

2 Kenwood Courier

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016
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Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School
2013 Penn Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55405
kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us 612-668-2760



add a child and confirm. If you forgot your password, you can reset it. For new

families, please use the following link to enter your family's contact information. <http://bit.ly/1uAdBdB>. If you have questions or concerns please contact Christine Conner at Kenwooddirectory@gmail.com. Note: There is a link to the Kenwood Online School Directory on the right hand side of the school's homepage. <https://www.myschoolanywhere.com/directory-login.a5w>

PTA Executive Board: Again this year, we have a good mix of new and experienced members who meet once monthly as a group and then as needed on committees working on various events throughout the year. This Year's Board Members are; Co-Vice Presidents Cindy White and Coryn Petersen; Treasurer Susan Krook; Deputy Treasurer Kim Sauvageot; Secretary Traci Auger; Volunteer Coordinators Lori Smith and Jane Wolke; and At-Large members Heather Mickman and Christine Conner; Emeritus Kim Sauvageot. In addition, Principal Dr. Aura Wharton-Beck, Family Liaison Chris Madden and Staff Liaison Darwin Lee serve on the Board. Thanks to all of them for their involvement.

Sign up to help with a Conference Meal for teachers if you can. Watch future *Couriers* for information on Family Activity Night (includes a Pasta Dinner, Barn Dance and Book Fair) coming up on November 17th and remember that Kenwood Galactic Pizza day is Tuesday, September 20. Yummy pizza for dinner for a good cause — Kenwood School!

Melanie LaMere & Julie Coykendal

FROM YOUR PTA CO-PRESIDENTS...

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year at Kenwood School! We're Julie Coykendall and Melanie LaMere — Co-Presidents of the PTA. Julie has a 5th grade daughter and a 3rd grade son. Melanie has a 4th grade daughter and a 5th grade daughter. We were pleased to meet so many parents of Kindergartners for coffee on the playground on the first day of school. Thank you to the Lowry for providing the coffee & scones!

What We Do: The Kenwood PTA is busy all year long building community, enhancing communication between home and school, and raising funds to pay for residencies, supplies, and experiences that make Kenwood a unique place for kids to learn and grow.



Back-to-School PTA Events: Four weeks into the school year and the PTA has already sponsored two events — the **Ice Cream Social** and the **Crawl**. We hope you were able to attend the Back-to-School Ice Cream Social and Open House. It was fun! It is always great to meet your classroom teacher, see the specialists and eat ice-cream. Thank you to Heather Wulfsberg for chairing this event and to all the parents that helped. The Kenwood Crawl, chaired by parents Traci Auger & Hellen Bassett focused on fitness and fun. The weather was perfect, the band was great and many families enjoyed a walk around the park with their kids. Some kids ran the whole way and Principal, Dr. Wharton-Beck made the loop several times! Thanks to the 50 volunteers that made the event possible! And thank you to the various local businesses that donated as well. The event was a success and will help the PTA fund the many extra activities at Kenwood School!

Curriculum Night: Thanks to all the teachers for taking the time to help the parents understand what happens each day in the classroom. The night was well attended, despite the rain and helped to set the tone for a great year of learning at Kenwood. Curriculum Night is meant to be an introduction to the goals and expectations of each classroom. It is also an excellent preparation for parents for their individual meetings with teachers at conference time. Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Tuesday, October 18th after school into early evening and Wednesday, October 19 during the day (there is no school that day). If you have not yet scheduled an October conference with your child's teacher — please do so.

CHINOOK BOOKS are for sale again this year via an order form in your child's folder or in the school office. The book is \$22 and the online app version is \$15. Chinook Books have over 400 coupons for local businesses and Kenwood School earns 50% of the price for each book sold! Proceeds go to the PTA.

NEW THIS YEAR! Fall Read-A-Thon: We are excited for this new PTA fundraiser, chaired by Lori Smith! The Read-A-Thon will take place at the end of October, encouraging kids to read books and raise funds for our school. There will be prizes for the class with the most participation, students with the most minutes read, students who raise the most money, and more. Look for more details to come home in folders soon! Note, the Read-A-Thon will take the place of the Innisbrook Wrapping Paper fundraiser.

Kenwood Online Directory: This year's directory is now available for new and returning families! For returning families, you should have received an email from the directory asking you to update class info,

Dine for Dollars at Galactic Pizza

Tuesday, September 20
from 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Mention Kenwood School when you place your order and they'll donate 25% of your total tab to the Kenwood PTA!

Offer valid on dine in, delivery or take out orders!

Galactic Pizza— 2917 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls, 55408 612-824-9100



GALACTIC PIZZA
PLANET SAVING PIZZA

IMPORTANT POLICY:

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. The link to the forms is on the kenwood website kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us

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

Classroom teachers have been given the master list from previous years and will be informed as new parents are approved. You can check with them to see if/when you need to submit a new form.

It takes 5-10 days for processing.

