Hello Kenny Families,

Tomorrow night is Family Reading Night. We hope to see you at Kenny for a great night of reading, activities and author visits. This afternoon, a penguin visited a number of classrooms to remind the children about the event. The children really loved it. Hope to see you there.

The deadline for school choice cards is rapidly approaching. Parent volunteers have been leading large numbers of tours for prospective families. Please remember, even if you have a child attending Kenny now, you still need to submit a request card for your incoming kindergartner. Please submit choice cards by March 5. Requests can also be submitted online at:

http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/onlineRequest

As always, thanks for all you do to make this such an amazing school.

Bill Gibbs, Principal
Family Reading Night
Thursday, February 25th 6:00-8:00pm

Join us for:
- A visit from the Washburn Library staff: learn about Caldecott and Newberry medal books, hear stories, and register for a library card.
- Traditional Somali folk tales read by playwright David Grant and a presentation by author Sarah Warren, author of “Dolores Huerta”.
- Hear winners of the Family Reading Night writing contest read their entries.
- Bring a book and find a cozy spot to read in the gym.
- Check out the graffiti wall!
- Refreshments and activities in the cafeteria: make a book/bookmark, poetry wall, word games, and vote for the Top 10 Books.

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

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
For high school requests please visit 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.
March Magic RSVPs are due this Friday, Feb. 26! Tickets can be purchased by submitting your RSVP and payment to the school office, or by buying online. Go to www.kennymarchmagic.org for details.

Top Ten Reasons to attend March Magic:

10. You’ve always wondered what the inside of Dancelife Ballroom looks like
9. Build and enhance the community with parents and staff
8. Enjoy great food and drinks from Kitchen in the Market
7. You need a night out without the kids!
6. To make a tax-deductible donation
5. To sign up for Great Gatherings, arguably the best part about March Magic
4. You can later embarrass your kids and tell them you danced with their teacher
3. You could win tickets to an Adele concert, an Apple Watch, or a GoPro camera
2. To meet new people
1. To raise money for the Kenny Foundation that supports Kenny School!

Tickets can be purchased by submitting your RSVP and payment to the school office, or by purchasing online. Go to www.kennymarchmagic.org for details.
CHECK IT OUT
CHESS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 5, 2016
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Pillsbury Elementary School
2250 Garfield Street NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) and the Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement invite you to join us for the district-wide Check It Out Chess Tournament.

The Check It Out Tournament is FREE and open to all MPS K-12 students. This fun and casual chess tournament is for players of all levels and includes lunch for participants and families. Individual and Team trophies for K-3, 4-6 and 7-12 sections!

Check It Out is a family-friendly event and parents are encouraged to spend the day at the tournament supporting their child and learning more about chess.

8:30 – 9:00am  Check-in for players and families
9:00 – 8:30am   Welcome and Announcements
9:15 – 12:15pm  Chess matches begin
12:15 – 1:00pm  Lunch for players and families
1:00 – 3:15pm   Chess matches resume
3:15 – 4:00pm   Awards Ceremony

Also, at the Check It Out Tournament:
- Check It Out Tournament T-Shirt for participants
- Chess sets for families (limited to first 100 on day of)
- Gold Membership to www.ChessKid.com
- Chess instruction throughout the day

Information and Registration for Parents and Coaches at:
http://osfce.mpls.k12.mn.us/chess_2

Questions Call the Office of Student Family and Community Engagement at 612.668.0198
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!

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

KENNY SCIENCE EXPO 2016

Science Expo welcomes all Kenny Scientists!
Thursday, April 14th, 6:00–7:30
Dinner 5:30–6:30

Did you forget to sign up for the Science Expo? You’re in luck the deadline is next Monday, Feb 29!

The Science Expo has about 50 student teams signed up with an array of exciting topics including: skeletons, worms and nutrients, building a radio, measuring the Eiffel Tower, how plants grow in different environments, pumas, frogs, and how cheese gets moldy.

If you don’t have a topic that’s okay, you’ll have a chance to tell us later. Just sign up now to get a display board and to reserve your spot at the Expo. More entry forms are available in the school office.

Parents 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 (elastar@gmail.com), Padma Wudali (Padma.wudali@gmail.com) or ask any Kenny School teachers.
Need Ideas?

Ideas for your Science Expo project are all around.

Pick something that you think is interesting and then think about how it applies to science.

