



January 24, 2020 Edition

From Audee Gregor:

Happy Friday! We've had a wonderful, albeit another short school week. Below are some of the things going on around campus this week:

- **Martin Luther King, Jr.:** We started the week off with a wonderful, student-created video honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. and his efforts to promote equality, kindness, and good works. This video was shown to all students during Pride Time on Tuesday and contained messages of "seeking to understand" the perspective of others and that we all have "more than one story". In other words, every human being is a complex story, which is why it's so important to seek deeper understanding, not just surface understanding. The students took great pride and ownership of their work and were so excited to share it with the school.
- **National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) – Important Message:** Please note that no late paperwork will be accepted and Ms. Hurley, the NJHS advisor, has gone to great lengths to ensure all are informed. Please see the following message that has been sent out in many formats (phone calls home, texts home, student morning announcements, postings on all school doors, etc.) this week about the absolute deadline for Honor Society paperwork. We want to be sure we've gotten the message out in all possible forms. Below is the message that Ms. Hurley has sent to all families:
 - "This is an important message about National Junior Honor Society at Leota Middle School. If your child has completed their volunteer service hours in order to become a member, they will have one week in which to turn in the proper paperwork. Paperwork must be delivered in person the week of Feb. 10 through Feb. 14. Volunteers will be available to collect paperwork during all three lunches that week in the cafeteria. Paperwork can also be delivered directly to Mrs. Hurley after school the same week in Room #623. Paperwork will not be accepted in the Leota office. Paperwork will also not be accepted late. Please see the Leota website under the "activities" section for further information and forms. Thank you."
- **Counseling Changes 2nd Semester:** Sadly, we must say goodbye today to two of our counselors who are moving to other middle schools in the district. The new collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with teachers added one counselor per middle school (one per grade level). With these changes, there has been movement within the district that

are set to take place second semester. We have two of those changes. Heather Warne-Stead is transitioning to Kenmore Middle School and Lizzie Ward is transitioning from our part-time position to a full-time position Canyon Park Middle School. Both Heather and Lizzie have been invaluable resources for our students and it is hard to say goodbye, but we are excited for their new adventures. Excitedly, we do have two fabulous counselors joining Leota's team. Below are the upcoming changes and additions. Please help me welcome the new team members and/or the new changes:

- Erin Palmer and Angela Waggoner, who are existing counselors at Leota, will share the 8th grade. Erin will be on campus on Monday, Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays. Angela will be on campus on Fridays.
- Jim Allen. Jim comes to us as a long-time counselor in both the Northshore and Lake Washington School Districts. We are very excited for the experience and excitement he brings. Jim will be the new 7th grade counselor.
- Taryn Bakkane. Taryn comes with a wealth of experience in the mental health field and will be the new 6th grade counselor.

Please have a wonderful weekend. Remember that there is not school on Monday to allow teachers to finalize first semester grades, so we look forward to seeing your child on Tuesday, which will be a 1-6 + Pride schedule. 😊

Upcoming Events:

Algebra Readiness testing will take place this week during math classes.

Monday, January 27	No School
Tuesday, January 28	Adjusted Scheduled: 1-6+Pride Spring Play Rehearsal (3:10-4:40pm) Star Time: Library (3:15-4:40pm) Season 3 Practices Begin: 6 th Grade Girls Basketball PTSA Parent Education Night: Inglemoor
Wednesday, January 29	Early Release
Thursday, January 30	Spring Play Rehearsal (3:10-4:40) Star Time: Library (3:15-4:40pm)
Friday, January 31	Last day of First Semester Yearbook Club: Room 623 (3:15-4:40pm)

January 22, 2020

Dear Parents,

You may have heard in the news about the first diagnosis of a new viral illness, Coronavirus, in Snohomish County. While some strains of Coronavirus have been around for a while, this is apparently a new strain with potentially severe consequences, especially for vulnerable populations (elderly, children, or immune compromised people).

This first case was contracted by a person traveling through Wuhan City, China. While this is the first case in the USA, the CDC is expecting there will be more cases.

If you have traveled to, or through China, and have subsequently become ill, please contact your medical provider immediately, telling them you have recently traveled in China.

Please notify the school nurse if your child is sick and has recently travelled from China or has been in close contact with anyone under investigation for laboratory confirmed Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Symptoms may include fever, cough and shortness of breath.

If you have any questions about this important health concern contact your school nurse.

For more information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p0121-novel-coronavirus-travel-case.html>

Algebra Readiness Assessment Notification

The Northshore School District is beginning the process of screening students for Algebra Readiness. This year as we did last year, we are going to screen 5th grade students that are identified as highly capable in math in their EAP/math class, and 6th and 7th grade general math students in their math classes. Your child will be assessed on the 8th grade ITBS the week of January 27th. Once tests are scored, scores will be sent home to families. Please know that it will take a few weeks for us to receive student's scores.

Students that receive a score of the 80th percentile or higher on the 8th grade ITBS math assessment and scored a 2600 scale score or higher in their previous Smarter Balanced Assessment are considered ready for Algebra for the 2020-21 school year.

