

Kenwood School Newsletter

Principally Speaking

November 13, 2019

Thank you to all of our families who have contributed to the Canned Food Drive. We will conclude our Canned Food Drive on Friday, November 15, 2019.



Upcoming Events

11/12-15 Food Drive

11/13 NEW DATE: School Site Council Meeting at 1:45 p.m. in the School Library

11/14 Board of Trustees Meeting, School Library, 4 p.m.

11/15 KSA Meeting at Cougar Club, 8:30 a.m.

11/18-11/22 Teacher/Parent Conferences, 1:30 p.m. Early Dismissal

11/25-29 Thanksgiving Break—No School

12/2 Kindergarten Extended Day Begins: Dismissal at 1:30 p.m.

12/9-12/12 HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

TEACHER/PARENT CONFERENCES : 1:30 PM EARLY DISMISSAL TIME 11/18-11/22

Kindergarten: Regular Dismissal Time at 11:50 a.m.

Teacher/Parent Conference Early Dismissal

Schedule Grades 1-6

Monday, November 18, 2019	1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 19, 2019	1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 20, 2019	1:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 21, 2019	1:30 p.m.
Friday, November 22, 2019	1:30 p.m.

Cougar Club News:

Cougar Club payments are due now. Thank you.

We've had a great fall so far at **Cougar Club**. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday and then winter break, we'd like to remind parents that Cougar Club kids still need snacks for their after school activities.



Our program depends upon donations to supplement students' left-over lunchbox snacks. We are very grateful to the many generous families who have contributed already. We especially need fresh fruits and vegetables. Baby carrots, bananas, raisins, and hummus are always popular items.

If you have suggestions for us, we are always happy to hear them. It is a pleasure spending time with your children, getting to know your families, and exploring extra-curricular playtime activities with the Kenwood Cougars. ♥□

Teacher/Parent Conferences

November 18-22

Early Dismissal for Grades 1-6

1:30 p.m.

**No Homework Club for Grades 2 and 3: November 18 and 19
due to Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Lost and Found Rack

Please check the Lost and Found Rack at the end of the main hallway. All items left in Lost and Found over Thanksgiving Break will be donated to a charity.

Main Office: 833-2500

Attendance Line: 341-0102

Cougar Club: 833-4383

Rainbow Garden Preschool: 833-6551

Parent Reminder:

Wednesday

Dismissal Time is

1:30pm

Food Drive



The first week of our annual Food Drive sponsored by Student Council was a competition between classes. The third grade was declared the winning class; they collected 221 pounds. First grade was close behind with 201 pounds turned in. The third graders will be celebrating their victory with a pizza party. First graders will be awarded popsicles in recognition of their hard work.

The Redwood Empire Food Bank is delivering two more empty barrels since we have already filled three barrels. Our Food Drive ends on Friday, November 15. Let's continue to show our Cougar pride and caring as we fill those two barrels with food needed by many in our Sonoma County community.



KENWOOD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION'S

Annual Holiday Boutique

The HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE is approaching fast and is THE place for all Kenwood students to do their very own holiday shopping. The best part is, every item for sale is made by the students themselves. The boutique is a great opportunity for the students to showcase their handy-work, all while providing wonderful, affordable items for their classmates to select and purchase as gifts for the holiday season!

Students will have an opportunity to shop during school hours on Tuesday and Wednesday when each class will take a field trip to the boutique. The boutique will be open to parents, families, and the Kenwood community starting on Wednesday after all the students have had a chance to shop. The KSA Holiday Boutique will take cash, check, and credit cards. All monies from sales are given back to the children who made and sold them.

Get into the holiday spirit by being creative together and make some money doing it. The Holiday Boutique offers our kids a chance to be creative, thoughtful and to learn a little bit about business. Whether you make a craft, shop for family and friends or just come to have a look, please join us for a wonderful time!

DECEMBER 10TH - DECEMBER 12TH



HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

HOW-TO SELL

STEP #1: MAKE IT!

Create your craft (parental guidance and some help is perfectly acceptable), and package it if needed. Please- **NO** items that resemble **weapons** of any kind, **NO** immediately **perishable** gifts like cupcakes or cookies. Aim for making crafts or long lasting perishables like baking or cocoa mixes, meat rubs, cat or dog treats. All food items **MUST HAVE** a list of **ingredients** and a **USE BY** date. Any items that do not follow these rules have to be turned away!

