



October 16, 2020

I wish each of you a happy Friday. There are many things going on this time of year, so to help keep this newsletter a bit shorter, I'll jump right in them for you. See below:

**Seeking a Parent to Parent Leota Rep:** To support our work to strengthen the vital partnerships with families during remote learning, the NSD technology department is developing a program where parents will be empowered to be key communicators with schools in the area of support for use of Clever, Schoology, Zoom, home networks, and basic device usage. The details of the position are below and if you are interested, please contact Audee Gregor at [agregor@nsd.org](mailto:agregor@nsd.org). We must submit our parent rep by Wednesday, October 21st, so please contact me by end of day Monday, October 19th.

- Be a conduit to and from the Technology Department in relaying information about services and resources to support families in their use of Clever, Schoology, and Zoom
- Use a variety of means to share information with families: social media, email, phone, and video conferencing tools
- Inform the Technology Department of any emerging issues reported by families related to the systems being used for remote learning
- Assist families in basic troubleshooting related to home networks and basic device usage
- Participate in a Schoology-based Parent Group to share information and ideas
- Commit to supporting in this role through the end of the semester (January 22, 2021)
- Complete an online NSD volunteer application
- Selection considerations will include, but will not be limited to the following:
  - Parent has the ability to share information easily and readily using a variety of means
  - Parent has connections with a variety of parent groups and communities within the school service area
  - Parent has the ability to speak or communicate in multiple languages
  - Parent has demonstrated that they can be patient and calm when taking in information from other parents
  - Parent has ability to share information objectively and without personal bias

**End of Quarter:** First quarter ends on October 30th. Please consider jumping into StudentVue or ParentVue and Schoology with your child to be sure there are no missing assignments, or things that need completed as we are now down to two weeks of instruction before quarter grades come to a close. Remember that all 6th graders in quarter electives will see a final grade for those quarter classes. In all other classes, students will receive mid-term progress reports. Progress reports will be mailed home after the quarter ends on October 30th.

**Materials Pick-Up for Second Quarter:** Be watching for more information coming soon about our pick-up days for any classes that will be distributing materials for second quarter. Teachers will communicate with their students if they need to come pick up materials for their particular class. Mark your calendar for the following:

- Wednesday, October 28th (using the bus loop):
  - Last names beginning with A-K from 10:00am-12:00pm
  - Last names beginning with L-P from 12:00pm-2:00pm
  - Last names beginning with Q-Z from 2:00pm-4:00pm
- Make-up days are as follows (using the main office):
  - Thursday, October 29th from 2:00pm-6:00pm
  - Friday, October 30th from 12:00pm-3:00pm

**Clubs:** We have a variety of clubs that all students can join. These clubs are still open so if your student wants to participate, please encourage them to join. Some clubs, simply by the nature of their content, may close soon as competitions begin. All clubs occur on Wednesdays and your child can join by following the detailed instructions provided in the Monday/Thursday morning announcement slides shown during homeroom. The following clubs occur on the following days (as new clubs are added, they will be advertised in the morning announcement slides as well):

- 1st Wednesday of each month:
  - WEB (All 6th graders and WEB leaders attend. Zoom links are sent to 6th graders in advance of each event.)
    - Advisors: Tianna Flowers, Tamara Kelly, Valerie Olson, Linda Nelson
- 2nd Wednesday:
  - ASB (only elected ASB members attend this club)
    - Advisors: Suzi Miller and Tracy Westberg
  - Yearbook Club
    - Advisor: Tamara Kelly
- 3rd Wednesday:
  - Future Problem Solvers
    - Advisor: Matt Bohannon
- 4th Wednesday of each month:
  - Drama Club
    - Advisor: Doug Poage
- Every Wednesday:
  - Game Room Club
    - Advisors: Taryn Bakkane, James Kim, Erin Palmer, and Angela Waggoner

- The sign-ups for this one is slightly different. Students who indicate interest on their Working Wednesday plan will be mailed the Zoom link mid-morning by counselors.
- Honor Society – If your child wants to be in Honor Society, please have them join the Honor Society Schoology Group. Instructions to join are in the morning announcements during homeroom. Final details for Honor Society application requirements and process are being finalized and will be advertised soon.