Just about anything can be turned into a science project. Here’s some things you can do:

- Run an Experiment, which is a test to find something out. Start with an assumption (hypothesis) and design a test to prove whether this assumption is right or wrong. Run the test, collect the data, draw conclusions, and then tell everyone what you found out.
- Put together a Collection and show how it should be classified and organized.
- Design and make a hand-made Model, which is usually a smaller version of real-life object.
- Research an Explanation for how something works or how it is made.
- Make a Comparison between two or more systems and show how

How about these ideas? Here’s how the world of science is grouped together with some suggestions next to each category:

**Life Science**
- Animals (habitats, physical structure)
- Plants (seeds, growth needs)

**Physical Science**
- Chemistry (pollution, dissolving)
- Electricity (electric circuits, doorbells)
- Simple Machines (levers, ramps, pulleys)
- Technology (cameras, computers)

**Earth Science**
- Astronomy (planets, stars)
- Geology (volcanoes, earthquakes)
- Meteorology (clouds, tornadoes, tides)

**Natural Science**
- Ecology (recycling, making paper)
- Cycles (water cycle, food chains, seasons)

**Cultural Science**
- Anthropology (life in ancient Greece)
- Architecture (pyramids, skyscrapers)
- City systems

Resources

[link1]: Kenny’s website has pictures of past student projects. Look for Science Expo under Special Events.
[link2]: Links for Learning on the District's website has links to several on-line science resources for students.
[link3]: Project Ideas tab lists several science areas with projects.
[link4]: Fun and simple projects with illustrated instructions.
[link5]: Dragonfly TV, Fetch, and Zoom all have science projects.

Ask Mrs. Kersteter, Kenny School Librarian, for help in locating print and online resources for your project.
We are happy to offer you a DVD of the Kenny Variety Show!

For only $10 you will have memories for years to come! We will take orders until March 18. Order yours today! Please fill out this slip and put it with your payment into an envelope with Variety Show DVD on it.

Any questions – contact Laurie.Hanzal@mpls.k12.mm.us

Child’s Name ______________________ Room # _______  
Number of DVDs _______ x $10 = $_______ enclosed  
X ___________________________ ________________

Order your Kenny School Yearbook online!

Go to: https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/  
Enter Yearbook ID Code: 2330316  
Order Deadline April 6, 2016

Join us at the next PTA Meeting

Due to Caucus Night, the March PTA meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00pm

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

The agenda will include, among other topics, discussion about the upcoming Science Expo (April 14) and the Spring Carnival (June 2). Please note that the PTA is in great need of a Chair for the Spring Carnival! This is a wonderful Kenny tradition that kids and families love, but it will only happen if someone steps forward to help organize it. You do not have to do it alone; grab a friend and have fun planning it together!

The PTA is also looking for volunteers for the following: (1) an administrator for the Kenny Facebook page; (2) a person to update the information on the Kenny sign on 58th Street, and (3) a person to serve as yearbook editor for the 2016-17 school year. Please consider lending a hand!

Also, Peggy and Terri’s two-year term as Co-Chairs of the PTA is coming to an end this spring. Therefore, the PTA is seeking either two new Co-Chairs or a single Chair beginning in the 2016-17 school year. Please contact Peggy (pkkirkpatrick@usfamily.net) or Terri (diamondltd@comcast.net) if you have questions or are interested in these positions or any of the aforementioned positions.

2015-2016 PTA Officers: 
Terri Diamond and Peggy Kirkpatrick, Co-Presidents, Jan Tylko, Treasurer, Megan Schueth, Secretary
Questions? Contact us at: diamondLdT@comcast.net or pkkirkpatrick@usfamily.net
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
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

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

In this beautiful and empowering picture-book biography of presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton, New York Times bestselling author, Winter, and award-winning illustrator, Colón, illuminate her distinguished life and career. This stunning project follows Clinton from her early years as an outspoken student at Wellesley College and Yale Law School.

Please join us for a special event with New York Times Bestselling author, Jonah Winter
Monday, March 7 at 7:00 pm  Barnes & Noble Galleria

Mr. Winter will be with us to read and discuss the inspiring story of Hillary, a book the New York Times Book Review says blends female empowerment with an anti-bullying message. We hope you will bring your daughters (and sons!) out for an evening sure to impress the young leader or aspiring writer in your life.
WERC SPANISH SUMMER CAMP!

Come join WERC for our summer program! We offer different themes from 7:30 - 12:30 and enrichment activities from 12:30 - 5:30 from Monday through Thursday. You can find registration forms on our website or at WERC Windom. All instruction is in Spanish and it is a great opportunity to learn and practice Spanish during summer vacation while having fun!

Where: Windom Dual Immersion

When: Monday – Thursday from June 13 – July 14; Monday – Friday from August 22-26

Time: 7:30am – 5:30pm

Cost: $170 for camps; $85 for afternoon activities; $75 per day for August Camp

Registration Fee: $25.00

Registration deadline: March 24, 2016

For more information, please visit our website or contact us by email or phone!

Wercprogram.org

wercprogram@gmail.com

612-668-3384
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@mnec.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
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. Your 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.