Hello Kenny Families,

WOW! February is going to be a really busy month at Kenny School.

We have rescheduled two meetings that were cancelled last night due to the snow storm. The Foundation meeting will take place February 9th at 5:00pm and the PTA meeting will now take place February 16th at 7:00pm. Next Thursday, February 11th, there are two performances of the Variety Show. The first performance takes place at 12:30pm and the evening show takes place at 6:30pm.

School budgets are expected to come out next week. Site Council will begin discussing the budget on February 16th at 5:30pm. In the past, budgets were released in March and asked to complete the budget process by Spring Break. Schools would work into the summer to fill teaching positions, based on the prior timeline. Now, schools should have the Interview and Select process completed and new teachers and staff determined before summer starts.

This Saturday, February 6th, the School Choice Fair is being held at the Minneapolis Convention Center from 9am-2pm. If you have friends or neighbors with preschoolers, please let them know about this opportunity. Even better - have them contact the school to set up a tour so they can see first-hand what amazing school we have!

As always, thanks for all you to make Kenny the amazing community school it is!

**National African American Parent Involvement Day**

Started in 1996, National African American Family Involvement Day (February 8th) was started by a principal in Michigan as a call to action to get more parents involved in their children’s educational lives.

At Kenny School, February 8th will start with honoring our Students of the Month at 8:15am, based on most improved or excels in reading. Snacks will be served for all of the parent attendees following the event. Parents are invited to have breakfast or lunch with their students that day, or visit in their classrooms.

MPS is hosting a district-wide free family event at the Roller Gardens from 6-8pm. Please see flyer on page 3 for more detailed information.

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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb 8</td>
<td>Student of the Month 8:15am Gym</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 9</td>
<td>Foundation Meeting 5pm</td>
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<td>Prospective Parent Open House 6-7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb 11</td>
<td>Kenny Variety Show 12:30pm and 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, Feb 12 Thru Mon, Feb 15</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL (Parent Conferences, President’s Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 16</td>
<td>Site Council Mtg 5:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PTA Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, Feb 25</td>
<td>Family Reading Night 6-8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb 29</td>
<td>Science Fair Deadline</td>
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<td>Saturday, Mar 5</td>
<td>School Requests Due</td>
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<td>Saturday, Mar 12</td>
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<td>Fri, Mar 25- Fri, Apr 1</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL (Record Keeping Day, Spring Break)</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 14</td>
<td>Science Expo</td>
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**Contact Kenny School:**

5720 Emerson Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55419
Bill Gibbs, Principal  William.Gibbs@mpls.k12.mn.us
Main Office: 612-668-3340 Fax: 612-668-3350
Attendance: 612-668-3340 Minneapolis Kids: 612-668-3344
Link to Kenny School Website:  http://kenny.mpls.k12.mn.us
Join us at the next PTA Meeting

Due to the snowstorm, the PTA meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 16 at 7:00pm

Kenny School Media Center (enter through the front door)
*Child care will be provided

The meeting agenda will include:

1) PTA business
2) Presentation on "Advanced Learner Identification" by Janee Rivard Johnson (Kenny 5th grade teacher)
3) School budget overview by Principal Gibbs

The PTA has a Spring Carnival Chair/Co-chair opening for the June 2 event.

2015-2016 PTA Officers:
Terri Diamond and Peggy Kirkpatrick, Co-Presidents
Jan Tylko, Treasurer
Megan Schueth, Secretary

Questions? Contact us at: diamondLtd@comcast.net or pkkirkpatrick@usfamily.net

Foundation Update:

Due to the Snowstorm, the Foundation meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 9th at 5:00pm

Funding News
This meeting, funding for the Sheridan Story program ($1,558) was approved. This program provides food for students to take home for the weekend. For students that sign up, a pack of food is discretely placed in their locker on Friday. This provides food for the weekend, bridging the gap from school provided breakfast and lunch on school days.

If your family could benefit from this program, contact the Kenny School Office. There is no cost for families to participate.