#### **PTSA:**

- **Open Positions – Please Consider:** PTSA at Leota is a wonderful and strong ally in our work for kids. Currently there are two positions that are unfilled—*Communications, VP, and Reflections Chair (minimal work due to Reflections being virtual this year)*. If you are interested in one of these dynamic, fun, collaborative, exciting positions, please contact our PTSA via their website: <http://leotapta.com/Home>
- **Upcoming Fund Drive:** Please be watching for more information to come home soon. The kickoff for our annual ASB/PTSA Fund Drive is October 19th.

**Northshore Schools Foundation – Seeking Ambassador for Leota:** The Northshore Schools Foundation does amazing work on behalf of NSD students and families. Each school has an Ambassador to aid in this work. Leota currently does not have an Ambassador. If you are interested in filling this role you can find more information at the following link: <https://www.northshoreschoolsfoundation.org/join-us/#beanambassador>

**National Hispanic Heritage Month:** September 15th through October 15th is National Hispanic Heritage Month where we honor the many generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society.

**Wednesday, October 21st:** Each Wednesday is an early release day. Students should check in with their 4th period teacher from 8:30-8:50. Attendance on all Wednesdays is required and will be taken either live during the 8:30 check-in or asynchronously by verifying each student's Working Wednesday plan, which they complete each Wednesday via Google Form. Students will complete their individualized learning plan with support from their teacher. The school day for students will end at 1:35.

Have a wonderful weekend and as always, thank you for sending us the very best students ever!

Warmly,

Audee Gregor  
Principal

Happy Friday to you! In this weekly bulletin, you will see:

- Next Week at Leota
- Withdrawal Process
- Leota's Counseling Corner
- Library Curbside Checkout
- Leota PTSA Weekly Update



<b>Next Week at Leota</b>
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Oct. 19	Periods 1, 2, 3 PTSA Pave The Way Together Annual Giving Fund Kickoff (Runs through Nov 6)
Oct. 20	Periods 4, 5, 6
Oct. 21	Period 4 (8:30-8:50am) Check-in & Students Complete Working Wednesday Plan Early Release-School Day Ends at 1:35pm Library Book Check out 11-2pm (See detailed info below)
Oct. 22	Periods 1, 2, 3
Oct. 23	Periods 4, 5, 6

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**Withdrawal Process:**

If you are going to be withdrawing from Leota, please contact our school registrar, Mary Hayes, [mhayes@nsd.org](mailto:mhayes@nsd.org), so she can make your transition to your new school as seamless as possible. Please try give one week's notice to allow for time to process the withdrawal. If you are going to be homeschooling, parents need to file a Declaration of Intent to Homeschool. Our registrar can assist you with the declaration form as well.

Once you contact our registrar, she will provide the necessary withdrawal forms to be filled out and returned to her. All textbooks as well as district-issued technology including computers/iPads, hotspots, and all charging cables and power bricks need to be turned in at the time of withdrawal. Fines will be issued for the full replacement cost

of unreturned technology equipment (including chargers and cables). Our registrar will provide a list of items checked out to your student and facilitate the return.

### Leota's Counseling Corner



We are already in October! October is Bullying Prevention Month. Unfortunately, many students have experienced some form of bullying: physical, verbal, emotional, social isolation, and cyber, etc. We hope this month's newsletter will heighten our awareness of bullying and what we can do to stop it!

Along with bullying, Leota Counselors are available to meet virtually with you or your student if they are struggling with academic, social, or emotional issues. We look forward to supporting you and your student.

You or your student can schedule time directly with their school counselor through email. Please refer to our [website](#) to find out more about our program and contact information.

