

January 22, 2021

Dear Leota Families,

Happy last day of first semester! In many ways it feels like a lifetime ago that we started this school year and in other ways it feels like we just began. The inability to be together on campus with all our amazing students has cause discombobulation of time and space. I know we all long for the day we can return to in-person learning. I wish I had new updates, but want you to know that the minute we know any new information, both the district and myself will relay it to you. Thank you for your partnership with us as we maneuver these times. I want to humbly express my deep gratitude for such a supportive, caring, and kind Leota community! My desire is to not only express, but live with gratitude. The quote below drives me in this effort.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." ~ John F. Kennedy

Please remember that we begin second semester on Tuesday, January 26th (there is not school on Monday so teachers can finalize grades). All students received a copy of their schedule in the materials bag that was available for pick-up the last few days. If you missed the event, please be sure to give our office a call and arrange a time to come by school and pick it up for your child. In this bag, along with their schedule, are all new materials they will need to start second semester. Also, as a reminder, all grades reset to begin second semester and students begin with a clean slate. Help us encourage your child to start strong! They've got this!! If your child has a new class, for example a new elective, be sure they have their Zooms ready to go for Tuesday.

Bell Schedule Change on Tuesday, January 26th: Students will attend all six periods this coming Tuesday. Please help remind your child about these changes. They have also been informed several times this week via our morning announcement slides and their teachers.

7:30-8:30	Special Services Optional Flex Time	
8:30-8:50	Homeroom in Period 1	
8:50-9:25	Period 1	
9:35-10:10	Period 2	
10:30-11:05	Period 3	
11:15-11:50	Period 4	
11:50-12:55	Lunch	
12:55-1:30	Period 5	
1:40-2:15	Period 6	
2:15-3:05	Open Office Hours	
3:05-4:05	Special Services Optional Flex Time	
Green = go to class on zoom		
Blue = office hours scheduled by student or teacher		

Phone Outages: The district phone system was upgraded over the weekend and early this week which resulted in some lost messages. Thus, if you left a message during this time, we may not have received it. If you called, especially to report or excuse your child's absence, please check in ParentVue or contact our attendance office again at lmsattendance@nsd.org to see if it's been taken care. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Last Chance to Buy a Yearbook: February 1st-21st will be our final sales window to purchase a yearbook for the 2020-2021 school year. Our yearbook advisor and a fabulous group of students are compiling an amazing yearbook. Yes, even in a pandemic, we will have a wonderful book that will be treasured for years to come. Unfortunately, since the yearbook company has scaled back on "extra copies" there won't be additional copies for purchase if you forget, so buy one now! Be watching for more information to come out soon. Don't miss out!

Final Stu Cabe Assembly: February 3rd will be our third and final assembly with Stu Cabe beginning at 9:00am. This message is the one that made him famous and you definitely don't want to miss it. It's powerful—a message which students who heard him many years ago when he spoke at Leota still remember and refer to. Mark your calendars and please be sure to have your child attend. All families are invited to be a part too. The message is one that opens the door to great conversations.

Dr. Reid Visiting Leota: Please mark your calendars for February 5th. Dr. Reid, Superintendent of NSD, will be virtually visiting every classroom. Before school starts, she will be hosting families in a virtual meet and greet, which will be a great opportunity to visit and chat informally with her. Be watching for more details to come out soon, but be sure to mark your calendars for the morning of February 5th. See you all then!

I wish each of you a wonderful and safe weekend.

Warmly,

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

- Next Week at Leota
- Leota PTSA Weekly Update



Next Week at Leota

Jan. 25	No school – Grading Day
Jan. 26	Adjusted Schedule – Periods 1-6 – Students will attend all classes on this day
	First Day of Second Semester
Jan. 27	Period 4 (8:30-9:00am) Check-in & Students Complete Working Wednesday Plan
	Early Release-School Day Ends at 1:35pm
	Library Book Check out 11-2pm
Jan. 28	Periods 1, 2, 3
Jan. 29	Periods 4, 5, 6

Leota Office Contact Info

Office Manager : Felicia Casolary: <u>fcasolary@nsd.org</u>
ASB Secretary: Melanie Spencer: <u>mspencer@nsd.org</u>

Attendance Secretaries: Barb Roetcisoender: broetcisoender@nsd.org;