Students who are not considered ready for Algebra will receive valuable information as they continue preparing for Algebra in the future.

Students that score close to the 80th percentile on the ITBS and near the 2600 scale score on their most recent SBA math assessment, will receive a comprehensive file review on an individual student basis.

Fifth graders who are not considered ready for Algebra will be enrolled in 7th grade Challenge Math. Sixth graders that are not considered ready for Algebra should register for 7th grade Challenge Math for the 2020-21 school year. Seventh graders that are not ready for Algebra should register for 8th grade math. Registration of current 6th and 7th graders at Leota will begin the week of March 16th.

National Junior Honor Society News

If your child is interested in becoming an NJHS member, please check out the Leota website under "activities" for more information. Volunteer forms are due the week of Feb. 10 through Feb. 14. *No late forms will be accepted*, so please plan ahead. Last year we had lots of snow that created some difficulty for students attempting to complete their hours. This year could be similar, so please ensure your child's volunteer hours are not put off to the last minute. Students should check with their teachers to complete their Leota volunteer hours or even the main office (more info on the website). You must submit your paperwork in person either directly to Mrs. Hurley after school in Room #623, or to a designated representative in the cafeteria during all three lunches. **PAPERWORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE LEOTA OFFICE. All students will be required to sign-off on paperwork turned in; paperwork cannot be left without a signature to verify it was received.**

Also, there is an important correction to the Activity Information Form --- turn in date for forms is NOT 3/10/20-3/14/20 --- this should read **2/10/20-2/14/20**. This is stated correctly on the website main page, but is *incorrect* on the form itself.

Justine L. Hurley
Leota Middle School
Art Studio Instructor
(425) 408-6553



Weekly Update

January 24, 2020

Upcoming Events

Fridays, 1/10 - 2/14	Lyon Ski School Bus (Storage provided by Leota PTSA)
1/27	No School
1/28	Parent Education Night <i>Screenagers and School/Home Emergency Preparedness</i> @ Inglemoor High School, 5:30-9:00pm
2/11	Parent Education Night <i>Angst: Screening and Discussion</i> @ Kenmore Elementary School, 6:00-8:00pm
2/12	February Staff Appreciation: An Italian Lunch VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
2/26	Parent Education Night <i>Hidden in Plain Sight</i> @ Northshore Middle School, 6:30-8:30pm
3/19	Career Day 2020: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Ski School Storage at Leota, Fridays January 10 – February 14



SKI & SNOWBOARD STORAGE **AT LEOTA MIDDLE SCHOOL**

For those traveling on the Lyon Ski Bus leaving from Leota MS, Leota PTSA is offering storage during the day.

Drop Off: 7:30-8:30am

Pick Up: 3:10pm—3:25pm (students must pick up)

Location: Side entrance to 600 building behind school

Dates: Every Friday 1/10—2/14

You must label each piece of equipment or bag with your contact information and strap/bag ski poles to your skis to keep them together. Bus leaves at 3:30pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Students and Parents are needed for drop off and pick up times. It is a simple check in and check out process and **COUNTS TOWARDS STUDENT VOLUNTEER HOURS**. Please sign up at www.leotapta.com or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0448ACAD2CA1F58-volunteer>.

Staff Appreciation, February 12, 2020: An Italian Lunch

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

In the cold depths of February, let's warm up our staff with pasta and breadsticks!

For our February staff appreciation event, we are going to put together an Italian themed lunch including pasta, breadsticks, and salads. Sign up to bring such items as salad fixings, cooked pasta, and breadsticks and pasta sauce to provide our teachers and staff with a warm and filling lunch.

Thank you for all your help! It is fun to see so many people helping in all different ways--it comes together so beautifully. We couldn't do it without you!

Sign up to participate: <https://signup.com/go/ARwKQWV>

Parent Education Night @ Inglemoor High School, Moorlands PTSA

January 28, 2020 @ Inglemoor High School Theater

5:30pm *Screenagers* Screening

6:30pm School & Home Emergency Prep

8:00pm *Screenagers, the Next Chapter*

The Moorlands Elementary PTSA is holding a parent's education night on January 28, 2020 at Inglemoor High school. The night will kick off with a screening of *Screenagers*, a film about raising children in the digital age at **5:30pm**.

Starting at 6:30pm, there will be a School & Home Emergency Preparedness information session—learn about how to be ready when something big hits!

- **6:30pm** Prepare Smart – Home Emergency Preparedness
- **6:50pm** School Emergency Preparedness – Henry Simon & Bill Brooks
- **7:15pm** Reunification - Clark Combs
- **7:40pm** Be Smart – Home Weapon Safety – Mom's Demand

The night will finish off with a screening of *Screenagers, the Next Chapter*, a follow up film to the original at **8:00pm**.

Come join and bring a food item to share! There will also be a dessert auction, if you would like to bring a dessert item for donation. All funds raised from the auction will go toward Emergency Preparedness at Moorlands Elementary.