#### LMS Counseling Team:



Angela Waggoner  
(Tuesday - Friday)  
6th Grade (A-L)  
[awaggoner@nsd.org](mailto:awaggoner@nsd.org)  
425.408.6520



James Kim  
(Monday - Wednesday)  
6th Grade (M-Z)  
[jkim@nsd.org](mailto:jkim@nsd.org)  
425.408.6588



Taryn Bakkane  
7th Grade  
[tbakkane@nsd.org](mailto:tbakkane@nsd.org)  
425.408.6513



Erin Palmer  
8th Grade  
[epalmer@nsd.org](mailto:epalmer@nsd.org)  
425.408.6521

**October is Bullying Prevention Month**



**What does BULLYING look like in Middle School:**

*Taking screen shots in remote classes and then posting photos or comments on social media to make fun of other students – their house, bedroom, clothing, hairstyle etc.*

*Starting rumors about other students*

*Using social media to say mean things about another student in a very public and embarrassing manner*

*Hearing a rumor and then sharing it with other people*

*Teasing someone repeatedly but saying it's ok because "we're just having fun"*

*Focusing and commenting on differences in people in ways that leave them feeling "less than"*

*Specifically excluding one person from invitations, plans, classroom groups.*

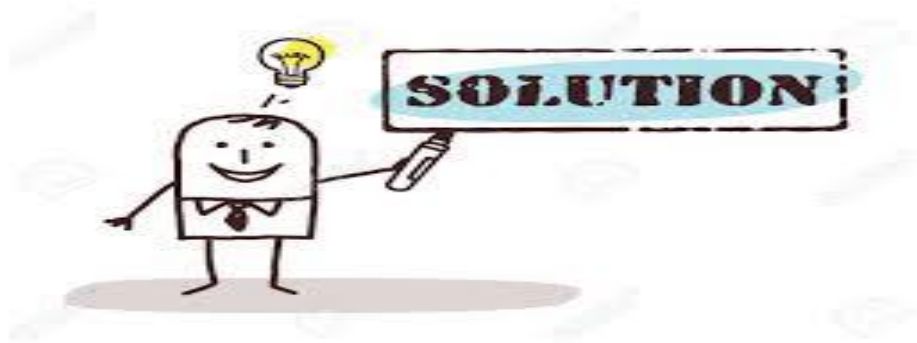


**The solution to bullying can be as simple as**  
**One Person Saying:**

**I don't want to be involved in treating people in a mean way**  
**I don't want to participate in making people feel bad**



**I want people to feel included and welcome**



**Want to help prevent bullying?**

**Here are some examples of things YOU can do to send a message of INTOLERANCE for bullying:**

**Week of October 5th (World Day of Bullying Prevention is Monday, 10/5/20)**

- Wear Blue to Support the Cause
- Smile, say hello, or introduce yourself to someone you don't know (maybe in a breakout room?)
- Challenge others to be kind if you observe behavior that isn't very kind
- Think of ways to reach out to students who might be feeling isolated

**Week of October 12th: STAND UP FOR OTHERS WEEK**

- Celebrate the differences and similarities amongst different cultures at our school
- Create some positive messages to send to other students
- Create anti-bullying videos or inspirational stories and share them on the
- [STOMP Out Bullying site](#)

**Week of October 19th: WEEK OF INCLUSION**

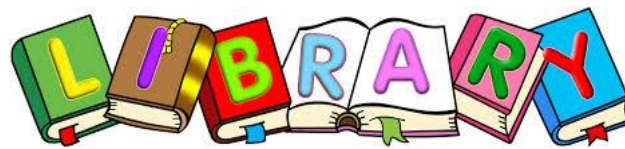
- Think about ways to reach out to students who might have become disengaged since distance learning began – and then try out one of your ideas!!
- Reach out to students not involved in school activities – and invite them
- Use the Hashtag **#HereForYou** to let classmates/students know they have your support if they need to talk to someone

**Week of October 26th: START THE WEEK WITH CONVERSATIONS AMONGST YOUR PEERS**

- Share with teachers, counselors, administrators – ideas for ways to improve the culture in our school.
- Use the [Student Participation Toolkit](#) to begin conversations on how our school can be judgement and bully free
- Use classroom opportunities to write or speak about your own experiences with bullying and cyberbullying and how those experiences have affected you.