Patricia Bong: pbong@nsd.org

Attendance Email: Lmsattendance@nsd.org

School Registrar: Mary Hayes: mhayes@nsd.org
School Nurse: Deb Park: dpark@nsd.org

Principal: Audee Gregor: agregor@nsd.org
Assistant Principal: Bryan McNiel: bmcniel@nsd.org

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Upcoming Events

01/31	Take the Remote Learning and Return to School Survey. We want to hear from you. bit.ly/PTSAReturnToSchoolFeedback
01/18	WSPTA Focus Week: See details below for all the ways you can get involved!
	Contact for Staff Appreciation: staffappreciation@leotaptsa.com
	Contact for Science Olympiad Club: scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com
	Contact for Math Olympiad Club: matholympiad@leotaptsa.com . Go to www.leotaptsa.com to sign up for communications and register for upcoming competitions.
	Contact the PTSA board: contact@leotaptsa.com

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

Your PTSA Advocates for ALL Kids!

Advocacy is at the heart of Leota PTSA!

- Mark your calendar for the upcoming *virtual* PTA Focus Day on January 18th, 2021. This event is a great opportunity for parents <u>and</u> students to directly speak to legislators!
- Sign up for advocacy information and action alerts through the <u>WSPTA Action</u> <u>Network Group</u>. These action alerts are quick, easy ways to communicate with our legislators on topics they are actively working on.
- ✓ Visit our <u>Leota PTSA Advocacy webpage</u> to find more resources and learn about additional ways to get involved.

Advocacy at the District and State Levels

Attend a School Board Meeting! usually held on the second Monday of the month at 4pm and the fourth Monday at 7pm. Click here for more info.

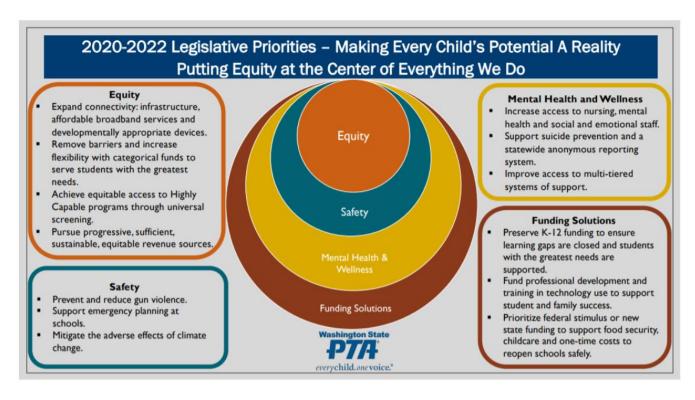
Contact your state legislators: Find and contact your local Washington State Legislators at https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/

Advocacy Week: January 18 – 22, 2021

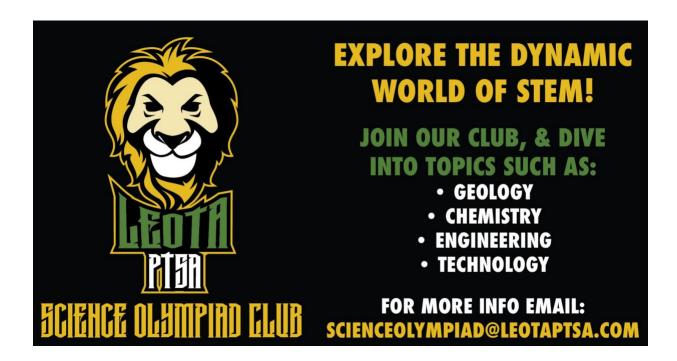
In addition to our ongoing efforts, WSPTA will be asking members to take action from home or your phone throughout an entire week. To participate, subscribe to the WSPTA Action Network to stay informed.

- Monday, January 18 Call to Action: Focus on anti-racism
- Tuesday, January 19 Call to Action: Focus on equity
- Wednesday, January 20 Call to Action: Focus on mental health and wellness
- Thursday, January 21 Call to Action: Focus on preserving and flexing funding
- Friday, January 22 Call to Action: Focus on safety and emergency preparedness

Additional information and activities at Focus on Advocacy (wastatepta.org)



Science Olympiad: Thank you and Season Announcement



This year Leota will not be competing in the National Science Olympiad competition. While the Science Olympiad Board is working on developing a hybrid format for the tournaments, the lack of certainty at this point will be a burden to plan out. As a result, Leota will sit out of the competition this year.