For Kindergarten and First grade fieldtrips coming up very soon — the forms will be expedited.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held on **October 18 & 19th**. All parents are expected to attend conferences. We believe that through these conferences we, as well as you, will gain a better understanding of your child. We hope you will make a sincere effort to **schedule a conference with your teacher** if you have not done so already. If you are unable to attend the conference, please send a note or call the teacher to arrange another time. Please be aware that you may request a conference with your child's teacher at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Conference Meals

Kenwood's PTA has a long-standing tradition of treating our dedicated teachers to good eats at Parent-Teacher Conference time. Our teachers strive to meet with every single family, so these are extremely busy days for them. To keep them energized, we'll provide tasty and nutritious meals, including **after-school snacks & dinner on Tuesday, October 18th, and breakfast & lunch on Wednesday, October 19th**. We need YOUR HELP to carry on this great tradition! If you can contribute a breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack item (home-made or store-bought), OR if you can help with set-up or clean-up, please contact Lori Smith at volunteer4kenwood@gmail.com. **If possible, please send food in disposable containers.** It will help greatly with clean-up!



Chess Club at Kenwood

The after school Chess Club is starting again run by the Twin Cities Chess Club. Forms are in the school office. The first 8 week session will start on Tuesday, September 27th. Registration is limited. Registration is now online at www.twincitieschessclub.com. We cannot accept last minute sign ups. Questions? Call Twin Cities Chess Club at 952-457-4800.



Yearbook Photos Needed.

We are always in need of parent photographers. We will need many photos of student events for the yearbook. If you are taking pictures of your child, try to take pictures of other kids too — especially groups of kids. We try to include a candid photo of every child at Kenwood School in the yearbook. Please submit your pictures to Lisa Hedges, at kenwoodyearbook1@gmail.com and contact her if you are available to take pictures at an event.



School Site Council

Kenwood's Site Council addresses policies that govern the school and its administrative budget. This group is comprised of parents and school staff and meets monthly throughout the school year. While other schools have Site Councils, the true collaboration that exists at Kenwood among the teachers, administration and parents is unique and something we should all appreciate. Meetings are generally the third Thursday of each month from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center. If you are interested in attending a meeting or would like more information, please contact Site Council chair Sonja Elias (sonjaelias@icloud.com). Our first meeting is Thursday, September 22 in the Media Center.

SITE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Parents: Sonja Elias (Co-Chair) Stephanie Fink, Eliza Goodwin, Shannon Hebner, Leslie Nall, Rebecca Heikes, Carrie Howard

Staff: Aura Wharton-Beck, Principal; Chris Madden, Family Liaison; Jacquelyn Williams, 3rd Grade teacher, Cindi Quehl, Music teacher

Spotlight Performances

We have our first two **Spotlight performances of the year** coming up on **Wednesday, September 28th** at 8:15 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Spotlights are informal, low key performances featuring individuals or small groups. Students audition in their classrooms. Two "acts" are chosen from each participating class to perform. Join us in the multi-purpose room to cheer the kids on and enjoy the entertainment! **Note: there are two shows a day — on four dates this year. Each show has different participants. Teachers will let you know if your child has been chosen to perform in a Spotlight.**



PRIDE at Kenwood

PRIDE is the positive behavior program at Kenwood School. Kenwood Kids show their PRIDE every day by demonstrating the following qualities: Peaceful, Respectful, Integrity, Dependable and Engaged. Teachers provide lessons about each quality. Students who demonstrate our Kenwood PRIDE values will be recognized during weekly announcements by the Student Council. Parents are asked to talk about the PRIDE values with their children and support the school's efforts to promote a safe and respectful environment for all students.

Drop Off & Pick Up Times

7:15 am is the earliest time that you can drop off your child. **2:10 p.m.** is the latest you can pick up your child from Parent Pick Up after school located by Door 8. After 2:10 p.m., students are escorted to the office. **Parent/guardians who fail to respect the 2:10 pick-up time will be required to meet with the principal to resolve the matter.**



CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 20

Kenwood Galactic Pizza Day
11:00 a.m. – Midnight

Thursday, September 22

Site Council Meeting
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. — Media Center

Wednesday, September 28

The first Spotlight Performances of the year
8:15 a.m. – Multipurpose Room
1:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room
Note: Each is a separate show and different classes are participating.

Circle of Peace RESCHEDULED TO Wednesday, September 28 — due to rain

Circle of Peace
8:00 a.m. – Kenwood Playground

Wednesday, October 7

Bike/Walk to School Day

Friday, October 14

Picture Day

Tuesday, October 18

Parent-Teacher Conferences
2:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19

NO SCHOOL – Parent-Teacher Conferences
7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 20 & Friday, October 21

NO SCHOOL – MEA: Statewide Teacher Professional Days

Wednesday, October 26

Spotlights
8:15 a.m. – Multipurpose Room
1:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room
Note: Each is a separate show.

Thursday, October 27

Site Council Meeting
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. — Media Center

Thursday, November 3 & Friday, November 4

NO SCHOOL