

# PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

## Walk and Bike to School Day

Join us this Wednesday, October 4, 2017, to celebrate Walk & Bike to School Day!

Join kids and families around the world to celebrate the benefits of walking and biking to school!

Peterson will celebrate this day with coffee on the plaza for parents and play equipment available for student use on the field starting at 8 AM. Students in PreK through 4th grade will receive a Walk to School Day sticker in their classroom.

## Updates on Enrollment and Funds

Due to an increase in enrollment—from 839 students to 854 students, Peterson received an increase of funds on the 10th day of school. Due to this fund increase, Peterson will be able to add an additional 4th grade teacher, reducing class size in 4th grade from approximately 34 students to approximately 25 students in a classroom. For more information on budget and how funds are used to meet the needs of all students at Peterson, know that you are welcome at LSC (Local School Council) meetings. The next LSC meeting will be on Wednesday, 10-11-17, at 6pm at Peterson Elementary.

Twitter: @MGPPPrincipal

Good Evening Peterson Parents,

I hope you've all had a great week! This week I'd like to continue our ongoing "People of Peterson" series. This week's "People of Peterson" features diverse learner teacher Jim Morrissey.



"I mostly grew up on the Northwest side of Chicago. My brother is a diverse learner, so we moved around frequently in order to find the best educational fit for him. I went to Our Lady of Victory Grammar School and then on to Norte Dame College Prep.

I always saw myself as owning my own business, so I decided to pursue a business degree at Saint Norbert in De Pere, Wisconsin. After college, I worked in sales, but I wasn't really happy, so I took a job with the Cook County Sheriffs' Department. I was later promoted to the rank of sergeant, which was a great experience that helped me to develop my leadership skills.

I also coached football while working as a police officer, which is when I began to see myself having a future in education. I wanted to be a teacher because I began to realize how important mentorship is for teenagers as they transition into adulthood.

Dan Defranza was a big role model for me. I played for him in high school and then coached with him. He had transitioned from being a stock trader to a teacher and with his guidance I began to see that a successful career change is possible. He saw how well I worked with young people and encouraged me to make the change as well.

I never envisioned myself teaching at an elementary school, but I love it. I've had so much fun working with first grade and it's actually helped me in my work with the eight graders. Teaching is teaching, whether it's a sport or a class, and the skills you pickup will translate to other scenarios.

I feel very lucky to be here at Peterson. There is a very strong structure in place to support new teachers, whether it's Teach Like a Champion or having a team I can get advice from. It's a great place to learn for everyone."

## Mark your Calendar

- High School Application Period Opens -- October 2nd
- High School Fair -- October 4th
- Walk and Bike to School Day -- October 4th
- PAC Meeting: *Understanding your Child's Academic Progress including the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) & Measures of Academic Performance (MAP)*--October 5th, 8am
- Quarter 1 Progress Reports Distributed -- October 6th
- Soccer and Volleyball Games at Mather -- October 7th--*times TBD*
- **NO SCHOOL, Columbus Day -- October 9th**
- Dentists at Peterson -- October 10th - 13th
- Local School Council Meeting -- October 11, 6pm
- PTA Meeting at Peterson -- October 12, 8:45am
- PAC Meeting -- October 19, 5:30pm

## Fall Sports Practice

### Boys' Volleyball

- Tuesdays & Thursdays
- 5th/6th 3:45-4:45PM
- 7th/8th 4:45-5:45PM

### Girls' Volleyball

- Mondays & Wednesdays
- 5th/6th 3:45-4:45PM
- 7th/8th 4:45-5:45PM

### Boys' Soccer

- 5th/6th Tuesdays and Thursdays 7am-8am
- 7th/8th Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 7am-8am

### Cross Country

Monday-Thursday 4:00-5:15pm

Twitter: @MGPPPrincipal

## High School Fair

On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, we will be hosting our annual High School Fair at Peterson! Students in the 7th grade will meet in the cafeteria from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, and students in the 8th grade will meet from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. We currently have over 15 different high schools planning to participate! Parents are strongly encouraged to attend during their child's designated time. Parents must sign in at the main office before coming to the cafeteria. Please contact Mr. Coleman or Ms. Berebitsky if you have any questions.

## Volunteer Orientation Meeting

Please join us on October 9, 2017, at 9:00 am in the Peterson cafeteria for a brief Parent Volunteer Orientation Meeting. Come learn how you can support Peterson and get familiar with our policies and procedures for volunteers. Please remember to first stop by the office to sign the visitors' log before proceeding to the cafeteria. Additionally, please remember that in order to be approved, all candidates must visit the school in person and show his/her photo ID to the Volunteer Coordinator, Yalil Nieves.

If you would like to volunteer but have not yet completed the application, there is still time. Please complete the online volunteer form by visiting [Peterson.cps.edu](http://Peterson.cps.edu), click on "Parents" then "Volunteer" then "online application." Follow the instructions to complete the form. If you need any assistance, please contact Yalil Nieves via email at [ynieves4@cps.edu](mailto:ynieves4@cps.edu)

Thank you and we hope to see you there!

# PAC Meeting

## Understanding Your Child's Academic Progress

including Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) & Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

Do you want to find out about the progress your child is making in reading, mathematics, and science and how you are able to

support him/her to continue to grow? Come to the next PAC meeting to receive a copy of your child's most recent standardized test scores. Learn what the scores mean, and find out how to make the most of your conversations with

teachers at the upcoming Report Card Pick-Up. Free breakfast is served, and younger siblings are welcome!



**Who:** All Peterson Parents & Caregivers

**What:** PAC Meeting

**When:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 8:45 a.m.

**Where:** Peterson School Cafeteria

If you would like to receive your child's NWEA MAP scores at the meeting, please RSVP to [petersonpac1@gmail.com](mailto:petersonpac1@gmail.com) by October 2, 2017.