Still, I would like to support our Leota students who wish to learn about the Science Olympiad topics and spend time in doing the research and projects for fun. Students wanting to explore are encouraged to go to https://www.soinc.org/ and check out each of the topics. If anyone needs any assistance or brain-storming ideas, then they can email me at scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com.

In addition, it is my last year here at Leota and I would love for the SO Club to continue next year. This club is 100% dependent on parent volunteers and without a volunteer next year, students will not have a chance to participate. If you would like to support the club going forward then please reach out to me, I would be more than happy to transfer all my learnings and help you get setup for next year.

Thank you to those that participated in Reflections

Thank you to all those who participated in the 2020-2021 National PTA Reflections Program. The theme "I Matter Because..." was open to all students K-12.

The Leota Middle School PTSA is proud to announce the students whose artwork will be heading from the school level to the Northshore Council PTSA level:



Aadit A. (7th)

Anvitha S. (8th)

Hope V. (6th)

Mikaela H. (6th)

Shriya P. (8th)

Alex Z. (7th)

Divyata B. (6th)

Julien W. (6th)

Ronan F. (6th)

If you participated be on the lookout for an email on how to retrieve your participation certificate within the next week.

Thank you wonderful artists and good luck to those moving forward! Contact your Reflections Co-Chairs at <u>reflections@leotaptsa.com</u> if you have any questions.

Math Olympiad Club: Sign Up



We have heard from you that MATH/STEM-related enrichment is high on the wish list; We heard from you that your student is enthusiastic about Math, Math puzzles, Math problems and Applied Math scenario analysis - so here at Leota PTSA is excited to offer you with all of these opportunities.

The Math Club program is a **free** school-wide math enrichment program for middle school students, consisting of a series of challenging and interesting math problems provided to you. The purpose of this program is to engage and challenge students to solve interesting math problems, strengthening their math fundamentals, critical thinking and problem-solving skills - improving their confidence along the way.

What can you expect: We send emails about Math problems, News about Math, Share Math Articles and of course share information on upcoming Math Olympiads.

These opportunities cover problem solving strategies such as drawing a picture or model, making an organized list, looking for patterns, working backwards, and guess and check.

NEW PRACTICE SESSIONS STARTING SOON: We plan to start practice sessions for Math Olympiad preparations. More details will be communicated to parents who have signed up to receive communications from the Math club. If you haven't already, then signup for communication using the link below.

Club Info and FAQ

Sign Up for Communications

Register for Upcoming Competitions

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.



2020-21 CHAMPION SPONSORS (\$500+)

ELIZABETH SWAN SYLVIA BAGLEY JIM HANNA

2020-21 HERO SPONSORS (\$350 - \$499)

NASOS KLADAKIS

2020-21 FRIEND SPONSORS (\$250 - \$349)

LONNIE LONG CARRIE MCKENZIE KRISTEN WILEY

YAN CHEN

2020-21 AMAZING DONORS

\$100-\$249

Srividhya Mahalingam
Mohamad Saleem
Susan Carr
Carol Mazzoncini
Patricia Simpson
Brenae Brix
Sue Lohman
Tambi Wille
Alycia Roach
Karen Check
Jane Flaherty
Kelly Peterson
Nina Karamehmedovic
Douglas Lay

Maurice Carson
Ingrid Gooding
Teru Morimura
Shih-kai Lai
Ravi K Krishnamaneni
John D Deehr
Beth Bishop
Saravanan Murugesan
Chad Gustafson
Donna L. Clinton
Aaron Moreau-Cook
Gleason-Geise Family
Christina muzzy
Ravikumar Annepu

Liza Chen
Shawn Miller
Brian Mendonca
David and Theresa Held
Ekaterina Kolosova
Anurag Handa
Tina Williams
Valerie Olson
Michael R Howe
Ujjwal Maheshwari
Cu Mai
Vivek Garg
Cuong Mai
Daniel Kim

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Whitney Glaser
Val Kok
Tina Shriner
Meenu Kallar
Sujata Banerjea
Christine Puniesto
Heather Kostner
Juliana Omli
Shawn Graves-Macleod
Karla Pak



Thank You for Your Kindness