS+Arts **Choir Concert & Band Concert** 6:30 p.m. — Kenwood Gym

### Friday, May 19

Plant Sale Pick Up — Noon – 6:00 p.m.

### Saturday, May 20

**Kenwood PICNIC 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.**

### Tuesday, May 23

Kenwood Galactic Pizza Day 11:00 a.m. to midnight

### Tuesday, May 23 – Friday, May 26

Kenwood Track & Field Days

### Thursday, May 25

Site Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.

### Monday, May 29

NO SCHOOL — Memorial Day

### Tuesday, May 30 – Friday, June 2

Volunteer Appreciation Week

### Friday, June 9

All School Awards Assembly 8:00 a.m.

### Tuesday, June 13

Fifth Grade Celebration

### Wednesday, June 14

Last Day of School

### Saturday, June 17

Kenwood Elementary Benefit Rummage Sale 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Treat your family to a good meal and support the 5th Grade trip to Eagle Bluff at the same time!

**Chipotle** CALHOUN LOCATION and **Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream** invite you to stop by for **Dinner & Dessert**

**Tuesday, April 25th  
5:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Calhoun Commons, 3040 Excelsior Boulevard

Simply say you're a "Kenwood School family" and 25% of your purchase will come back to us to help make the trip more affordable for next year's 5th graders.

Principal Wharton-Beck will be dishing out ice cream at Ben & Jerry's from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Lee, Kenwood 5th Grade Teacher, will pick up the scoop from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.