Hello Kenny Families,

This time of the school year is very exciting, especially at Kenny School. We have a number of upcoming student performances, field trips, and even some standardized testing. These are busy days and weeks at Kenny! Parents are also invited to the Minnesota Sinfonia concert next Tuesday morning at 9:00 AM in the gym.

Next Thursday night (April 14th) is our school Science Expo. There will be over 100 awe-some student projects to view and a number of other interesting science displays. This year, science teachers from Anthony will be coming down to give our students feedback on their work. You won’t want to miss this!

We have had some staffing changes take place over the past two weeks. Char Thomas-son has taken a different position in the district; as a result, Steve Kramer will take over the classes she taught with his movement, music and vocabulary class. Dianne Kersteter submitted her resignation last week. We are currently looking to fill that position with a long-term reserve teacher until the end of the year. Penny Sandberg announced her re-tirement at the end of the year, so we will be hiring a new Special Education teacher in the interview and select process.

We also received some exciting news from the district IT department right before break. They will be upgrading the computer lab this spring by making it mobile. The lab in room 110 will be replaced with a brand-new Mac Airbook laptop cart, which will really help us with some of our space dilemmas. As a result, this summer, Ms. Stacey Moreno will move to room 110 and the new 5th grade classroom will move into room 112.

On another note, the PTA is looking for some coordinators for the spring carnival. Usually each classroom takes responsibility for a booth. The coordinators responsibility is making sure each piece is orchestrated. If you and/or some of your friends are interested, please let us know.

As always, Thank you for all you do to make Kenny the amazing community school it is.
Bill Gibbs, Principal

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**Dates to Remember**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 8</td>
<td>Read-A-Thon Minutes Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 12</td>
<td>Sinfonia concert 9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 14</td>
<td>Science Expo 6-7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 19</td>
<td>Student of the Month Assembly 8:15am</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 21</td>
<td>Spring Barnes &amp; Noble Book Fair 6-8:30 Galleria Edina</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 28</td>
<td>3rd Grade Concert 8:15am Gym</td>
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<td>Tuesday, May 3</td>
<td>Kenny Foundation Mtg 6pm Media Center Kenny PTA MTg 7pm Media Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 14</td>
<td>Garden Day 8-12</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: 612-668-3346 Minneapolis Kids: 612-668-3344
Link to Kenny School Website: http://kenny.mpls.k12.mn.us

**REPORT CARDS have been delayed by the district office**
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.

All grade levels can use this resource for research projects they create in collaboration with their classroom teachers. Foundation has granted our request for Kindergarten through 5th grade subscription!

You will need a username and password, which your students have been given. It cannot be posted online but 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. There is also 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: Jessica Peifer Jessica.peifer@mpls.k12.mn.us

SPRING TESTING. . .

It’s that time of year again. If you click here or go to the Kenny Website you will see the link: MPS is MCA Ready. Here you will find tips for students, parents and other information to make your student as successful as possible.

At Kenny, third grade students will start MCA testing the week of 4/11. Fourth and Fifth graders will start the week of 4/18. In May, the second graders will take the MAP tests and first graders will take the MPG tests.

The schedule is posted on the website. This schedule is tentative, please communicate with your child’s teacher for the most current test schedule.
Grades 3 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 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
Dear Parents,

Our school is participating in the 7th Annual Neighborhood Forest Program, whose aim is to provide free trees to kids to plant on Earth Day. We endorse this project and are excited to give kids a way to beautify and green our communities.

Fill out the following online registration form by April 14 and receive a free paper birch tree (6-12 inches in size) during Earth Week (April 18-22). Planting instructions and species information will be emailed a few days prior to the trees arriving.

Register (on a laptop, tablet or desktop computer) to receive a free paper birch tree for Earth Day to plant with your child:
http://www.neighborwoodforest.org/register-for-schools

Thank you for your support and participation. For more information about this program, please visit www.neighborwoodforest.org.

Click the link to view a video about this program:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ja359qUI8st

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
read-a-thon in progress!

Dear Amazing Kenny Students & Families,

It is once again that time of year when we, the staff at Kenny school, challenge YOU to read 500,000 minutes!

You have until Friday, April 8 to get your minutes turned in!

Please return completed sheets to your classroom teacher!

Remember when Mr. Gibbs dressed up like a gorilla and had his office on the roof of the school? Or when he kissed a pig on the lips??? Or when he sat in the dunk tank at the Kenny carnival? If you achieve the goal this year (and we know you can), Mr. Gibbs will do some other crazy, wacky thing!

Some details:

- D.E.A.R. every Friday from now until March 25th from 9:15-9:45
- Tracking sheets will go home in Wednesday folders
- For the younger grades, the minutes your parents read to you count!
Three Kenny students were honored for their excellent art work at the Davis Center Gallery Viva City Art Exhibition on March 15, 2016.

Their art, along with a selection of district student artwork, will be on display through April 29. The gallery is open to the public.