Future Projects
Thanks to all who completed a playground survey last fall. A sub-committee of parents has reviewed all that information and shared it with the foundation board. We are in the process of figuring out the next steps, including what we can financially support.

March Magic
March Magic is the Kenny School Foundation's largest fundraiser. Please join us March 12 and support the Foundation!
CELEBRATE AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY INVOLVEMENT DAY

Join us for a great, FREE family event!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016 • 6-8 P.M.
ROLLER GARDEN • 5622 W. Lake Street • St. Louis Park, MN • 55416

Students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Parents are our strongest allies. Let’s strengthen this partnership by having fun together!
Family Reading Night
Thursday, February 25th 6:00-8:00pm

Come in from the cold and curl up with a good book at Kenny School.

Join us for an evening of readings from local authors, activities, a visit from the Washburn library staff, and refreshments. Bring your own book and find a cozy spot to read in the gym. Stay tuned for more details.

Contact Terri Diamond with any questions:
diamondL.td@comcast.net, or call (612) 269-2550

Student of the Month Volunteers Needed:
The Student of the Month ceremony takes place once a month so this would be an ongoing volunteer opportunity. If you are available to help with the Student of the Month program, please contact: Darryl Johnson at 612-861-1334 or johnsondarryl_1@yahoo.com
It’s that time of year – time to buy your March Magic ticket! Your attendance at March Magic supports the Foundation’s goal to support the school community with projects that cannot be funded by the PTA due to national PTA guidelines or the district due to financial constraints. In short, it’s money raised by our community that can be spent as we wish to support our kids in our community school.

This year alone, we’ve been able to support the school community with almost $19,000 in project funding. And the year is only half over.

Ways we have supported include: supplemental art supplies, Chromebooks and charging carts, PebbleGo research databases, replacement mats for physical education, SRA Reading Kit for teachers, and Sheridan Story (weekend food program).

In prior years the Foundation has contributed to hallway and office upgrades, lobby upgrades, installing a door from the cafeteria directly to the playground, Lego league program fees, art supplies, and more!

Help support Kenny Community School by purchasing your ticket to March Magic today!

Kenny School Diaper Drive

Caring Caring, that’s what we do!
You care about me
and I care about you!

We had SO many diapers go to People Serving People!

IT WAS A WHOLE VAN FULL!!!

Thanks, Kenny, for helping our community.
Science Expo welcomes all Kenny Scientists!

Event Date: Thursday, April 14th, 6:00–7:30

Look for the Science Expo Entry forms in next week’s Wednesday Folder

Entry deadline is Monday, Feb 29

Kenny students, we need you to enter the Science Expo. Partner up with a friend or work on your own to put together a science project. Let your curiosity and imaginations guide you. Remember — just about everything fits under the heading of "science" and can be explored in many different ways. Find inspiration, project ideas, resources, and the Entry Form to Science Expo coming home soon in next week’s Wednesday Folder.

Interested in helping out during Science Expo 2016? Reach out to one of us listed below. Help needed with the following:

- Display board labeling and distribution on Wed March 9 (pm)
- Display board labeling and distribution on Thurs Mar 10 (am)
- Planning layout of tables, signage for Apr 14th
- Helping put up tables and signage after school hours on Apr 14th
- Helping with science presentations by volunteers in the Music Room or Media Room

If you have questions, contact parent volunteers Osha Roopnarine (eliastar@gmail.com), Padma Wudali

Attention All Kenny Students:

HEALTH/PHYSICAL FITNESS POSTER CONTEST

Help Kenny Community promote healthy living by making a poster for your school! Design a poster that promotes fitness, health or nutrition. See examples by the Phy. Ed. door.

Be creative! Add color, words, facts and/or pictures! Don’t forget to place your name and room number on the back.

The top 10 posters will be announced on March 15th during the Rope Power celebration. You could win a limousine ride for all of your creative artwork and healthy motivation!!

Poster paper is available by Ms. Johnson’s office door. Posters are due to Ms. Johnson by Friday, March 4th. GOOD LUCK and HAPPY DRAWING!

