



PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.



You are Pawtastic!

A special "thank you" goes out to our middle school students for their "You Are Pawtastic" campaign. Students decorated hallways with inspirational messages and placed a heart on every locker! Stephanie Bradea was the group leader and chief designer. Committee members were Gamilah Saleh, Kaia Kelly, Anasofia Dixon, Martha Litorja, Nemesio Camilo, Rachelle Caunian, Lilly Soyster, Aimee Tran, and Christina Burkova. Please join us in thanking these community leaders for helping us to spread our message of encouragement and inspiration.

Important Announcement Regarding After School Pick Up

Please note that beginning March 1, 2018, significant changes will be made to after school pick-up. These important changes, designed to make pick-up safer for students, parents, and community members are detailed in the flyer included with this newsletter.

Spring Sports Registration

See the flyer included with this weeks newsletter for information on Spring Sports. Registration closes on Friday, March 9th.

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 our new recess facilitator Alex Byard.

"I was born in Jamaica and was adopted by my mom who raised me in San Francisco until I was ten. We then came to Chicago after my mom got a new job at NEIU. I grew up on Foster and Kimball and went to Hannah G. Solomon Elementary and then on to Lane Tech High School. My brother, who is from Africa, and I, actually still keep in contact with our birth families; surprisingly both of them live on the west side of Chicago! I now have two more younger brothers and a younger sister, and we see each other for family events and holidays.



Growing up, I always wanted to be a police officer or fire fighter. As I got older, I leaned more towards the fire fighter role. I then did a two year program in high school called CPFTA which is a program where they put you in the police academy and fire fighter academy for a semester each. It was a great experience that took a lot of dedication, and I'm proud to have graduated from it!

I wanted a mental break so I took a year off after high school. I had a learning disability, and school hasn't always been my strong suit. I have issues with short term memory. For instance, I can learn something in math, but the next day I'll forget how to do it—which would become an even bigger struggle during tests.

After my year off I went to NEIU. I quickly learned that this was a mistake since my mom always seemed to know when I was late for class! I then went to Malcolm X to get take general education classes and then applied to Northwestern and got a scholarship for art. I'm now majoring in business and minoring in photography and art history.

I've been into all types of art from photography and music to painting. I've even helped with some of the photography for the Hate Has No Home here campaign. Having struggled academically, art has given me something to be proud of.

I've been taking a lot of summer classes, and my goal is to graduate next year at the age of 21. My next step will be to go to Culinary School at the Art Institute of Chicago. I grew up with a lot of independence since my family and I had schedules that didn't coordinate well. I had to learn to cook for myself early on and not just live off of peanut butter sandwiches. I would watch cooking shows and make those meals at home. I want to work in a restaurant to build more skills and eventually open up my own food truck serving Jamaican-style food. I'm pursuing the business degree so I can manage everything myself.

After a month at Peterson, I have to say I really like it here! The students are very aware of how society works and have talked to me about the troubles they face. I had a student relate to me about not having a dad, and he now knows he's not alone and that he can still be successful in life."

**GIVING RISE TO
COLLEGE GRADUATES
COMMUNITY LEADERS
CULTURAL AMBASSADORS**

Mark your Calendar

- Due to last week's snow day an additional instructional day to will be added to the end of the school year to ensure students receive the full 178 instructional days on the district's calendar. Once approved by the Board CPS will move the final instructional day of the school year to June 19 and the final day for teachers to June 21.
- Parent Tea -- Thursdays, 8:45am, Peterson Cafeteria
- **President's Day -- NO SCHOOL-- February 19th**
- ACCESS Window Closes -- February 20th
- LSC Nominations Due -- February 20th
- 4th Grade Field Trip to the Field Museum -- February 20th
- 5th Grade Field Trip to MSI--February 20th
- My School, My Voice Window Opens -- February 20th
- Ageless Eyecare at Peterson -- February 21st to 23rd
- Kindergarten Field Trip to the Shedd Aquarium -- February 22nd
- No afterHours: After School PD -- February 22nd
- UNITY Through the Arts and Sciences -- February 23rd
- Box Tops Pick-Up -- February 26th

Congratulations, Mr. Golub!

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Golub on reaching the finalist phase of the Golden Apple Award selection process! The Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching recognize and honor outstanding teachers for their role in building a stronger, better-educated society. This year's finalists were selected from a pool of more than 600 nominations!

Congratulations, Mr. Golub on your well-deserved nomination, and thank you for helping to ensuring that all Peterson students reach their full potential.

If you would like to participate in a celebratory brunch for Mr. Golub and the other Golden Apple finalists on February 24, 2018, at the Rosemont Hilton in O'Hare from 10am to noon please purchase tickets using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y7w63o87>



LSC Elections

Are you interested in joining Peterson's Local School Council? LSC members play a vital role in decision-making at the local school level, thereby ensuring a quality education for all of the school's students. All parents, community members and school staff members who want to strengthen their local schools and have a positive impact on student achievement are encouraged to run. No experience or formal education is required. **The 2018 local school council elections will take place on Wednesday, April 18, 2018.** The term is for two years starting on July 1, 2018. Please review the letter attached to this newsletter for more information.

FRIENDS of Peterson Elementary

UNITY
THROUGH THE ARTS & SCIENCES

Donate funds to purchase an item teachers have requested for their classrooms from our Giving Trees! Choose from options from flexible seating to microscopes!

Let your creativity shine - make your very own button for only \$2!

Play Plinko for only \$3 and you are guaranteed to win a prize - possibilities include Peterson gear, family passes to the Museum of Contemporary Art, and even a chance to win a gift certificate to Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club!

There will be lots of opportunities to support the work of Friends of Peterson at Unity on Friday, February 23rd from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Stop by our tables outside the Cafeteria to learn more!

We Support Peterson Elementary School

Buy a car magnet or window cling for only \$5 and show your support for Peterson School.

STOP AT OUR TABLES DURING UNITY ON FEBRUARY 23, 2018!

Friends of Peterson is a non-profit organization that provides more opportunities for students at Peterson Elementary School by raising funds to support the school - www.friendsofpeterson.org