Parent Education Night @ Kenmore Elementary School
February 11, 2020, 6:00-8:00pm @ Kenmore Elementary School Gym
Angst Screening & Discussion

Kenmore Elementary PTA and Northshore Council PTSA are working together to present the movie "Angst." This movie is for parents and caregivers to help us navigate anxiety in our students and ourselves. It provides hope and help!

This FREE film screening and discussion event will be on Tuesday, February 11th, from 6-8 p. in the Kenmore Elementary Gym (19121 71st Ave NE, Kenmore, WA 98028). The movie is 55 minutes and will be followed by a moderated panel discussion afterwards. The YMCA will be providing childcare on campus for children ages 3 and up.

If you are interested in attending, please reserve your tickets through Eventbrite to help us plan (please include a note in your reservation if childcare is needed):

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/angst-movie-screening-tickets-88561470743>

To learn more about the movie, visit: <https://angstmovie.com/>.



Parent Education Night @ Northshore Middle School

February 26, 2020, 6:30-8:30pm

Hidden in Plain Sight

Parents and caregivers are invited to participate in the "Hidden in Plain Sight" experience on Wednesday, February 26th from 6:30 - 8:30pm at Northshore Middle School (12101 NE 160th St, Bothell, WA 98011). Space is limited, so reserve your FREE ticket today!

The "Hidden in Plain Sight" initiative helps parents spot signs of at-risk behaviors, using an interactive display of a teenager's bedroom. After walking through the display, participants will learn more about adolescent development and common signs of substance use provided by professionals in treatment, law enforcement, substance abuse prevention and other parents.

This exhibit educates and empowers parents to communicate with their children about at-risk behavior that could lead to substance use disorders. A strong parent-teen relationship is the most effective tool to prevent youth substance use.

*Looks can be very deceiving -
Especially if you don't know what to look for.
Come to a "Hidden in Plain Sight" exhibit and learn what
to look for and what to do if you do find something.*

Reserve your ticket via EventBrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hidden-in-plain-sight-tickets-90501403133>



We Need YOU! 2020 Career Day at Leota Middle School

Happy New Year! Please Save the Date - Thursday, March 19, 2020

Planning is underway for PTSA's Career Day 2020 for Leota's students and we need over 60 panelists to make this day a success. We are currently 1/2 of our needed panelists confirmed. Please make a gift of your time—you will truly impact a student! This amazing day can only happen with YOUR help. Please sign up today!

Career Day is a PTSA event that offers our students insight into many different career paths. It gives our students an opportunity to learn what is needed to be successful in their career interests. But more importantly, we want our students to understand that no career path is ever a straight line and within any career there are lots of different avenues they can follow.

We are looking for panelists from ALL career fields and paths, including professional, trade, service industry, stay at home parents--you name it, we welcome it! Our past surveys show that students are eager to hear about every type of job, not just those in the STEM fields.

As a speaker, you will be a part of a 3-4 person panel that will meet 3-4 rounds of students. During each round each panelist will have approximately 5 minutes to share their **career journey**. Students will then be given an opportunity to ask questions of the panel. The question and answer session is the place where panelists have a chance to share real life experiences and advice based on questions from the students.

Past speakers have raved about how engaged the students were and thought it was an incredible experience.

Career Day will be held on March 19, 2020. Are you able to give a few hours (9:30 am - Noon) to serve as a panelist? If you can help, please email careerdayleotapta@gmail.com as soon as possible with your information:

- Your Full Name
- Field of Work
- Current Position (Or the field and position you would like to present)

- Current Employer

Do you have other skills or time you'd like to share? If you want to participate in Career Day in a non-panelist role, we would love to have your help! Please include EVENT VOLUNTEER in your email message.

If you know of someone that you feel would be an asset to our panels, please feel free to forward this invitation to anyone interested.

We will be getting back to you in late January with more details. Thank you for your time and consideration.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Suzette Hart at 360-815-3018 or at careerdayleotaptsa@gmail.com.

PTSA Science Olympiad Update

The 2020 Science Olympiad Teams had a fun-filled, educational experience at their first Invitational event on January 18th at Northshore Middle School. It was a wonderful opportunity to try out their build projects and experience the testing format of Science Olympiad. Congratulations to Cindy Liang and Daniel Mun who won the first-place medal in the Meteorology topic. The teams are now preparing for the regional tournament to take place on March 21st.

It is not too late to join the Science Olympiad Club. We still have spots available!

Is your student interested in joining us? 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 2019-2020 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 together as a team. Qualified teams present their skills at regional, state, and even national level competitions. 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/>

Family Commitment

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. Registration is open to all grade levels! Registration fee is \$80 per student. No refunds will be given if a student is unable to participate after registration. Register at <http://leotaptsa.com>.

For more information please contact Shraddha Bhargava at scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com or by phone at 425-368-8984.

HAVE YOUR PTSA MEMBERSHIP? Come join us!

We invite you to become a member of the Leota PTSA.

In addition to being in the know about what happens in the school, your membership is a big show of support for all volunteers and activities that our PTSA hosts throughout the year.

No volunteering is required to be a member, but membership has its benefits. Sign up at www.leotaptsa.com.

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.