



Leota Middle School Parent Newsletter

January 21, 2022

Good afternoon Leota families,

It has been a great week here at Leota and as I write this, I'm appreciating the sunrays streaming through my office window. I've learned to really enjoy the sunny winter days when we are lucky enough to get them. As you know, we've all been through some tough weeks with increased COVID cases but I'm cautiously optimistic that we are turning a corner on things. For example, Leota's attendance rates this week are much better than last week and both batch and positive case rates seem to be trending downward. We aren't out of the clear yet so we continue to communicate diligence around distancing, proper mask usage, cleaning hands, etc.

On the topic of proper mask usage, we have seen some students regularly dropping their masks below their nose or taking it off during improper times. To help remind all student of the expectations, we included the slide below in morning announcements today. Please reiterate this information with your child so as to avoid any school consequences to improper mask usage.

Expectation Reminders



From Leota administrators Mr. McNiel and Mr. Cosgrove

State, district and schools must adhere to the mask mandate. Proper wearing of masks means fully covering the nose and mouth at all times on campus except when actively eating lunch. Brief mask breaks are only allowed when distanced 6 feet from others...not in hallways.

The following is are the steps taken for not adhering to the requirement:

1. First offense - infraction and lunch duty
2. Second offense - 2 hour Saturday School
3. Third offense - Suspension

It is the student's responsibility to make sure they have a mask that fits properly at all times even when talking.



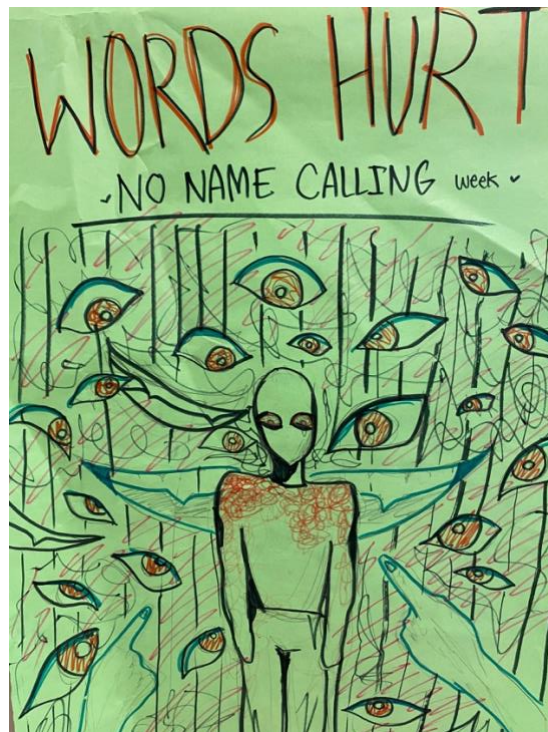
As was announced a few weeks ago, season 3 sports (girls' basketball and wrestling) were put on "pause" due to COVID concerns. At this point, season 3 sports are still on pause until further notice since COVID cases are still escalated and because the district's supply of rapid antigen

tests isn't adequate for meeting current WIAA requirements for safely conducting these two sports. When/if this changes, Leota will notify families.

We just received word that there will be no activity buses next week. After school activities will continue as usual, but you will need to arrange for your student's transportation home.

As a reminder, the last day of first semester is this coming Friday January 28th. This means that all work must be turned in to teachers by the date teachers specify. Official grades for the semester will be entered by teachers after the semester ends and you will receive an official grade report in the mail sometime in mid-February.

Last but not least, I want to thank and recognize a group of our leadership students who promoted our "No Name Calling Week" to emphasize inclusivity, kindness, empathy, and a positive culture on Leota's campus. Below are a couple of student-created signs that were displayed around our hallways this week and slides with similar content were in our morning bulletin.



I hope you have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Bryan McNiel
Interim Principal



Activity buses are cancelled for next week. Activities will continue next week, but you will need to arrange for your student's transportation home. Thank you.

January 24

Periods 1-6 + Pride

Spring Play Rehearsals: 2:30 Theater

Green Team Club 2:30 Room 619

January 25

Periods 1-6 + Pride

Star Time: 2:30 Library

Spring Play Rehearsals: 2:30 Theater

January 26

Blocks 1,2,3

Batch Testing During First Period

January 27

Blocks 4,5,6 + R&W+Pride

Cancelled Event-Dr. Reid Meet & Greet (will be rescheduled - date TBD)

Cancelled Event-Dr Reid Breakfast Club/Classroom Visits (will be rescheduled - date TBD)

Star Time: 2:30 Library

Spring Play Rehearsals: 2:30 Theater

January 28

Periods 1-6 + Pride

Distribution of 2nd Semester/3rd Quarter Student Schedules during Pride

Last Day of First Semester

January 31

No School - Teacher Grading Day

February 1

Periods 1-6 + Pride

Web Leader and A Team Training during Pride (location TBD)

