

# 8

**JANUARY 9, 2017**  
**ISSUE NUMBER 8**

# Kenwood Courier

## Our Newsletter for Families

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

## FROM YOUR PTA CO-PRESIDENTS...

**Happy New Year!** With Winter Break behind us and Spring Break several months ahead of us, it is time to put our heads down and get to work. For students that means lots of learning, for the PTA that means putting on the auction. The annual Kenwood School Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the PTA (the event raised over \$50,000 last year) and is vital to our ability to provide the extras that make Kenwood a special place for students to learn. **The Kenwood "Vegas Escape" and Auction is on Saturday, February 25th at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.** Not only is this a fundraiser, but it is fabulous party! This is an adults-only event that you won't want to miss so book your babysitter now! Invites will be coming soon.

### How you can help:

- Consider volunteering for the many jobs that need to be done. Contact Cindy White (cdocteurwhite@gmail.com) & Melanie LaMere (lameremel@yahoo.com) if you would like to be involved.
- Contribute by hosting a Kenwood Get Together, donating a silent or live auction item, a bottle of wine for the wine wall or

items for classroom baskets. More details about how to donate will come home soon.

- Attend the auction and make purchases from the fabulous items offered. We can't do it without you!

**The PTA Wants You** – If you've ever thought about volunteering at Kenwood, now is the time! We have many volunteer opportunities that need to be filled! We are committed to finding ways for everyone to be involved — whether it be an hour a week or 10 minutes a month. We know that the community of parents makes Kenwood strong and we want everyone to contribute in ways that they can.

### Each year the PTA provides:

- Teacher classroom supply stipend, and other school needs that inevitably pop up
- All grade-level (African & Taiko drumming, MN Book Arts for example) and school-wide (Midwest Food Connection, Barn Dance for example) artist residencies.
- Field trip buses
- Support for the school play & Safety Patrol
- Community Building events (Ice Cream Social, Barn Dance & Family Activity Night)



- Community Liaison and Band teacher positions
- Many other things, too long to list!

### The impact of all those things is huge on the quality of the Kenwood experience.

The PTA spends approximately \$170 per student, per year. Please contact Melanie at lameremel@yahoo.com or Julie at juliecoykendall@hotmail.com if you are interested in becoming a part of this worthwhile group.

**Martin Luther King Program** – This year the MLK program will be on **Friday, January 13th at 8:00 a.m.** in the school gym. Our kids do an excellent job on this program every year and we know some of you won't want to miss it — don't forget to bring Kleenex.

**Wednesday, January 18th is Kenwood School Night at Nico's Taco Bar** from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.! Treat yourself and your family to a fun dinner out at Nico's Taco Bar — owned by a Kenwood family. Just mention Kenwood School and Nico's Taco Bar will generously donate all proceeds from Kenwood sales to Kenwood School including carry-out orders. Anyone can participate. Tell your friends & neighbors. We hope to see you there. Nico's Taco Bar is located at 2516 Hennepin Avenue South — (612) 345-7688.

**The Winter Choir Concert** — There will be a short choir concert on Tuesday, January 24th at 7:45 a.m. in the multi-purpose room.

**Picnic Time!** It was recently decided that the school carnival will be replaced with an all-school picnic during the month of May. Details are still being decided, but there is sure to be some fun surprises! Look for more information in the coming weeks.

As you can see, Kenwood School is a busy place. Thanks for being a part of it!

*Julie Coykendall & Melanie LaMere*

## Kenwood School Night Out At



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# 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

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## KENWOOD SCHOOL WEEKLY E-BLASTS

**The best way to keep informed about what is happening school-wide.**

This is an opt-in list. To get on this valuable e-mail list please contact Family Liaison  
Chris Madden,  
[christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us)

E-blasts are sent out every Monday with occasional extra reminders for important information & events.

**NEW ONLINE BUS PASS REQUEST FORM!**

The next time your child is going to a different location by bus (other than his/her normal schedule, fill out our **NEW Online Bus Pass Request Form on the Kenwood School website** — [kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us). It's located on the main web page on the right hand side. Fill out this online form to request a Bus Pass for your child. Once the pass has been processed you receive a confirmation email by a Kenwood Staff member. **Bus Passes must be submitted by 11:00 a.m. on the day they were requested.** Thank you!