## ALWAYS

- Be an **UPSTANDER** and speak up for victims and those who can't stand up for themselves!!!
- Focus on what you like about others not what you don't like. A compliment is nice to give and a compliment is nice to receive!!!



Leota Lions are readers! The Curbside Pickup/Book Bus Delivery is off to a great start. Over 80 students have already requested print books in the last two weeks. Your student can request books each week using the [Book Request Form](#) for curbside pick up on Wednesdays from 11-2 at the Leota main office or for delivery Fridays at a prearranged [Book Bus Location](#). Questions? Contact Mrs. Repp at [krepp@nsd.org](mailto:krepp@nsd.org).





### Leota Office Contact Info

Office Manager Felicia Casolary: [fcasolary@nsd.org](mailto:fcasolary@nsd.org)  
ASB Secretary Melanie Spencer: [mspencer@nsd.org](mailto:mspencer@nsd.org)  
Attendance Secretaries: Barb Roetcisoender: [broetcisoender@nsd.org](mailto:broetcisoender@nsd.org);  
Patricia Bong: [pbong@nsd.org](mailto:pbong@nsd.org)  
Attendance Email: [Lmsattendance@nsd.org](mailto:Lmsattendance@nsd.org)  
School Registrar Mary Hayes: [mhayes@nsd.org](mailto:mhayes@nsd.org)  
School Nurse Deb Park: [dpark@nsd.org](mailto:dpark@nsd.org)  
Principal Audee Gregor: [agregor@nsd.org](mailto:agregor@nsd.org)



Weekly Update

October 15, 2020

### Upcoming Events

10/19-11/6	Pave The Way Together Annual Giving Fund
10/24-25	WA State PTA Legislative Assembly (Virtual) – Includes Classes and Meeting with Legislators just for Students (\$25) – <a href="#">Register Today</a>
10/31	Membership: Help us reach our goal by signing up you and your student up for a membership. (See Below)
11/20	Reflections virtual submission deadline. Email link or high def image of submission to <a href="mailto:reflections@leotaptsa.com">reflections@leotaptsa.com</a> . Ensure you receive confirmation.
	Sign Up for Staff Appreciation: <a href="mailto:staffappreciaiton@leotaptsa.com">staffappreciaiton@leotaptsa.com</a>
	Sign Up for Science Olympiad Club: <a href="mailto:scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com">scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com</a>
<b>NEW</b>	Sign Up for Math Olympiad Club: <a href="mailto:matholympiad@leotaptsa.com">matholympiad@leotaptsa.com</a>
	Participate in Reflections Art Program (See Below) <b>Volunteer Chair Needed</b>

**PTSA Mission: Make Every Child's Potential A Reality!**


## Paving the Way Together Annual Fund: 10/19 – 11/06

**WHY are we raising funds?** Because we want to continue providing educational programs, experiences, sports, arts and grants far above basic education even in this virtual environment. All kids are welcome to use and benefit from these programs.

**WHY are PTSA and ASB combining forces?** Because we want to make it clearer and easier than it has ever been while slashing the cost to raise funds by over 90%.

**WHY are we asking for \$25 per student?** Because Leota PTSA and ASB are committed to creating a school that provides excellence and opportunity for ALL students. \$25 per student maintains all the virtual programs for this year. There are 4 ways to help reach this goal. They are membership, sponsorship, corporate matching and direct donations to the Annual Fund. Please consider sponsoring a teacher or parent membership.

