



Fernwood Family Newsletter #6 September 30, 2025

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Schedule of Events

- Tuesday 9/30: [Virtual High School Enrollment Informational Meeting](#) at 5:30pm
[Link to join](#)
- CORRECTION Tuesday, 10/7: [PTO Meeting](#) at 6:00pm in the Fernwood library
(Visit this [one stop PTO link](#) for meeting agendas, minutes, and the link to join the meetings virtually!)
- Wednesday, 10/8: [Bike/Walk to School Day](#) at 6:45am on the East Playground
(In case of inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled.)
- [Wednesday, 10/8: EARLY RELEASE DAY \(and no camp\)](#)
- Thursday, 10/9: [Fall Conferences](#), 2:45-6:30pm in classrooms (signup below)

- Thursday, 10/9: **Music Parents Meeting** at 6:30 in the Library or [virtual](#)
 - Tuesday, 10/21: **Fernwood Fund Meeting** at 6:30pm in the Fernwood library or virtual (Email brett.mytys@gmail.com for link.)
 - Tuesday 10/14: **Fall Conferences**, 2:45-6:30pm in classrooms (signup below)
 - Thursday, 10/16: **Picture Re-take Day** (9-11am)
 - Friday, 10/24: **Halloween Parade and Dance (K3-3rd grade only)**, 5:30-7pm
 - Thursday, 10/30: **virtual SEC Meeting** (Visit this [one stop SEC link](#) for meeting agendas, minutes, and the link to join the meetings virtually!)
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Early Release Day October 8

On October 8th, MPS has an early release day to allow for teacher and staff professional development. **Fernwood's school day will be 7:15-10:15am for K3 & K4 students and 7:15-12:15pm for K5-8th grade students.** All after school camps are closed on early release days, including upcoming October 8. Information for families is on the [Recreation website](#).

If your child attends Character Kids theater on Wednesdays (Upper EI), class will still be held and will be from 12:20-1:20pm in the auditorium. Please be on time to pick your child up.

Buses will arrive at Fernwood as usual for dismissal. We ask that families that are picking up please be on time, as our staff have 10 minutes from dismissal before they are expected to be in professional development sessions. All students K5-8th grade will eat lunch at Fernwood before they leave for the day, so students are encouraged to either bring a lunch or snack from home, as usual, or they may also order a hot lunch.

Dungeons and Dragons After School Club (6th-8th grade)

Mr. Jerabek will be running a D&D club after school. We are currently gauging interest. Please read the description in this [Google Form](#) and fill this out for your child if they are interested/you approve. Spots are limited, so those that fill out the form first will get first seats. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jerabek:

jerabejc@milwaukee.k12.wi.us

Resources/Opportunities

[Click here](#) to see this virtual bulletin board of events, opportunities, and resources (some at cost and some FREE!) - like the upcoming [Celebrating All Abilities](#) event!

There are two new items this week:

- [FREE family membership for families of 4th grade students](#) (and a 50% discount on an upcoming family event) from Riveredge Nature Center!
 - [Fall Recruitment Party](#) for Girls Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast!
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Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences Sign-Up (sign-ups close Oct. 3)

Fall Conferences will be held in person, Thursday October 9 and Tuesday October 14 at Fernwood. **These sign-up links will close THIS FRIDAY October 3, after that, please reach out to teachers directly to schedule or reschedule.**

Sign-Up Guidelines:

- All conferences will take place in classrooms.
- District [language translation services](#) are available, you may also contact your child's teacher or Ms. Kari at hansonks@milwaukee.k12.wi.us for assistance.
- If you have more than one child at Fernwood, please consider allowing some "travel time" between your conferences.
- Please sign up for only ONE conference time slot for each of your K3-6th grade students. (We understand that some students may have two households. In order to accommodate all families, we ask that only one conference slot be signed up per student.)
- If you have an Adolescent student (7th or 8th grade), please sign up for a 30 minute timeslot. Conferences with each teacher must be limited to 5 efficient minutes to ensure everyone can meet with all the teachers. There will be 10 families signing up for each timeslot which means there will be some waiting.
- Childcare will not be provided, please plan accordingly.

Please contact your teacher to sign up.

UPDATE: Feed Teachers (Not Bears)

All sign-up slots for snacks are full - THANK YOU!

Conference days are lonnnng for teachers - let's show them some love!



Bike, Walk, and Roll to School Day



It is time for Bike, Walk, and Roll to School Day 2025! Wednesday October 8 (weather permitting) students are invited to bike, walk, or roll to school and then meet at the table on the East Playground. There will be a quick activity for students; awesome biking and walking safety materials from our partners at the [Wisconsin Bike Fed](#); and prizes available for those who participate. Activities will go from 6:45am to 7:15am. Hope to see you with your bikes, scooters, roller skates, sparkly shoes, and more! (P.S. Joining us from your school bus or carpool counts too!)

