



PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. Community Leaders. Cultural Ambassadors.

Know Your Rights!

Alderman Margaret Laurino and the National Immigrant Justice Center invite you to: Know Your Rights.

Everyone living in the U.S. has certain basic rights under the U.S. Constitution—everyone, including people who are documented and undocumented.

The National Immigrant Justice Center will give a presentation on knowing your rights as an immigrant.

Please see the attached flyer for more information. **Join us on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Albany Park Library, 3401 W. Foster Ave.**

Girls on the Run Forms

Registration forms are coming home today for Girls on the Run, for girls in grades 3-5. Please complete and turn in the forms by Friday Feb 17th.

Participation is limited to the first 20 registrants. The program will run on Mondays/Tuesdays from 4-5:15. If the participant cannot make all practices, we ask her to not register. The program begins on March 6th and ending with a 5K in Grant Park on Saturday May 20th. Contact Mary Peer at marypeer@hotmail.com with questions.

Twitter: @MGPPrincipal

Good Evening Peterson Parents,

For this week's newsletter I'd like to continue with our "People of Peterson" series with Ms. Wendy MacWilliams.

"I was born and raised in Canada to a very relaxed family of six. Looking back now, my family had a huge influence on me and my career. My dad was a chemical engineer and we would go rock hunting. Eventually this would lead to my love of teaching science. As a child however, I grew up wanting to be a modern dancer and never dreamed of being a teacher. Looking back though, I realize I've been teaching ever since I was teenager when I started teaching ballet to smaller kids. I continued to teach ballet and modern dance, which is what brought me to the United States.

When my late husband passed away, I was left with a two year old who wouldn't stop crying, and so I decided to take parenting class. I took the class and fell in love with the place so much that I asked them for a job. My career to become a teacher took off from there! I continued working at the parenting center for five years. I then went back to school and received my education degree started working for Gladstone Elementary in 1999.

I came to Peterson after 4 years at Gladstone and I immediately fell in love with it. I taught Special Education here for several years, and then transitioned into teaching science. I love this community, I love these kids, and I just love the diversity. As a teacher, I strive to get the kids to constructively take over the classroom, think for themselves, and to get excited about life!"

Girls on the Run Volunteers Needed!

Girls on the Run is so much fun! The GOTR program is designed to empower girls in grades 3-5 to recognize their inner strength through a curriculum that inspires, instructs and trains. Positive emotional, social, mental and physical development are stressed through a curriculum of teaching and sport. This is a 10-week program that ends with participation in a lakefront 5K run. We are currently looking for coaches to allow this amazing program to happen at Peterson this spring. If you have an hour or two to build into the lives of our daughters, please contact Mary Peer at marypeer@hotmail.com.





Mark your Calendar

- Student and Teacher Window for My Voice My School Survey Open Until March 24th
- Quarter 2 Report Cards Sent Home -- Today
- Raven Theater Teaching in Rooms 111, 114, 115 & 122 -- February 13th
- PTA Meeting -- February 14th, 8:45 am
- NAEP Testing -- February 15th
- **NO afterHours Due to Staff Professional Development (Morning sessions will meet) -- February 15th**
- Unity Through the Arts Meeting--February 15th, 4:00 pm
- Green Team Meeting -- February 16th, 3:45 pm, room 204
- Box Top Collection -- February 16th
- 6th Grade Social --February 17th, 4:30 pm
- **NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day -- February 20th**
- BAC Academic Networks Meeting -- February 20th, 9:30 -11:30 am, *Funston Elementary 3616 W. Armitage*
- Sexual Health Education for Grades 5,6,7,8--February 21st
- Raven Theater Teaching in Rooms 111, 114, 115 & 122 -- February 21st
- 5th Grade Field Trip to the Adler Planetarium -- February 22nd
- Unity Through the Arts Meeting--February 22nd, 4:00 pm
- Sexual Health Education for Grades 5,6,7,8--February 24th
- **Unity Through the Arts and Sciences -- February 24th, 5:30 pm**
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- Raven Theater Teaching in

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Unity Through the Arts & Sciences

Get ready for Unity Through the Arts & Sciences 2017 on Friday, February 24th, from 5:30-7:30p! This FREE event for Peterson students, families and the community has something for everyone. Activities include an art gallery of Peterson Student art, student-led science activities, aerial dance will perform, community art, "Meet the Bot" with the Peterson robotics team, make & take art and more! Food sales to benefit the 8th grade class.

Please sign up to help at Unity Through the Arts and Sciences 2017!

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/P9XsWf>
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)
3. Sign up! Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy! If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Carmen Karnuth carmenkarnuth@yahoo.com and she can sign you up manually.

Extra Fabric Still Needed for Unity Project! There is a cardboard box inside the main door (#9) where you can drop them off or send Emily Berman (emilykberman@gmail.com) a message and she can coordinate a pick up.

Providing Support for Refugee Families New to Peterson

As part of making Peterson an even more welcoming environment for refugee families and assisting them with their children's transition to American schools, we are looking for a few families who would be willing to host refugee families new to Peterson. The commitment is a 1 hour training session followed by 1 hour a week for 12 weeks. The 1 hour per week commitment could consist of any of the following:

- Meeting with the family and getting to know them (using Simple English may be required)
- Making sure the family knows about upcoming school events (such as Unity in the Arts and Sciences, the High School Fair, or the Spring Concert) and taking them with you to the event
- Finding out if the students are interested in a particular sport or after school program, and making sure they are aware of the paperwork, sign it, and return it to school by the deadline
- Helping a student with their homework or letting them practice reading out loud to you
- Introducing them to families of children who are in their children's grade
- Taking a walking field trip to the library to help them get a library card, check out a book, and understand the return date the book is due by
- Other things as determined by you and the refugee family as you get to know them better

Anyone who is interested in being part of the pilot program, please contact Ms. Karla Holcomb at 773-539-1622.