**VACATION PLANS & POLICY**

If you are taking your child out of school for a family vacation/activity for three days or more, you must fill out a vacation form from the school office and have it signed by the Principal. Approved family activity for up to five (5) days within one school year are considered "excusable absences", when

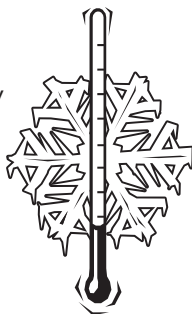
- The parent or guardian requests permission for the absence ten (10) regularly scheduled school days in advance of the first absence; and
- The absences are approved in writing by the principal or site administrator in advance of the first absence, and
- Missed schoolwork is assigned by the student's teacher or teachers, and the parent or guardian agrees that schoolwork will be completed; and
- The absences will not occur during state-wide testing dates; and
- Where the student has shown adequate progress and attendance prior to the request.

**Anthony Middle School Information**

Attention Parents of 5th Graders — Anthony is Kenwood Elementary School's pathway school. Contact the school at 612-668-3240 to sign up for a tour.

**Please send your kids properly dressed for the cold weather.**

All Kenwood students go outside for recess every day if the outside temperature is 0 degrees or above. It may be too cold in the early morning but it might warm up enough by lunch time. Also, please label all of your child's winter gear.



**If you have a child ready for kindergarten this fall (2017) — you must fill out a School Request Form.**

You can fill out a School Request online on the MPS school district website. <http://studentplacement.mpls.k12.mn.us>

**School Request Cards are due February 4th, 2017!**

(Even if the child has older siblings at Kenwood, you must fill out a request card.)

**Neighborhood Skating Party — January 22**

The Cedar-Isles-Dean, East Isles, Kenwood, & Lowry Hill Residents' Associations are having their annual **Ice Skating Social!** Enjoy a blazing fire, hot cocoa, cookies and puppy dog tails.



Mingle with friends and neighbors. **Sunday, January 22, 1:00 pm — 3:00 pm** at Lake of the Isles Ice Rink & Warming Hut. All residents are welcome to attend this fun event.

**Help Make the Kenwood Auction AMAZING!**

- We are working hard to make this year's auction AMAZING! You know what helps make an auction amazing? .... AMAZING donations!
- *On our "wish list" we are seeking high ticket items for the Live Auction and need your generous support.*
- We are looking for a family-fun, cabin experience and we need your cabin to make it happen! We can work with you to outline any parameters (i.e. date range, minimum bid, etc.).
- **VIP tickets or suite at an upcoming sporting or cultural event** — your 2 to

4 tickets plus a limo ride there and back ... would be an AMAZING experience.

**Do you have access to a limo? Or an AMAZING car?** We are looking to add fabulous transportation to at least one of our Live Auction items.

**Do you work somewhere AMAZING?** Do you have access to a unique experience, product or adventure?

**Please help us make this year's auction AMAZING** and keep the funding for the arts programming at Kenwood strong! Contact Julie Coykendall at [juliecoykendall@hotmail.com](mailto:juliecoykendall@hotmail.com) to make your donation.

**CALENDAR**

- Friday, January 13**  
MLK Assembly 8:00 a.m. in the gym
- Monday, January 16**  
NO SCHOOL
- Wednesday, January 18**  
Nico's Tacos Night for Kenwood School
- Thursday, January 19**  
Site Council Meeting — 4:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 20**  
Kenwood School 5th Grade Spelling Bee 8:00 a.m. Multi-purpose Room
- Monday, January 23**  
Parent Information Night at Kenwood for Prospective Kindergarten Parents — 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 24**  
Winter Choir Concert 7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. multi-purpose room
- Wednesday, January 25**  
SPOTLIGHT — 8:00 a.m. Multi-purpose Room  
SPOTLIGHT — 1:00 p.m. Multi-purpose Room
- Friday, January 27**  
NO SCHOOL

- Friday, January 30**  
NO SCHOOL
- Thursday, February 2**  
District Spelling Bee — 6:30 p.m. Fowell School
- Monday, February 13**  
Kenwood Family Involvement Day
- Wednesday, February 15 & Thursday, February 16th**  
*Beauty & The Beast* — Performances 6:30 p.m. Multi-purpose Room
- Friday, February 17**  
NO SCHOOL — Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Monday, February 20**  
NO SCHOOL — President's Day
- Tuesday, February 21 – Friday, February 24**  
5th Grade leaves for Eagle Bluff Trip
- Saturday, February 25**  
Kenwood School Auction
- Thursday, March 3**  
5th Grade Ski Trip