Many thanks, Cynthia McGovern, Kenny Art Teacher

Chitra Wudali, Fifth Grade
Value Silhouette Painting

Annabel Briggs, Third grade
Loon Sunset Painting

Paul Diamond, Fourth Grade
Chalk Cat Portrait
SPRING CARNIVAL: The PTA still needs 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 (or two) and have fun planning it together!

The PTA is also looking for a volunteer to update the information on the Kenny sign on 58th Street. 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.

The Kenny Foundation met on April 4

It was great to see several new parents attending!

The following proposals for funding were approved:
1) $300 for a "buddy bench" to be built by a Kenny Girl Scout troop for our playground.
2) $120 to bring the Bee Pollination project to the upcoming Science Fair. Come learn about bees at the "Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees" Kenny Science Fair this month.
3) $590 for the Kenny 5th Grade math team to get new calculators and shirts for the upcoming math competition. Almost half our 5th graders are on the team - wow!

Playground Project Update:
The Foundation has determined that leveling the ground and installing turf is the best solution for the "dirt pit" area. Next steps are to work with the district to support funding at least 50% of this project. We still have hopes of completing this project over the summer.

2016-17 Board Planning:
The Kenny Foundation is seeking new board members, including a Chairperson and Secretary for the 2016-17 school year. Please come to the final meeting of this year - May 3 - to learn more. Questions? Contact Megan Peterson at mmpeterson322@gmail.com.
Science Expo 2016 is coming up!

208 students will be showing 108 exciting science exhibits the night of the Science Expo. 
-Students can set up displays from 4 pm on in the pre-designated row of tables in the Gym. 
-Display board format suggestions and examples are on the following page; students do not have to have all parts populated they can select things they understand at their grade level. Parents, please do not stress out- enjoy the activity, learning and presenting information whichever way your student wants to do it. 
-The intention is for students to explore, experiment and report on a Science/Math Topic. 
-If you are bringing extra materials to show your work, please remember to cleanup your station after. All projects and supplies brought must return home the same night. 
-Please list your project ID, your grade and name of team members prominently on the top of you board (left, right or center panel, anywhere is fine.). Project IDs should be visible on the label stuck at the back of your board. 

No food items in gym during expo, no food hand outs either, food can be part of experiments or results

Example label:
ID - 1625
Topic - Making Bubbles
Team - Student 1, Student 2 etc
Grade - KG and 2nd Grade
Optional - Room #, Teacher Name

Judges will be reviewing displayed projects so students are requested to be available:
KB, 1st and 2nd graders - 6:15-6:45pm
3-5th graders - 6:45-7:15pm

The following presenters will be at the Expo in the Music Room and the Media Center: The Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis will have a display about birding, 3M Visiting Wizards will have a Crime Lab set up for children to explore, along wit U of MN Forrestry, and the Bees Demo from Pollinate MN. Even if you’re not exhibiting, you must see this wonderful and fun all-school event. Come support our brilliant and curious Kenny scientists!

Kenny Parents please consider pitching in:
Helping with science presentations by volunteers in the Music Room or Media Room
Photos to upload to Kenny’s facebook page
A little help with tear down
Display Board Format Suggestions and Examples:

Students do not have to have all parts populated; they can select things they understand at their grade level.

Parents, please do not stress out - enjoy the activity, learning and presenting information whichever way your student wants to do it.

Please note:
NO FOOD items in gym during expo
NO FOOD HAND OUTS
FOOD can be part of experiments or results
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: KENNY SCHOOL

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 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.

http://kenny.mpls.k12.mn.us/

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

http://www.facebook.com/kennypta

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
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.
Kenny PTA BACHMAN’S GIFT CARD SALE

Purchase Bachman’s Gift Cards and Support Kenny School!

**Here’s how it works:** Use the order form, in the newsletter or sent home with students on April 6th, to purchase Bachman’s gift cards in any $5 increment amount from $5-$500

Gift cards ordered by **4/28** will be available for pick up in the lobby after school from **2pm-4pm on Friday May 13th**

**Redeem** gift cards at any Bachman’s Floral, Gift and Garden Centers throughout the Twin Cities area, as well as through Bachman’s call center and at bachmans.com

Use Gift cards to buy **ANYTHING** at Bachman’s, including fresh flowers, plants and shrubs, home décor, holiday gifts, garden items and more

**KENNY will receive 15% of total gift card sales!**

Please note, the 15% rebate is not eligible on gift cards purchased at Bachman's retail stores, so make sure to place your order through KENNY

*make checks payable to Kenny PTA

Questions? Contact Jessica McLawhorn, jimclawhorn@gmail.com or 651-261-0632
Gift Card Fundraising for **KENNY PTA**

Student Name________________________  Room#________________________

Customer Order Form

Bachman’s Gift Cards are available in $5.00 increments, from $5.00 to $500.00.

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Number and Amount of Gift Cards Requested

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Questions? Contact Jessica McLawhorn, [jimclawhorn@gmail.com](mailto:jimclawhorn@gmail.com) or 651-261-0632