

# PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

## Attention 8th grade Parents!

If your child completed a high school application online, please note that notification letter(s) will be posted to their online dashboard no later than today, March 3rd. Once letters have been posted, students will be notified via email. Paper applications will receive a notification letter postdated no later than today as well

For students who receive a high school offer, confirmation forms should be submitted directly to the school where the student is accepting the seat.

The deadline to accept high school offers is March 17th.

## Friendly Reminder Regarding Playground Safety

Parents please note that for safety reasons children should not be allowed to play on the playground unaccompanied. Unfortunately we are not able to monitor the playground before or after school as we do not have the staff for it. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep Peterson safe.

Good Evening Peterson Parents,

For this week's newsletter I'd like to continue with our "People of Peterson" series with Ms. Katreena Dyrek:

"Looking back, I realize my journey to becoming an art teacher began with some phenomenal art teachers at Fox River Grove High School. Growing up, I had always wanted to cut hair as a profession, which I did for a while after graduating from cosmetology school. After trying it out though, I soon realized hair cutting wasn't for me.

During this period I continually found myself thinking back to my high school and the air of acceptance that those art teachers created in their classrooms. I knew that I wanted a chance to recreate that experience for others.

After graduating from Northeastern, I interviewed for an art position at Peterson and got the job. My first year of teaching was an eyeopening experience. My biggest challenges early on were learning to instill a sense of responsibility in students and figuring out how to make a comforting and welcoming environment for all of my students. Thankfully for me, Peterson is an amazing school where I feel comfortable reaching out to my colleagues for support.

Over the past 3 years at Peterson I've been fortunate enough to see how art can have a positive and calming effect on students and how it can help bring students out of their shell by allowing them to use art as a medium for expression."



## Unity Through the Arts and Sciences

Thank you to everyone who came out to our annual Unity Through the Arts and Sciences event last Friday. The event was a tremendous success! A special thank you goes out to the UNITY Planning Team: Katreena Dyrek, Kathleen Hurley, Matt Bender, Mike Weiss, Sara Skaggs, Carmen Karnuth, Sandy DeVarenne, Emily Berman, and David Garr.

Thank you as well to all of our countless volunteers, performers, and student ambassadors who helped make the event so special and to the Friends of Peterson who raised over \$3,400 for Peterson! Finally, a BIG thank you goes to Megan Trinter for her leadership in planning and organizing the event.



## Mark your Calendar

- Student and Teacher Window for My Voice My School Survey Open Until March 24th
- **Students Take My Voice, My School Survey -- February 28th - March 3rd**
- Raven Theater Teaching in Rooms 111, 114, 115 & 122 -- March 6th
- Sports Packets for Spring Sports Due--March 6th
- afterHours Drama Presentation--March 6th
- Sexual Health Education for 5th Grade -- March 7th
- PTA Meeting -- March 7th, 8:45 am
- LSC Meeting -- March 8th, 6:00 pm
- Ageless Eyecare at Peterson -- March 9th, 10th
- Sexual Health Education for 7th Grade -- March 9th
- Recorder Concert at Peterson -- March 9th, 4:30 pm
- **afterHours Session 2 Ends -- March 10th**
- 3rd Quarter Progress Reports Distributed -- March 10th
- Track & Field School Registration Deadline -- March 10th
- Raven Theater Teaching in Rooms 111, 114, 115 & 122 -- March 13th
- Raven Theater Teaching in Rooms 111, 114, 115 & 122 -- March 20th
- PAC Meeting (Tentative) -- March 21st
- 3rd Grade Field Trip to Raven Theater -- March 23rd

## Friendly Reminder Regarding Medicine at Peterson

Please be advised, if your child requires medication during school hours you must:

First, notify Nurse Jessie or Nurse Sheila and Mr. Coleman, Case Manager. Documentation will then be given to the parents to have completed by the child's pediatrician and parents. Second, medications must be kept in their original containers and labeled with the student's name and prescription on it. Students who wish to carry their medications with them, must have consent from their doctor and parent(s). All other medications will be kept in the main office. This will help ensure the safety of your child and all other students as well as maintain legal compliance. For further questions, you may call Nurse Jessie in the main office.

## Spring Sports

As of today 109 middle school students have signed up to participate in spring sports! Registration packets have been distributed to students. These packets must be returned to homeroom teachers no later than Monday, March 6th.

## Morning Max

Morning Max is up and running at Peterson. Here a few friendly reminders:

Every morning hot breakfasts (white bag) and cold breakfasts (brown bag) will be available for students at each entranceway to Peterson. Students who take a breakfast will then eat with their classmates in the classroom.

- Students will have the option to choose 1) a hot breakfast (white bag); 2) a cold breakfast (brown bag); 3) an additional fruit; and 4) a skim or a 1% milk. All menus can be found at: [http://www.cps.edu/About\\_CPS/Departments/Pages/MealMenu.aspx](http://www.cps.edu/About_CPS/Departments/Pages/MealMenu.aspx).
- I encourage all parents to review the menu (included with this week's newsletter) with their child and make a decision about whether a child will eat breakfast at home or at school. Additionally, if eating at school, children should decide, with their parents, if they will eat a hot or cold breakfast.
- Please tell your child that they while they are encouraged to eat a breakfast at school if they do not eat one at home, they may not bring outside food for breakfast. This is for the safety of all students at Peterson due to allergies.

## Beer for Books 3!

Friends of Peterson is hosting our third annual fundraiser, Beer for Books, on June 10th, 2017. This is our largest annual fundraiser, which directly supports our students.

We are seeking business partners to assist in raising funds needed to rent space at DANK Haus in Lincoln Square. For a \$250 donation, your business will become a Panther Partner, which means your business will be advertised on our website, at the Beer for Books event, and in Peterson Elementary School. Additionally, by supporting this event, you ensure that all funds raised at the event will go directly to support Peterson students.

Do you own a business or know someone who would like to help underwrite the event? Learn more about our work at [www.friendsofpeterson.org](http://www.friendsofpeterson.org) or contact us at [petersonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:petersonfriends@gmail.com).