STEP #2: TAG IT!

Tags must have your name & grade on the left and the price on the right. Attach it securely to your craft. All items must be tagged. Tags must be able to be easily removed at "checkout". These tags are removed when an item is sold, and this is how we know who and how much to pay – so tagging is VERY important. You can print tags by going to: <https://www.kenwoodschoolassociation.com/holiday-boutique>

STEP #3: LIST IT!

Fill out the inventory list so we know everything you have made and given us to sell for you.

STEP #3: CHECK IT! (BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH)

Bring everything to school on Friday, December 6th or Monday, December 9th and check them in at the school library. All items must be checked-in by a KSA member. Friday 12/6 check-in will be from: 8-9 am and 2:30-3:30 pm. Monday 12/9 check-in will be from 8-9 am



FEATURE

Good Eats

Kenwood Elementary School District Takes a Different Approach to its Student Lunch Program for Delicious Results.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF KENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT.



BY CORRIE PELC
MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING MANAGER
SSDA

For any school district, consistently feeding students a nutritious, well-balanced meal they will actually eat every day is a hard task. A few years ago, Kenwood Elementary School District in Sonoma County decided to go one step further — revamping their entire meal program by hiring a chef who makes all their lunches every day from scratch.

FEEDING A PASSION

Kenwood's Culinary Coordinator Diana Wolfe was hired in the fall of 2015 to reinvent the district's culinary program. Wolfe's passion for cooking started in high school, continuing with her pursuing a culinary and baking certificate at Santa Rosa Junior College and resulting in a five-year job working at Sonoma State University in the culinary department.



When the position at Kenwood opened, Wolfe says she decided to apply as it would give her a unique opportunity to combine her passions. "I've always loved cooking and being in charge of a new program gave me some creative freedom," she explains. "They just wanted a revamp of everything, so it was kind of here's what we're thinking, but you take the idea and run with it. I was also always interested in becoming a teacher when I was younger, so this gave me the opportunity to combine working with students with my love of cooking."

Through the culinary program she created, every day Wolfe makes fresh lunches for 50 to 75 students each day by herself, although her husband — who still works at Sonoma State University's culinary department — will sometimes volunteer to help her out. Menu options range from kid-approved classics like spaghetti and chicken tenders, to more exotic sounding dishes such as chicken pica and pesto pasta. "We ... continue to include healthy versions of kid-friendly favorites and new foods the kids may not be familiar with," she explains. To make sure everyone has options, Wolfe offers a vegetarian option every day and at least one meal each week is gluten free for everyone. And students also have access to a fully-stocked salad bar every day at lunch as well.

KEEPING IT LOCAL

As a small school district with one school building and about 138 students, Wolfe says one thing they struggle with are their limited options for food delivery. "Even if some places are willing to deliver to us

in small quantities, we might be totally outweighed by the delivery fees because the fee might be the same for everyone regardless of the size of your delivery," she explains.

Because of that Wolfe takes on the shopping herself, turning to grocery stores and farmers markets in the area, as well as a local restaurant supply store where she can purchase certain items in a smaller-sized bulk to meet their needs. She also uses the school's garden to help supplement fresh fruit and vegetables for her recipes and salad bar. And Wolfe has had luck with receiving generous donations from local businesses, such as the area bakery that donates all their breads.

Last year, Wolfe says they also started working with a program called FEED Sonoma, which provides boxes of fruits and vegetables from local farmers markets. The boxes are delivered to classrooms once a month, allowing students to taste a new fruit or vegetable. And then the remainder of the order goes to the kitchen for Wolfe to use. "So once (students have) tasted the arugula or variety of peppers, then they can have them on the salad bar, too," she says.

Another way Wolfe gets students involved in the culinary program is through a suggestion box in the office. "Students can suggest menu items and if your item is chosen, you get a free lunch," she says. "Involving the students guarantees the direction and their excitement about the process."