**How Can I participate?** There are two ways to participate. Option 1 is able to accept membership + sponsorship + Corporate Matching + Donations through the [www.leotaptsa.com](http://www.leotaptsa.com) website. For Option 2, a separate website has been set up on a platform called 99pledges that will accept donations and allow you to engage friends and family to participate. On Monday, October 19, each family that has not opted out of information sharing will have a link sent to them



# LEOTA PTSA ANNUAL FUND

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE— NOW THROUGH NOV 6**

Membership  
leotaptsa.com

+

Sponsorship  
leotaptsa.com

+

Corporate  
Matching  
contact@leotaptsa.com

+

Donate to  
Annual Fund  
[www.leotaptsa.com now](http://www.leotaptsa.com now)  
99Pledges link in  
October

=

**\$25**  
Per Student  
Need

**Option 1: Leota PTSA**  
Membership + Sponsorship + Corporate Matching +  
Donations can be made at:  
[\*\*www.leotaptsa.com \(today\)\*\*](http://www.leotaptsa.com (today))

**Option 2: 99Pledges**  
Donations + Ask Friends and Family to Participate +  
Follow Individual and Pride Level Totals at:  
[\*\*Available October 19\*\*](#)

Note: Qualifying purchases made on [www.leotaptsa.com](http://www.leotaptsa.com) will be added to the rewards totals on the 99Pledges website.  
ALL DONATIONS ABOVE \$25 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS IN NEED.

**MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT WITH CORPORATE MATCHING**



**Many programs have gone VIRTUAL...**



[Join the \(NEW\) Math Olympiad Club](#)

Why is the obtuse triangle always upset? \*

How do you keep warm in a cold room? \*

Why do you get bored when talking to pi? \*

What do you get when you take the sun and divide its circumference by its diameter? \*

Do you love math? Math is always fun. Math helps develop reasoning, concentration, and practicality. By investing time in Math, you are simply investing in your future—not just your math classes, but real-life situations as well.

Hello, we (Gomathi and Niraj) are chair of this year's Math Club at Leota. The charter of this club is to enroll Leota teams to some of the math Olympiad competitions happening around the area. Become a member of this club to get details on the competitions we will be participating. Each competition will have a separate signup as registration opens.

The Math club is not classroom or a teacher-led activity. It is a student-directed, parent-mentored activity. Parents should be prepared to assist with their child's participation. Possible activities include scheduling study time, finding new/enriching resources and arranging meetings with teammates. Coordinating efforts between similar events is encouraged and at the parent's discretion. Parents and students will be asked to agree to a Code of Conduct to participate.

So, what are benefits of joining Math Club

### ***Math Buddy group***

We are bringing together like-minded kids who share similar passion. In this student directed parent guided opportunity, both students and parents will have opportunities to do fun math quiz, share brain teasers to stimulate the brain. You can post your questions and queries with other math enthusiasts in the club and they will be more than happy to help you out.

### ***Practice Makes Perfect***

We have learned this simple idea that practice makes things perfect. It is even more true with Math where; with practice your line of thought will be tweaked, and you have the vision to the right solution.

### ***Wonderful Memories***

Joining math clubs makes wonderful memories; you will form teams work together, aim together on some of the most exciting Olympiads and tournaments. And all of it while you develop some teamwork skills



## *Skills for the Future*

By being a part of Math club, by using the opportunity to participate and compete in Math programs, you will gain confidence, learn from your mistakes, and know what it feels like to be pressured. The outside world is competitive, and you are getting ready for it a little earlier while also having fun with your friends. You have earned the ability to understand the new math skills very quickly.

This will help you throughout rest of your life as you go into taking the SAT, ACT, GRE, etc. And if you do decide to join math clubs and compete, practice! And practice diligently. All these things put together will make you stand out and put you among some of the best problem solvers in the world.

The first competition we are participating is <http://moems.org/>. As enrollment begins for other competitions, we will probably compete in a few more like <http://academicsarecool.com/#/home>, <http://www.wsmc.net/math-olympiad/>, <https://www.blainesd.org/o/blaine-school-district/page/math-championships--3>.

Registration will be open to all grade levels. However, as everyone's safety is top priority, the Math Club will operate in a modified format this year. The details are still being finalized so please get on the mailing list to get more information as soon as it comes available.

Any parents interested in volunteering as a coach, please reach out to us at your earliest convenience at [matholympiad@leotaptsa.com](mailto:matholympiad@leotaptsa.com).