Spring Music Sharing Concerts!

Grades 3-5 will be sharing a few things they've worked on this year at their Music Sharing Concert. It is a chance for students to demonstrate skills and concepts learned throughout the year in a fun and informal setting.

We hope you can join us in the Gymnasium:

Grade 5: Thursday, March 3rd, 8:15am
Grade 4: Recorder Recital, Thursday, April 7th, 8:15am
Grade 3: Thursday, April 28th 8:15am

*Please note the calendar change for the 2nd Grade concert (the original was a little too close to my due date!)

Grade 2 and Grade 1 may have the opportunity to perform during their music class in late April or early May. Dates and details TBD—stay tuned!

Rachel Wixson, Kenny Music Teacher
Did You Know?

* The 4th and 5th graders have been trained by MPD to operate as crossing guards each morning and afternoon (as weather allows).
* Ms. Peterson’s class has teamed up with 1st grade buddies from Ms. Horner’s class to read and share, to build reading and comprehension skills.
* Ms. Johnson is building a team of Mathletes that will compete in the 5th grade MPS Districtwide Math competition, practice is every Wednesday.
* Ask your 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders about how many scoops of effort they showed. Teachers are using an ice cream cone rubric to talk about effort on assignments.
* In a push to be more earth friendly, the 5th graders are helping at all three lunches to sort the trash to compostable and non-compostable.

2016-2017 School Request Information

The Online school request site is open. Requests due by March 5th!

For the 2016-17 school year, please use the school request site to request:

- A school for an incoming kindergartner. Please pass this information on to any family or friends with children who will be 5 by September 1st.
- A new school for a current K-11th grade student
- A middle school (only if your 5th grader wants to request a school other then the middle school pathway which is Anthony for the Kenny students)
- A high school for all incoming 9th graders

For elementary and middle school requests [http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us)

And for high school requests please visit [http://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us)

The site is easy to use and requires your address with zip code to learn more about your school options. There is also the District School Showcase in February.

**MPS School Showcase**
Saturday, February 6th, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Minneapolis Convention Center
[http://studentplacement.mpls.k12.mn.us](http://studentplacement.mpls.k12.mn.us)

One-stop opportunity to meet school principals, staff and parents to help inform your school search. Free parking and child care available. Spanish, Somali, Hmong & Oromo interpreters on-site to assist families.

Questions? Contact the Kenny School Office at 612.668.3340 or the Minneapolis District Placement Office at 612.668.1840 or 612.668.3700.
Online Resources Students Can Access at Home

Thanks to a grant from the Kenny Foundation last year, our students have access to two wonderful online resources, specifically created for elementary school students. PebbleGo has four different databases (Animals, Biographies, Science and Social Studies) and is geared toward students in kindergarten through third grade (although older students still enjoy it). PebbleGoNext currently has two different databases (Native Americans and States) and is geared toward students in third through fifth grade. Students have access until the end of December, but I have requested another grant through the Foundation to pay for the subscription for another year that will hopefully go through. All grade levels use this resource for research projects they create in collaboration with their classroom teachers.

You will need a username and password, which your students have been given. I am unable to put it in the newsletter because it cannot be posted online. If your child has forgotten the username and password, please email me and I would be happy to provide that for you.

Students also have access to other online resources made available by the school district. Tumblebooks is one such resource and the kids really enjoy using it. The link to those resources can be found here. You must access Tumblebooks through the MPS Student Learning Resources page or it will ask you for a username and password. I have also created a Google site for the Kenny Media Center. This is something all students use as part of Media class and has some helpful links and resources arranged by grade level.

If you have any questions about any of these resources, please feel free to contact me: Dianne Kersteter dianne.kersteter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Used Computers for Students

If your child qualifies for free/reduced lunch, you may be eligible to receive an iMac that was previously used in the schools for your student to use at home.

If interested, please contact:
Karen Shannon, Kenny School Social Worker
Karen.Shannon@mpls.k12.mn.us 612-668-3345
Youth Performance Company Presents...