[Check out this blast from the past!](#)

Ordering School Pictures and Re-Take Day October 16

Pictures are available to view! You should receive (or maybe already did) a proof via email and will also get a hard copy sent home next week. You can also view and order online at mylifetouch.com using the Fernwood order code: **EVTGZVNR**
(If you are having issues, please reach out to the Lifetouch customer service line at 1(800) 736-4753 or use the online chat function on the website.)

If you would like to get pictures re-taken or if your child was absent on picture day, please email your student(s) classroom teacher(s) AND Parent Coordinator, Kari H. (hansonks@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) to let us know.

Fernwood Apparel Sales

The [Fernwood PTO Apparel Sale](#) is still open. Apparel featuring old logs in new colors and A BRAND NEW DESIGN are available for sale through Dunn's. **DID YOU KNOW? A percentage of sales goes to the PTO for classroom and school event support!** Sales only run



through October 25, so order now! Scan the QR code or visit the link to begin shopping!

City-Wide Montessori Middle School (7th & 8th grade) Dance

MacDowell's Middle School Homecoming Dance, with the theme Vintage Hollywood, will be on **Saturday, October 4th, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. You will be able to purchase a dance ticket at the door for \$10.00. You must have your [signed permission slip](#) to go to the dance. There will also be concessions that can be purchased. This dance is for middle school students (7th and 8th grade only) who attend MacDowell, Maryland, Highland, Fernwood, Bay View, Lloyd Barbee and Craig Montessori Schools. (More information about times, cost, etc. on the permission slip.)

Fernwood Lower Elementary Choir Sign-Up Ends Soon

WHEN: Tuesdays (2:15-3:00pm) October 21st - December 9th

WHERE: Fernwood Auditorium (students will be dismissed from class to the auditorium)

WHO: Intended for 1st-3rd grade Lower Elementary Students

PRICE: \$50 per student (7 meeting sessions total)

Looking for committed children who enjoy singing and would value the benefits of being part of a choir. Each child will take home and sign an attendance and behavior contract.

Deadline for signup is Tuesday, October 7th, 2025.

To Register: Complete [this link](#) and pay \$50 (Venmo @molly-pufall, or check or cash brought to the main office with attn: Ms. Molly Pufall-Brown). Please contact Molly to sign up or ask questions: mpufall@gmail.com. (If a parent or guardian is in need of financial assistance to allow their child to participate, please email mpufall@gmail.com)

High School Application Informational Meeting and Enrollment Fair

Milwaukee Public Schools' high school enrollment is right around the corner. In preparation for high school enrollment which begins on Friday October 3rd, 2025, we are hosting a virtual informational meeting on **Tuesday September 30th from 5:30pm-6:30pm**. This meeting will cover high level information regarding the MPS enrollment process. [Here is the link to join](#) If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Ms. Bianca willinbc@milwaukee.k12.wi.us or (414) 294-1300 ext. 41321

Families should have received an email with their 8th grader's High School Preliminary Scoring Letters on Friday, September 26. These letters provide families with their child's current scores (excluding the on-demand essay) and are critical in helping parents/guardians make informed decisions for high school applications. If you did not receive your letter, please contact the main office.

High School Enrollment Fair Saturday, October 11, 9am-12:00pm at Milwaukee High School of the Arts | 2300 W. Highland Ave., Milwaukee, 53233 Milwaukee 8th graders—it's time to choose a high school for next fall! Attend the High School Enrollment Fair to learn about program offerings and apply to any MPS high school that fits your interests and goals. Visit mpsmke.com/hsenroll for more information.

Plant and Bake Sale during October 9 Conferences - ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Room 250 is doing a plant and bake sale during fall conferences – **one night ONLY, on October 9!** There will be a variety of yummy snacks and awesome drinks for you to enjoy - with a side of plants that you can buy! And don't forget to bring cash - especially small bills - with you, because that cash will help us go on our trip to Madison to go visit the state capitol. The Madison trip will take place on November 4. Thank you!

These plant propagators also send their thanks to the folks that have donated a few chairs for the balcony! It has transformed into a lovely work and break space.



The Popcorn Sale Returns! THIS FRIDAY October 3

Friday after school popcorn sales will be starting on **October 3 and continuing every other week** (with some adjustments due to school breaks.)

Popcorn costs \$1 and is available by the Falling Heath doors. Proceeds go to the adolescent program which is doing the sale as part of a Montessori lesson about running a micro economy. Dr. Montessori believed that the act of producing something and exchanging it for something else was an intrinsic part of being human which we can see throughout human history.

Did You Lose Something??

The Lost and Found is already overflowing with so many sweatshirts, water bottles, lunch boxes (with tupperware still inside), towels (from Fernwood Fest?), etc. If your child is missing something, please have them talk to their teacher about going to look through the Lost and Found. (It is located under the stairs just inside the northeast door on the basement level near the cafe. Items are sorted and bins are labeled.)

Our School is Cool!

It is the season of the walking field trip! Here is Ms. Kim's class exploring the Seminary Woods. Mushrooms, crows, caterpillars, spiderwebs, sooo many mosquitoes, and even a fox skull!

