Hello Kenny Families!

It is a busy week at Kenny with lots of excitement!

Mr. Gibbs attended the Minnesota Elementary School Principal Association conference last week. On Thursday night, he was awarded the “Leadership Achievement Award” for his outstanding contributions to Education and the Principalship. Now all of the principals in Minnesota know that the harder Mr. Gibbs works, the smarter Kenny students get! Congratulations Mr. Gibbs!

The Variety Show is on Thursday and we are all looking forward to seeing the great talents of the Kenny children. Come see Kenny’s stars at the 12:30pm and 6:30pm shows! Thank you to Mrs. Hanzal for coordinating this annual event!

Yesterday, we extended an offer to Hoda Mohamed to join the Kenny team as our 4th Grade support - associate educator for the building. We are very excited about this new addition and are looking forward to her working with students starting Monday, February 22.

On top of all of the fun we are having, the Kenny Staff participated in two Professional Development sessions with Leah Kuypers, author of the book “Zones of Regulation”. Most people self-regulate naturally but for others it is a skill that needs to be taught. Leah presents the “zones” nationally and we were lucky to have her work with our staff right here at Kenny. For more information on the “zones”, you can visit the following website:

http://www.zonesofregulation.com/index.html

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

Jessica Peifer, Principal Intern
TOMORROW!
THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 11
12:30 AND 6:30

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:
diamondLtt@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 johnsondarryl1@yahoo.com
A Note from the Nurse:

Dear Kenny families,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported last week that influenza activity is increasing across the country, and that the agency has received reports of severe influenza illness. CDC has received reports of severe respiratory illness among young–middle aged adults with influenza virus infection, some of whom required intensive care unit (ICU) admission; fatalities have been reported. Most of these patients were reportedly unvaccinated.

The CDC is recommending that all persons who have not yet received an influenza vaccine this season to be vaccinated against influenza. This recommendation is for patients 6 months of age and older.

Please make an appointment to protect your families today if you have not yet done so. While the flu vaccine is never a perfect match to the flu in the environment it offers significant benefits. At a minimum, people vaccinated are afforded some disease protection and see less severe illness/complications if they do contract influenza. This is especially important for children and adults with chronic health conditions and those who care for them, or share classrooms with them.

Thank you for making Kenny a safer, healthier place!

Ann Lumbar Bendson RN, LSN
Office/Attendance 612-668-3346

Test your knowledge about the Kenny School Foundation!

True or false?

- The Kenny Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports Kenny Community School programs.
- The mission of the Foundation is to enhance Kenny Community School and its programs in our long-standing tradition of excellence.
- Our biggest fundraiser is March Magic – set for March 12, 2016! Buy your tickets today!
- Parents and staff serve on the board; they are elected in the spring for the following school year. The Foundation reviews and approves proposals to fund projects for students and staff.
- The Foundation raises money through in-kind donations, employee giving/match campaigns and earns a small % of sales on smile.amazon.com.
- This year a former school occupational therapist donated $1,000 because “she loved the Kenny community.”
- The money raised by and for the Foundation goes 100% back into our school community.
- Your gifts are all tax deductible.
- The Foundation was founded in 2002 and is a registered on the GuideStar list of nonprofits.

If you answered TRUE on all of the above questions, you scored 100%!

Thank you for supporting the Kenny Foundation and Kenny Community School!
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

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 than 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)
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.

Questions? Contact the Kenny School Office at 612.668.3340 or the Minneapolis District Placement Office at 612.668.1840 or 612.668.3700.
KENNY SCIENCE EXPO

Science Expo welcomes all Kenny Scientists!
Event Date: Thursday, April 14th, 6:00–7:30

Entry deadline is Monday, Feb 29
Science Expo Entry forms were sent home in Wednesday Folders

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 (Padma.wudali@gmail.com) or ask any Kenny School teachers.
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
Please join the Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Center for a Lab Day/ Open House. This is a great opportunity for us to showcase the research happening at the University and provide a means to interact with labs, meet the staff and get to know the researchers who are working towards a cure. We will have hands on "research experiments" for kids and the whole family. We hope to see you there!

Link to past event:  http://youtu.be/9cpyl90KS5E

The MD Center Presents:
LAB DAY
Saturday, February 13th
Join us anytime between 10 am – 1 pm
CCRB Atrium, Seminar Room 1-125 & Café
2231 6th ST SE-Minneapolis (behind TCF Bank Stadium)
This is a great opportunity for the MD Center to showcase the research happening at the University and provide an opportunity to interact with labs, meet staff and get to know the researchers who are working towards a cure for MD.

Fun for the whole family! We hope to see you there!

Please RSVP to: 612-626-0822; mdcenter@umn.edu; www.mdcenter.umn.edu
The Paul & Sheila Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Center
2101 SE 6th ST, 4th Floor MMC 2641E | Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-626-0822 | FAX: 612-625-8488 | mdcenter@umn.edu

April 29 - May 15, 2016

Sideways Stories from Wayside School

Youth Performance Company at the Howard Conn Performing Arts Center
1900 Nicollet Avenue (at Franklin) in Minneapolis (free lot parking)
Tickets: Ask about our school day special rates!
Box office: 612.623.9080 or youthperformanceco.org
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  A strategic initiative of ServeMinnesota
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/kennypta](http://www.facebook.com/kennypta)*
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.