

# PETERSON PARENT PERIODICAL

College Graduates. | Community Leaders. | Cultural Ambassadors.

## Updated Calendar for School Year 2017-2018

The CPS Board of Education has amended the academic calendar to account for the February 11, 2018, snow day. The amendment shifted the calendar by one day *so that June 19, 2018, becomes the final day of student attendance.*

## Chicago Early Learning Preschool Application Updates

The 2018-2019 Chicago Early Learning Preschool Application is now open!! Please go to to [chicagoearlylearning.org](http://chicagoearlylearning.org) to apply.

## Kindergarten Registration at Peterson

Kindergarten Registration at Peterson will take place the week of May 14, 2018. Families may register at any time during the school day, or at the following before and after-school times: 1) 5-14-18 and 5-16-18 from 5pm to 7pm; 2) 5-15-18 and 5-18-18 from 7am to 8am; and 3) 5-17-18 from 4pm to 5pm. Kindergarten Orientation will on 5-17-18 from 5pm to 7pm.

Hello Peterson Families,

I would like to introduce you to the Person of Peterson for this week: Ms. Jenna Brandon.

"I grew up in Rogers Park until kindergarten, and then we moved to Arlington Heights.

I was in dance my entire life, doing ballet, tap, and jazz all the way through college. I was very quiet as a child, and dance was a way to express myself. I still take dance classes, mostly hip-hop and modern classes.

I'm also a big foodie. I grew up around food. My mom managed a bakery when I was younger, and I would go to work with her in the summer at 4:30am. My dad is a chef and my mom is a restaurateur.

Growing up, I debated between being a doctor and a special education teacher. My passion for special education came from my little brother Mitchell, who has Down Syndrome. He had a lot of surgeries when he was really young, and I became very protective of him when we were growing up. He didn't speak for a very long time, so when I was six or seven, I picked up a sign language book and started teaching it to him. I wanted him to advocate for himself. Right now, he is doing great. He's going to the Special Olympics State Championship for weight lifting, and he just finished playing the Scarecrow in an adult production of the Wizard of Oz.

I ultimately decided to go into Special Education, and I made the right choice. I loved the program at Illinois State University and it reaffirmed my decision.

I started working at Little Village High School, and then the elementary school down the street, Zapata. I taught at Zapata for five years and loved the community relationships, but it was time for a change. I was really looking for a school that was about inclusion and diversity, and Peterson valued both immensely. It's so good to see kids at a young age be with peers who are different than them."





## **Upcoming Dates**

5-7-18 to 5-11-18: Educator Appreciation Week

5-7-18: Final 8th Grade Pictures Posted Online for Viewing

5-7-18: REACH Performance Task End of Year Window Opens

5-8-18: Spring Music Assembly at Peterson 3, 4, 5

5-9-18: Spring Music Assembly at Peterson 6, 7, 8

5-10-18: K Field Trip to Peggy Notebaert Museum

5-10-18: Spring Concert at Northside College Prep at 6pm

5-11-18: 7th and 8th Grade Dance 6pm to 9pm

5-12-18: Family Green Day at Peterson

5-12-18: 5/6 Girls Soccer at Winnemac Park at 8am

5-12-18: Track & Field Practice Meet @ Lane Tech HS at 9am

5-12-18: 7/8 Girls Soccer at Winnemac Park at 10am

5-12-18: 5/6 Coed Floor Hockey at Kelvyn Park HS at 11am

## **Educator Appreciation Week**

National Educator Appreciation week is May 7, 2018, through May 11, 2018! The PTA is working hard to celebrate ALL Peterson educators that week, and we need help from all kids and adults. Please plan to write notes with thanks and thoughtful words to anyone who makes a difference in the life of your child at Peterson. A box for note collection for Peterson educators will be located in the main office until Thursday May 10, 2018. Interested in helping with other educator appreciation tasks? Please email PTA President Megan Trinter at [megantrinter@gmail.com](mailto:megantrinter@gmail.com).

## **Spring Concert at Northside College Prep**

Peterson's Spring Music Concert is coming up on Thursday, May 10, 2018, at Northside College Prep High School. As it is on a school night, the concert will be starting at 6:00pm. Tickets are on sale now through the main office, through Mr. Villevik or through Ms. Altshuler. Only 500 tickets will be sold for the concert, so please be sure buy your tickets early!

## **Family Green Day**

Please join us for Family Green Day at Peterson on Saturday, May 12, 2018, from 10am to 12pm. This celebration of community and the environment will provide many opportunities for families to help spruce up the school grounds for spring, including picking up trash, spreading wood chips, and planting. All ages are welcome! This fun day will include volunteers from Mighty Acorns and North Park Village Nature Center. There will also be a STEM table, nature themed activities, and refreshments. Please check in at the information table on the plaza that morning. Please bring gloves and a rake.

## **Volunteers Needed: Career Fair**

Hey Peterson Parents! Would you be interested in talking to our students about your job or career? Our 5th annual career fair is quickly approaching and we are in need of volunteer presenters. The date of the event is Wednesday, May 16, 2018. If you would like to participate, please email Ms. Martino at [clmartino@cps.edu](mailto:clmartino@cps.edu) or Mr. Coleman at [mscoleman3@cps.edu](mailto:mscoleman3@cps.edu).