Youth Performance Company at the Howard Conn Performing Arts Center
1900 Nicollet Avenue (at Franklin) in Minneapolis (free lot parking)
Box office: 612.623.9080 or (LINK): youthperformanceco.org

Just Before Sleep tells the story of homelessness through the lives of two young people. Compelling drama performed by area youth in Youth Performance Company production. Here in Minnesota, the most recent study of homelessness from Wilder Research counted 10,182 homeless people, and estimates that more than 14,000 Minnesotans are homeless on a given night, many of them children and young people.

January 29 - February 24
Tickets: $7 to $15

ART ROOM WISH LIST:

High Priority: small cylinder containers from oatmeal or grits (approximately 18-24 oz size)

- egg cartons- paper only
- cottage cheese or yogurt plastic containers (16 or 24 oz) Please ---not individual size.
- Trims- ribbon, lace, braid….any amount.

Please do not send TP rolls, milk containers, or glass jars.

Thank you for all your help in keeping the art department filled with inspiring materials!
Mrs. McGovern
Art Teacher
Room 123
Experience life-change growth: Our tutors are trained to change the future.

Sam dreams to read big books. You can make his dream come true.

Minnesota Reading Corps inspires community members to change the future of struggling students. As the nation’s largest state AmeriCorps program, we are recognized because our tutors are getting results with the students they serve and are helping to ensure that all children are successful readers by the end of third grade.

Become a tutor at Kenny
Literacy tutors commit to one year of AmeriCorps service. Tutors come from many backgrounds and include recent high school and college grads, career changers, stay-at-home parents, and retirees. Tutors are paid a living allowance, and are eligible for an education award of up to $5,730 and federal student loan forbearance. Tutors 55 or older may gift the award to a child or grandchild.

Benefits of serving include:
- Grow your career skills, network and resume
- Get training and coaching in research-based literacy methods
- Motivate kids in your community to succeed in the classroom

One year. This year. Join Minnesota Reading Corps

To apply or more information, visit www.MinnesotaReadingCorps.org Contact recruitment@mnedc.org or 866-859-2825 with questions.

Why I Serve
“There is nothing greater than seeing a student who has no desire to read, develop into one of your best students and gain skills that will open doors for future success. By serving as an Elementary Literacy Tutor, I could be part of the change I wanted to see.”

George Ochoa, Minnesota Reading Corps tutor

MinnesotaReadingCorps.org
Be sure to sign-up for the Kenny Electronic Newsletter!

*Printed newsletters are only sent home to families who specifically request a paper version.*

Bookmark the Kenny Website

for quick access to the Staff Directory, the school schedule, meeting times, and new information.

Email the Kenny School PTA and we will add you to our school's electronic communications.

If you know anyone who would like to be added to the list forward their email address:

kennyPTA33721@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook & keep up with all the latest Kenny news

http://www.facebook.com/kennypita
STUDENT DROP OFF:

The staff is respectfully requesting students be dropped off at the front door in the morning.
- Teachers need to be able to greet and assist children.
- Children have morning work assignments that need to be completed before the morning meeting that starts at 8:10.

Thank you for your help with this as it allows us to give your children our undivided attention for greetings and assistance with morning work and routines.

All adults entering the building must sign in at the office.

Children will be admitted to the building at 7:50am.

TRANSPORTATION:

Send Information to School when:

1. You have an address or daycare change.
2. If you are picking up your child and they usually ride a bus, they must be signed out in the office even with advanced notice.
3. You student is using a different bus stop.
4. Your student is going home with another student. (Note: we need notification from BOTH families).

Information will be sent home when:

1. Your student has been added to a bus route.
2. The bus stop for your student has had a change in location.
3. The IN bus stop for your student has had a cumulative time change of five minutes or more.

Changes can become effective any day of the week so watch for the effective dates on the notices sent home with your student.

ATTENDANCE:

Call the Attendance line (612-668-3346) when your student will be absent.

Doctors or dentists notes should be brought into school when the student returns to the building. Your help with this is appreciated.