- \* Because it is never right.
- \* Go to the corner because it is always 90 degrees.
- \* Because it goes on forever.
- \* A pi in the sky.

## Science Olympiad: Sign Up



**EXPLORE THE DYNAMIC  
WORLD OF STEM!**

**JOIN OUR CLUB, & DIVE  
INTO TOPICS SUCH AS:**

- **GEOLOGY**
- **CHEMISTRY**
- **ENGINEERING**
- **TECHNOLOGY**

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:  
SCIENCEOLYMPIAD@LEOTAPTA.COM**

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD CLUB**

Explore a variety of topics and have fun while learning about science by joining the Science Olympiad! Become a disease detective and solve medical mysteries by examining the details. Apply STEM skills to help build a robust boomilever. Craft a battery buggy that defies speed yet can run precisely to the millimeter. Try missions like these and more by participating in the 2020-2021 Science Olympiad! With almost 25 different topics included in the curriculum, participants will delve deeply into a variety of scientific topics and learn to develop and apply creative and innovative ideas. This is a great opportunity for students to apply book learning to hands-on experiments and see scientific lessons in action. Learn more at: <https://www.soinc.org/>

The Science Olympiad is not classroom or a teacher-led activity. It is a student-directed, parent-mentored activity. Parents should be prepared to assist with their child's participation. Possible activities include: scheduling study time, finding new/enriching resources, purchasing supplies, perfecting designs, arranging meetings with local experts or hosting build parties. Coordinating efforts between similar events is encouraged and at the parent's discretion. Parents and students will be asked to agree to a Code of Conduct to participate.

Any parents interested in volunteering as coach, please reach out to me at your earliest convenience at [scienceolympiad@leotapta.com](mailto:scienceolympiad@leotapta.com). A science background is not necessary to coach.



### HAVE YOUR PTSA MEMBERSHIP?

We invite you to become a member of the Leota PTSA at [www.leotaptsa.com](http://www.leotaptsa.com).

**LEOTA  
PTSA**

## Membership

Your membership is very important to investing in students:

- Direct classroom grants to enrich educational outcomes
- Strong show of support for PTSA volunteers, community, and advocating for ALL students.
- Provides voice and vote in programs offered at Leota
- Voting rights at Washington State and National PTA level
- Over \$500 in member discounts
- 100% tax deductible



**members  
get it!**

Get your membership today  
at [www.leotaptsa.com](http://www.leotaptsa.com)

### Participate in This Year's Reflections Program by 11/20

**PTA Reflections** is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home. It helps students explore their own thoughts, feelings, and ideas; develop artistic literacy; increase confidence; and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful not only in school but in life.

**Enter your art this year!** The theme for this year is "I Matter Because..." and categories for submissions include: Visual Arts, Literature, Photography, Music Composition, Film/Video, and Choreography/Dance.

Student winners from our school have the opportunity to move up through their school, district, region council and state PTA programs to the national level. National Reflections winners are announced in May and celebrated annual at the National PTA's Convention and Expo in June. National PTA then collects and curates the traveling exhibit for the next year. The deadline for submissions this year is mid-November.

More information at: <http://www.northshorecouncilptsa.org/reflections.html>

### Make your volunteers hours count!

#### **Did You Know Your Company May Donate When You Volunteer?**

Many companies will donate for hours volunteered in addition to matching financial donations. Please check with your company to see if you have a dollars for doers or

similar volunteer hours matching program and take a few minutes to register your hours towards a Leota Middle School PTSA donation.

### **Amazon Smile is Also A Great Way to Donate**

Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> all year long, every time you are making purchases with Amazon. Whenever a purchase is made with Leota PTSA as the beneficiary, Amazon will send us a donation. Be sure to select Leota PTSA as your beneficiary.

### **Join the Leota PTSA Volunteer and Info Facebook Group**

Join our Leota PTSA Volunteers and Info closed Facebook group if you would like to hear more about volunteer opportunities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeotaPTSAVolunteers/>.

There is no requirement to volunteer. By joining, we hope you feel part of the Leota parent community and are better informed about what is happening at our school.