PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: MRS. LORI PAVLIK • ASST. PRINCIPALS: MR. CHRISTIAN LESNETT AND MRS. APRIL RAGLAND DEAN OF COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS: MRS. LEYNA STEFFEN

August 13, 2018

Dear Peters Township High School Students and Families:

Welcome to Peters Township High School and the 2018 – 2019 School Year. The first day of school for students is Wednesday, August 22, 2017. We are excited to announce this year's theme: *Kindness Matters*. The pressures faced by our students as they discover who they are and make decisions about their future all while navigating a world dictated by the speed and anonymity of social media are great. We are partnering with Character Counts to bring the Rachel's Challenge program to Peters Township. This program is designed to empower our students to replace acts of violence, bullying, and negativity with acts of respect, kindness, and compassion. Mark your calendar for the community kick-off of Rachel's Challenge on September 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at The Bible Chapel. For more information, see <u>Rachel's Challenge</u> on the district website.

Carrying the theme of *Kindness Matters* to our new students, our Student Ambassador Crew is starting a new welcoming tradition for new students. Freshman and New Student Orientation day is on Tuesday, August 14th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 p.m. Each freshman and new student will be paired with a group of friendly and positive upperclassman that will continue to meet with them quarterly throughout the year. An orientation for the parents of new students will be held the following day, Wednesday, August 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Parents will have an opportunity to meet in small groups with their child's high school counselor.

New to the 2018-2019 School Year is a comprehensive <u>Academic Integrity Policy</u>. Please take a few moments to review this policy with your child by clicking the hyperlink. This Policy is the result of a collaborative effort with teachers, students, parents, administrators and the School Board to promote honest scholarship and clarity of shared learning. Each student is expected to sign the PT Honor Code for their independent work including assessments.

Student schedules will be viewable through PowerSchool on August 14, 2018. Student schedules have been carefully created to ensure balanced and equitable classes. For this reason, preference changes associated with teacher, periods, or course sections are not permitted to individual schedules. The Counseling Office will be open for students, who may have a missing required course or a scheduling conflict, on August 17 and August 20, 2018. Any upperclassmen, who would like to walk their schedule, are welcome to do so on these two days. Please note that teachers will be unavailable on these days due to attendance at professional development trainings.

We have a new safety and security procedure in place this year. Parents, who are bringing in forgotten items during the school day, will now be screened in through our Raptor Security System and will bring the item to the main office of the school. At that time, your child will be called down from class to retrieve the item from you. We ask that these interruptions to the school day be kept to necessary items only. We strongly discourage parents from bringing food to their child(ren) during the school day – and students are not permitted to order food to be delivered to the high school. Our food service provides coffee and breakfast in the morning and lunch in the cafeteria daily. Students are always welcome to pack a lunch. We appreciate your understanding as the safety of our students and staff are a top priority.

Seniors will be receiving communication regarding the college application process. This communication will include clear directions on the use of Naviance and transcript requests. Please note that all senior transcripts will be sent on September 5, 2018 to the colleges students have indicated. This process allows for any changes

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to courses that may occur during the add/drop period. For specific needs, please contact your child's counselor.

Finally, as we strive to create and maintain an atmosphere characterized by respect, we recognize that appearance is one of the first and most significant ways that we communicate that respect. While we support a student's individuality and freedom of expression, we must consider our role in promoting a positive school culture and preparing students for appropriate presentation of themselves. **Please talk with your child about appropriate dress and plan accordingly**. We will ask students to change or call home for a change of clothes if a violation occurs.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Education,

Lori A. Pavlik, Principal