And Kenwood's sixth graders can take their involvement one step further by volunteering to help serve at lunchtime. Wolfe says each day three sixth grade volunteers help during lunch service by either serving the kindergarten class in their room, monitoring the salad bar to answer questions other students may have, or helping her serve the main lunch line. All volunteers learn proper food handling preparation, and Wolfe says their participation really brings out curiosity about food in general. "It just reinforces the whole process and shows them how much hard work, but also passion, goes into making them this fresh food every day."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Now entering its fourth year, Wolfe plans to expand the school's culinary program next year with a student-run composting

program for the school garden and a move towards all reusable dishware for the lunch program. She also plans to continue offering student cooking classes, which are currently held once or twice a year during school breaks, as well as an eight-week culinary class elective for fourth, fifth and sixth grade students.

For small school districts who would like to revamp their culinary program, Wolfe says getting students involved is very helpful, as well as the families. "I love to welcome input, comments, concerns, emails of any kind so we can address things like allergens or any hurdle that we might face from the transition," she says. Wolfe says parents are also invited every day to eat lunch with their students in the cafeteria. "We're not trying to pass anything off, we're not going to make a special meal just for you so you think the program is better than it is," she explains. "You can come by whenever you want, as long as you check in at the office, and have lunch any day you want."

Wolfe also involved students' families in the culinary program through a Tasting Night, which allowed parents to taste 10 to 12 different items from the culinary program that were also featured in a recipe book developed by a local high school senior as his senior project. The recipe book was then sold as a fundraiser for the culinary program.

Overall, Wolfe says having a varied culinary experience for students is important as it helps set their attitude towards food for the rest of their lives. "It's important to introduce kids to things at a younger age," she explains. "They're at an age now where they're more malleable, they're more interested in things, and it's important to expose them to things just like we do different cultures, different languages, in the education process. Food will always be a part of their nutrition, their health and helping them live a well-balanced life." ●



AGENDA
November 14, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting
4:00PM Regular Session
Kenwood School Library

- I. Call to Order – Board President Pat Alexander or alternate**
- II. Regular Session**
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance**
 - B. Roll Call of Board Members**
 - C. Adjustment of Agenda**

Anyone wishing to have an agenda item heard at a time other than as listed should make a request at this time.
 - D. Public Comment**

It should be understood that the Board will not respond to nor take action on presentations under “Public Comment”. This is simply a time for members of the audience to address the Board regarding items not on the agenda. Each presentation shall be limited to three minutes.
 - E. Announcements and Reports**
 - 1. Board Announcements**
 - 2. District Organizations’ Reports**
 - 3. Superintendent’s Report**
- III. Action Items**
 - A. Approval of Budget Updates** Page 3
 - B. Approval of Warrants** Page 8
 - C. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: October 10, 2019** Page 11
 - D. School District of Choice Transfer Request for the 2019-20 School Year** Page 13
 - E. Select Date of Organizational Board of Trustees Meeting in December**
 - F. Approval of the following Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulations (AR) Updates as Recommended by the California School Board Association: October 2019** Page 14
 - Adopt Revised:*
 - BP/AR 0460 Local Control and Accountability Plan*
 - BP 1431 Waivers*
 - BP/AR 3515 Campus Security*
 - BP 4116 Probationary/Permanent Status, Option #2*
 - BP 4119.22 Dress and Grooming*
 - BP/AR 4218 Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action*
 - BP 5131 Conduct*
 - BP 5132 Dress and Grooming*
 - AR 5141.26 Tuberculosis Testing*
 - BP/AR 5142 Safety*
 - BP/AR 7140 Architectural and Engineering Services*
 - BB 9323 Meeting Conduct*
 - New:*
 - BP 0520 Intervention for Underperforming Schools*
 - BP 0520.1 Comprehensive and Targeted Support and Improvement*
 - BP 5131.8 Mobile Communication Devices*

IV. Discussion/Report Items

- A. District of Residence Enrollment Report** Page 19
- B. District of Choice Transfer Summary for 2019-20 School Year** Page 20
- C. Select Board of Trustee Negotiators**
- D. RESIG 2018-19 Public Self-Insurer's Annual Report** Page 21
- E. SSDA Article on Kenwood School's Student Lunch Program** Page 22

V. Adjournment

Notice: The District adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Should you require special accommodations, or more information about accessibility, please contact 833-2500. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations.