

## PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

### Fall & Winter Sports Banquet

Come celebrate the efforts of the Fall and Winter sports including Girls/Boys Cross Country, Girls/Boys Volleyball, Boys Soccer, and Girls/Boys Basketball. Our players and coaches have had outstanding seasons and deserve to be celebrated! Families and parents of Winter and Fall Athletes are invited to attend. If you are unable to attend please sign the Fall Winter Sports Banquet permission form sent home with your child(ren). The banquet will take place next Friday, March 2nd, 2018, from 4pm to 5pm in the cafeteria.

### Important Announcement Regarding After School Pick Up

**Please note that beginning next Thursday, 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 third grade teacher Ms. Sara Skaggs.

"I was born in Hagerstown, MD, but we moved to Vernon Hills, IL, when I was four years old after my dad was transferred to a different position.

My aunt and uncle were teachers, as were my grandfather and step grandmother, so teaching has always been in the back of my mind. I didn't always want to be a teacher though. When I was in the 6th grade the Titanic was found, and I thought it was so amazing that it motivated me to want to be an oceanographer. I then realized I didn't want to go to college on the coast which ended that dream. I also wanted to be a pilot, but was misinformed that I had to have 20/20 vision and, as a result, didn't pursue it.

After going to Libertyville High School, I went to Purdue University where I began pursuing my teaching degree. After the first semester I decided to change degrees to pursue a career as a Child Life Specialist, which is someone who works in a hospital and teaches children about the surgery that they're about to have as well as the different instruments they might see. By my Junior year of college, I had developed Compartment Syndrome, which created difficulties with my legs. This required me to go to the hospital regularly which inadvertently made me realize I couldn't work there. I ended up majoring in Youth, Adult, and Family Development with a specialization in Child Health.

After college, I worked for Big Brothers and Big Sisters participating in programs that bussed kids to different schools to act as mentors for other kids. I really enjoyed helping the children, but by then I knew that I really wanted to be a teacher instead. I decided to go back to school and went to DePaul to get my Masters in Teacher.

I learned quickly that teaching is hard. I worked at a few different schools before I decided I wanted to be closer to home and be at school with a culturally diverse population. I subbed at Peterson for Mr. Brady and then was offered a position here. I taught 6th and 7th grade math, then 4th grade, and now 3rd grade for the past 5 years.

I love the teams at Peterson, the adults treat each other so nicely. I also found the diversity I was looking for. There are cultures at Peterson that I hadn't previously been exposed to and I truly appreciate that, as well as the intercultural exposure that students have with each other. We all get to learn about similarities and differences, and how we all fit together. I had my students watch the Olympics so they could see how people from different countries can live amongst one another.

I'm excited about training for my third marathon. I never thought this was something I could do, but when my dad had a really bad cycling accident, which prevented him from being active and doing the things he loved, I was motivated to take advantage of my ability to be active. Ms. Barnes and I initially joined a "Couch to 5k" running program which has turned me into a marathon runner!"



GIVING RISE TO  
COLLEGE GRADUATES  
COMMUNITY LEADERS  
CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

## Mark your Calendar

- Parent Tea -- Thursdays, 8:45am, Peterson Cafeteria
- UNITY Through the Arts and Sciences -- Tonight!
- Box Tops Pick-Up -- February 26th
- Mather IT Program Visiting Girls Who Code AM afterHours -- February 27th
- 8th Grade Sexual Health Education -- February 28th
- CIWP Meeting -- February 28th, 4pm to 5pm
- **New Afternoon Pick-Up Traffic Arrangement Begins -- March 1st**
- Fall and Winter Sports Banquet -- March 2nd 4pm to 5pm, Peterson Cafeteria
- LSC Nominations Due at Schools -- March 2nd
- PTA Meeting -- March 8th, 8:45 am to 9:45 am
- Third Grade Field Trip to see "Aesop's Fables" -- March 8th
- Quarter 3 Progress Report Distribution Day -- March 9th
- Daylight Savings Time Begins -- March 11th
- PARCC Testing at Peterson -- March 12th to March 23rd
- Peterson Local School Council Meeting -- March 14th, 6pm to 7pm

## Important Academic Calendar Update

Due to the snow day on Friday, February 9, 2018, an additional instructional day 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.**

## Basketball Games this Saturday

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade boys and girls basketball teams on reaching the conference semi-finals and to our 5th and 6th grade girls on reaching the conference championship game! Here is the schedule for this Saturday's games at Mather High School:

- 9:00 am: 7th/8th Grade Boys' Semifinals: #1 Peterson Bulls vs. #4 Palmer Warriors on Court 1
- 10:00 am: 7th/8th Grade Girls' Semifinals: #2 Palmer vs #3 Peterson on Court 2
- 11:00 am: 5th/6th Grade Girls' Championship: #1 Peterson vs #2 Sauganash on Court 1
- 1:00 pm: 7th/8th Grade Girls' Championship on Court 1
- 2:00 pm: 7th/8th Grade Boys Championship on Court 1

## LSC Nominations and 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. **Please note that LSC nominations are due next Friday, March 2, 2018.**

## Join Us Tonight For Unity!

**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!

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.

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!

**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](http://www.friendsofpeterson.org)