

PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

Peterson Dance-a-thon

The Dance-a-thon is returning to Peterson the week of November 27th! Your Peterson student will dance during their gym class to raise money for the Peterson PTA and Friends of Peterson. All of the money raised will be used to purchase books for the school. More information will be sent home next week!

Fallen Leaves Needed

The Peterson Green Team is requesting your fallen leaves. In preparation for a new native garden for pollinators to be installed near the south-west corner of the school, we need to first kill the turf grass by smothering it with cardboard and leaf compost. Please bag your leaves and drop them off in the corner of the fenced-in area near Catalpa and Christiana on November 28th.

8th Grade Parent Volunteers Needed!

The 8th Grade Parent Team is in need of parent volunteers to assist with the Bake Sale on Report Card Pick Up Day, Wednesday, November 15, 2017. Please contact Gaby Hasselquist at gabyg328@gmail.com for more information.

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 with Ms. Hiba Ahmed.

"I was born in Rogers Park and then my family moved to Skokie when I was in the 5th grade. I'm the second oldest of four, and I'm excited that I'm about to be an aunt thanks to my older sister. Being a middle child, my role was to serve as mediator between siblings—which is a skill I've found very useful in helping students resolve conflicts!



I've always known that I wanted to be a mentor to younger individuals. Many of my peers were getting into teaching which also helped to motivate me. One hurdle that I faced was having enough money to pay for college; however, after a lot of hard work in school I was awarded a Golden Apple Scholarship!

I considered pursuing a double major in performance since my other passion is playing the violin, which I've been playing since I was eight. However, I felt that playing in a symphony would not be an experience I would enjoy and I didn't want the experience to take away the joy I feel in playing the violin.

I student taught at Mather after I graduated from Illinois State. While it was generally a positive experience, it led me to question what it was that I wanted from teaching. I decided to apply for a Fulbright Scholarship to see how the rest of world viewed teaching. I was awarded the scholarship and used it to travel around India for nine months. It was an incredibly eye-opening experience which made me realize the importance of teaching and learning.

The experiences I've had have also helped me realize the profound impact that we as educators can have on children's lives. In fact, I still remember my kindergarten teacher's lessons on tying shoes! It's important for me to remember that an important outcome of teaching is providing students the tools they need to complete tasks even when we're not around.

Having worked at other schools, I can say that the support I receive from colleagues and administration at Peterson is extraordinary. Everyone knows that we have a collective goal that extends well beyond the work we do in our classrooms.

Mark your Calendar

- Parent Tea -- Thursdays, 8:45am, Peterson Cafeteria
- State of the School -- November 14th, 6pm - 7pm
- **NO SCHOOL Parent-Teacher Conferences, November 15th**
- **NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday -- November 22nd-24th**
- Peterson Dance-a-Thon, November 27th-December 1st
- 7th/8th Grade Dance, December 1st, 6pm-9pm
- 2nd Grade Going to See "Frozen, The Musical" -- December 5th
- Tour of Peterson for Prospective Families -- December 6th, 9:00am
- **Important Notice Re: Volleyball:** This Saturday, 11/11, volleyball games will not be held at Mather High School. Instead, all games will be held at Senn High School. Senn is located at 5900 N Glenwood Ave, 60660. Parking is located behind the building on Thorndale. Please enter and exit through Door 10, which is located at the end of the parking lot.

Report Card Pick-Up

Report Card Pick-Up will take place next Wednesday, November 15th from 11:30 am to 6:30 pm. Please note the following:

- **There will be no school for students that day, but children are strongly encouraged to join their parents for teacher conferences.**
- Students and parents should enter through the gymnasium doors
- Please arrive 15-20 minutes prior to your scheduled time of report card pick-up.

Are you curious what to talk about with your child's teacher? Here are some suggestions from CPS:

- What subject does my student like most? Least?
- What can I do to help my student with subjects he or she finds difficult?
- Is my student working to the best of his or her ability?
- Does my student participate in class discussions and activities?
- How well does my student get along with others?
- Have you noticed changes in the way my child acts? For example, have you noticed squinting, tiredness, or moodiness that might be a sign of physical or other problems?
- Ask what grade level my student is working on. Is my student at grade level in reading and math? How about the other subjects? If my student is working below grade level, find out why and what you can do to help. Is tutoring available as an option?



Important Announcement Regarding Tardies to School

Please note that, beginning at the start of the second quarter (11/6), any students who who receives three (3) tardies will have after-school make-up time on Friday from 3:45pm to 4:45pm. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Topel.

Book Bag Give Away

Northeastern Illinois University's Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Pi Nu Chapter, donated almost 200 book bags to Peterson Elementary School. If you are interested in getting a free book bag for your child, please visit the distribution table in the gymnasium during Report Card Pick Up day, November 15, 2017.

Home Lunch Drop Off

Please note that, effective Monday, November 6th, the main office will no longer be accepting lunches that are dropped off after the start of the school day. Unfortunately, there is simply not enough staff in the office to manage this task. If your child brings home lunch, he or she should bring it to school. Please remember, any child who forgets his or her lunch are always able to get a free lunch in the school cafeteria. Thank you for understanding.