

PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

Way to go Panthers!

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade girls AND our 7th and 8th grade boys volleyball champions! Our 7th and 8th grade girls defeated Disney II to clinch the championship, while our 7th and 8th grade boys defeated Clinton. A special thank you goes to Coach Spy and Coach LeTempt for their leadership and dedication!

Attendance Matters!

This holiday season, the best gift you can give your child is a good education. And the best way to get that education is by being in school, on time, every day. A missed day is lost instruction that can't be recovered. This month, our Network will present a special prize to the school with the most attendance growth. Let's make the month of December a record-breaking attendance month to keep us on track for our end of year goal of 96%!

Make Your Voice Heard

The Kedzie Center has developed a community safety survey to better understand how community members view the Greater Albany Park area. Please visit 3403 W. Lawrence Ave, Suite 201 on Friday, December 8th from 3:00pm to 5:00pm to complete the survey. Volunteers will be available to assist community members who may have language/literacy barriers.

Peterson PAC & BAC Meeting

Please join the Peterson PAC & BAC for a special meeting on Thursday morning, December 7th at 8:45 a.m. in the Cafeteria. We will have a presentation from our Arabic exchange teacher, Ms. Ghada Shehata, about cultural traditions in Egypt. All families are invited to join us for breakfast and an opportunity to learn more from our resident expert!

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. Christina Godon.

"I am from a small town in northern California. Growing up, I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do other than traveling and meeting new people.



I attended the University of California in Santa Cruz where I studied linguistics, Spanish, Italian, and French (but I only speak Spanish fluently). While in college, my plan was to travel the world and teach; however, things changed when my friend said she was moving to Chicago. I had always really wanted to live in a city and decided to move with her. I only planned on staying for a year or two, but I ended up never leaving!

I didn't always want to be a teacher, but my experience working as volunteer tutor at the Albany Park Community Center for newcomers from the Dominican Republic made me think more seriously about it. After working as a volunteer, I decided to make the leap to teaching and went to DePaul to get my Masters degree.

Although teaching comes much more naturally now it certainly didn't always that way. When I began my teaching career I was extremely nervous about how I would manage a class of 25 kids!

What I enjoy most about Peterson is the amount of diversity we have here. It's very rewarding to see students navigating and celebrating their cultural differences in the classroom.

While I may not be traveling for my career, the traveling I have done has increased my empathy towards students who don't speak English. I feel I now have a better understanding of how arriving in a new country and not knowing the local language can be an incredibly overwhelming experience.

My traveling experiences have also helped me navigate challenging experiences in the classroom. I have learned to expect the unexpected and to work collaboratively with others to find solutions to difficult problems.

I'm really excited about having my first child in early February! I don't know what to expect except sleepless nights, but I'm excited nonetheless. I'm also excited to see how the students have grown while I'm out on my maternity leave."

Mark your Calendar

- Parent Tea -- Thursdays, 8:45am, Peterson Cafeteria
- **Please note that the 7th and 8th grade dance originally scheduled for tonight has been postponed until further notice.**
- 8th grade Walking to NEIU to See Faces of Freedom -- December 4th
- Girls in the Game -- 3:50pm
- 2nd Grade going to see "Frozen The Musical" -- December 5th
- Tour of Peterson for Prospective Families -- December 6th, 9am
- Winter Concert at Peterson for 3rd and 4th Grade -- December 6th
- PAC Meeting at Peterson-- December 7th
- Winter Concert for Students at Peterson for 6th, 7th, 8th and Primary Grades -- December 7th
- Peterson Winter Concert at Northside College Prep -- December 7th, 7pm to 9pm
- CICS Northtown Academy's Winter Extravaganza -- December 8th, 6pm to 8pm *visit cicsnorthtown.org for more information*
- Vision and Hearing Screening at Peterson -- December 11th through December 15th



The students danced this hearts out this week for Dance-a-Thon, and we are almost halfway to goal of raising \$15,000! Money raised during the Dance-a-Thon will go to the PTA and towards the purchase of books for the school. Fundraising packets are due December 19th. We will continue to accept donations through Tuesday, December 19th, so please keep sending in your pledge forms. We can accept donations online through www.razoo.com/team/Peterson2017 or www.friendsofpeterson.org (please be sure that donors pick the correct grade level and include your child's name in the comments), or through cash or checks made out to Friends of Peterson. Additional pledge forms are available in the Main Office or at petersondanceathon.yolasite.com.

Any PreK-2nd grade student who raises \$10 or more will get a Paw Pack, and any 3rd-8th grade student who raises \$10 or more will get to attend a Pizza Party. The top ten earners will also win prizes - a field trip to Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club or a bag full of Peterson swag. And there are also grade-level prizes as well - kindergarten is currently in the lead for all grades having raised more than \$2029!

We would like to give a shout out to our Physical Education team of Ms. LeTempt, Mr. McLinn and Mr. Spy for motivating the students all week. We would also like to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers for the week. Thank you Mark Washington, Sarah Myers, Ayesha Bibi, Max Conroy, Samina Mubasher, Sarah Colella, Caitlin Lassus, Lynda Gibson, Mary Peer, Syeda Badarunnisa, Michelle Nickerson, Mandy Bevacqua, Kristi White, Emily Berman and Melanie Shank. Thanks for your continued support of Peterson students and teachers!

CPS Cold Weather Guidelines

As the temperature begins to drop, please be aware of the CPS temperature guidelines for indoor/outdoor recess, which Peterson adheres to:

- » Above 32 F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held outdoors.
- » Between 31 F and 15 F with or without wind chill: Principal discretion.
- » Below 15 F with or without wind chill: Recess should be held indoors.

Please review the flyer included with this week's newsletter for additional information.

Basketball Games This Weekend

Please note that all games will be played at Amundsen High School (5110 N. Damen Ave.) rather than Mather for this weekend only.

- 6th Grade Girls Basketball on Court 1 at 9:45 am
- 6th Grade Boys Basketball on Court 2 (Peterson Bulls vs. Peterson Warriors) 11:15am
- 6th Grade Boys Basketball on Court 2 (Peterson Warriors) at 12:45 pm
- 8th Grade Girls Basketball on Court 2 at 1:30 pm
- 8th Grade Boys Basketball at Amundsen on Court 1 (Peterson Bulls vs. Peterson Warriors) at 3:00 pm