

Peterson PTA, PAC & BAC Meeting

Date: September 20, 2018

Time: 8:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Total Present: 34

Celia Bergman, Rose Faburado, Mario Carney, Lloy Johnston, Olufolaw Fakuale, Caitlin Lassus, Salai Lay, Maria Ciccone, Jesse Perez, Andrea del Cuadro, Melissa Hernandez, Muhammed Salena, Marco Guoman, Anne Patel, Carmen Karnuth, Barbara Nordlund, Kirsten Havens, Joshua Havens, Bethany Elston, Whitney Norris, Jessica Rivera, Dan Santillan, Emy Santillan, Gaby Hasselquist, Rachida Dini, Sabeha Vohra, Sofa Hristoforatos, Melanie Shank, Lynda Gibson, Sarah Myers, Elizabeth Lucas, Catherine Korda, Megan Trinter

Peterson administrators & staff present: Kate Kane (Principal), Yalil Nieves (Assistant Principal), Nader Elmasri (Resident Principal), Mr. Deters (Technology Coordinator) & Ms. Alexa (Bilingual Coordinator)

There were 5 key agenda items for this meeting:

1. Title I and CIWP update
2. What are the groups at Peterson and what are their roles?
3. Ways to get involved (becoming a volunteer)
4. PTA financial updates
5. BAC officer elections

details for all agenda items are provided below

- The call to order and welcome was completed by PAC Chair, Catherine Korda and PTA President, Megan Trinter. Refreshments were provided for today's meeting.
- Kate Kane (Principal) & Yalil Nieves (Assistant Principal) provided a Title I update and overview of the Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP).
 - Peterson receives Title I funds because 75% of students at Peterson are considered low-income. All CPS schools receive different funding amounts each year which is partially based on number of students; Peterson also receives Title I and federal funds. Title I funds at Peterson are used predominately for teacher/staff positions so that Peterson can decrease class size, specifically keeping K-4 with approx. 25 students per class. These funds are also used to help with materials/supplies and parent involvement. It's important for families to complete income forms because that's how additional state and federal funds are awarded to Peterson. Ms. Rodriguez and other main office staff can assist parents with filling out the income form.
 - The CIWP is updated every other year and designed to outline what the school needs to work on to ensure that Peterson meets its goals. The three goals included on the current plan focus on 1) rigorous student tasks, 2) parent partnerships, and 3) student engagement and voice.
- The parent, staff, and community groups at Peterson are the PTA, PAC, FoP, BAC, and LSC.
 - The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) focuses on strengthening/building partnerships by hosting school and community events. PTA hosts events such as back to school picnics, book fair, international night, etc. Parents must sign-up each year to be PTA members (\$10 membership fee). Joshua & Kirsten Havens are currently in charge of PTA membership and there are 7 sponsored spots available for families unable to pay the \$10 membership fee. For more information, contact PTA President Megan Trinter.
 - The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) focuses on empowering and educating parents. PAC prioritizes educational programming by hosting events such as literacy night & math night, and presenting on topics such as understanding academic progress and test scores. Parents/caregivers

with a student at Peterson are automatically a member of PAC, there is no membership fee. Officer elections for PAC will take place during the October 4th meeting. For more information, contact PAC Chair Catherine Korda.

- Friends of Peterson (FoP) is a nonprofit organization that raises funds for Peterson. FoP allows teachers and the school to have additional opportunities and has raised over 300K, which goes directly to school. For more information, contact Catherine Korda.
 - The Bilingual Advisory Committee (BAC) was created to empower parents of English language learners and allow them to continue to advocate for students with language barriers. Services offered at Peterson to serve these families include transitional bilingual education, which allows students to receive native language instruction. Peterson is also working on offering ESL classes for parents/caregivers. Sign-up for ESL classes can be completed online. BAC meetings are usually scheduled at the same date/time as PAC meetings. For more information, contact Resident Principal Yalil Nieves or Bilingual Coordinator Ms. Alexa.
 - The Local School Council (LSC) is comprised of a group of elected officials helping with the vision of school, school budget, decisions about how funds are used, and evaluating the principal each year. The LSC also focuses on educational components of the school and helping to build the strategic plans for each year. The council meets approx 1x/month and includes admin, staff, parents, and community members. There is currently a parent position open. For more information, contact LSC President Lloy Johnston.
- Volunteers are always needed to help with school events, chaperone trips, or help in the classroom. To volunteer, all adults must complete the CPS online application (which includes a background check) and bring a copy of their ID to the main office. Parents that would like to volunteer in classrooms as parent coordinator can contact teachers directly but will also need to complete online CPS volunteer application. For access to the online application and more information on getting involved at Peterson, visit website: <http://www.peterson.cps.edu/volunteer/>
 - The 2018-2019 PTA Budget was discussed by PTA Treasurer Maria Ciccone. A copy of the budget was distributed for review and approved by PTA members in attendance during today's meeting. PTA earns money through membership dues, book fair, box tops, apparel sales, and international night. Changes to the budget for the current year include increase in funds for refreshments & hospitality, increase in funding allotted for international night, and possible funding for art/after-school programming. Gaby Hasselquist gave an update on this year's book fair. For the book fair, \$8,000 was raised this year (\$1000 profit to school) compared to \$10,000 raised last year. Approximately \$1,000 was donated for books for teachers.
 - 2018-2019 Elected BAC Officers
 - President: Andrea del Cuadro
 - Vice President: Whitney Norris
 - Secretary: Jessica Rivera
 - Representative: Sarah Myers
 - Alternative Representative: Elizabeth Lucas

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 9/20 LSC Meeting 6:30PM in STEM Room
- 9/27 Pastries with the Principals 9AM Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club
- 10/4 PAC Meeting 8:45AM—Topic: Understanding your child's academic progress
- 10/11 PTA Meeting 8:45AM
- 10/18 Math Night 5:30-7:30PM (volunteers needed, contact Catherine Korda)
- 10/26 International Night 5:30-7:30PM (volunteers needed, contact Arielle Dachman)