Yearbook Club via Zoom
Star Time: 2:30 Room 619
Future Problem Solving: 2:30 Library
Spring Play Rehearsals: 2:30 Theater

February 2

Blocks 1,2,3
Batch Testing During First Period

February 3

Blocks 4,5,6 + R&W+Pride
Web Social During Pride (location TBD)
Star Time: 2:30 Library
Spring Play Rehearsals: 2:30 Theater

February 4

Periods 1-6 + Pride
Art Club: 2:30 Room 623

Yearbook Photos Request

Is your student involved in something fun or interesting outside of school? If you'd like a chance for your student to be featured in this year's yearbook, please send pictures of sports, clubs, activities, travels, or anything else to leotamsyearbook@nsd.org. Please make sure to include the student's name.

THREE LOCAL FUNDING MEASURES FOR OUR STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS IN THE FEBRUARY 8, 2022 ELECTION



Educational Programs and Operations Levy continues funding for opportunities and mental health supports

- Nurses, mental health support staff, elementary counselors and classroom support
- Special Education, multi-language learner programs and accelerated learning supports
- Band, orchestra, choir, theater and athletics



Technology Levy will sustain our investment in technology for students, staff and schools

- Computers, software systems and applications for all students and staff
- Training and technology support for students, staff and families
- Adaptive technologies for improved accessibility
- Classroom technology to enable and support innovative learning



The Capital Project Bond will modernize schools and address our highest facility needs

- Add additional classrooms, prepare for continued growth
- Removes 70 portable classrooms and adds 110 new classrooms district wide
- Make safety and security upgrades throughout the district
- Improving the health of school buildings by maintaining safe air and water

WHAT IS THE COST OF THE THREE MEASURES?

The funding from these three measures stays in our district to support Northshore students. As our district grows, education taxes are shared across more people. The tax rate stays stable but we are able to collect more funding for our schools.

THE TAX RATE WILL GO DOWN

CURRENT TAX RATE

\$3.63



On a home valued at \$700,000, the taxes paid per year for Northshore School District in 2021 were \$2,541

PROPOSED TAX RATE IF APPROVED

\$3.28



On a home valued at \$700,000, the taxes paid per year for Northshore School District would be \$2,296



**Northshore
School District**

**BOND & LEVIES
FEBRUARY 2022**



Northshore has three local funding measures for our students and schools in the February 8, 2022 election.

- Renewal of the Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy continues day-to-day operations that are not funded by the state.
- Renewal of the Technology levy continues funding to maintain our investment in technology for our students, including a 1-to-1 ratio of take-home devices to students and teacher training to support learning.

- The Capital Projects bond will address our highest facility needs by funding additional classrooms and reducing the reliance on portables while also making necessary repairs to our buildings.

Specific to our school facility, Leota will be redesigned and the first of two phases will be built, a project that costs \$60 million. Along with the building replacement, a turf field will be added. We will also receive technology devices for students and staff on a four-year replacement cycle, new classroom technology tools to support innovative learning, adaptive technology tools to support individual student learning needs, and ongoing training opportunities for staff.

The annual school tax rate is projected to decrease during the four years of the measures. With an all-mail election, please watch for your ballot arriving around January 20 and remember to vote. Ballots must be returned by Election Day on February 8.

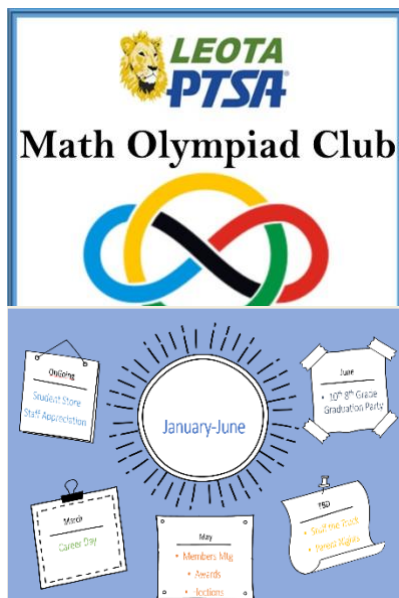
Learn more by joining the District for a Community Conversation webinar on the Bond & Levies with District leadership on either of the following days:

- Virtual Brown Bag Information Session - Tuesday, Jan. 25 from 12-1 p.m. on Zoom: <https://link.nsd.org/3FLwUfO>
- Virtual Information Session - Thursday, Jan. 27 from 6-7 p.m. on Zoom: <https://link.nsd.org/3tJVYBm>

Or learn about these measures online: <https://www.nsd.org/bondlevy>.



Please see below for some exciting events for the second half of the year.



We will soon be enrolling students for the next competition “MathIsCool” happening on 2/9.

The registration deadline will be 1/25.

Please register on the Leota PTSA Website

PTSA General Membership Meeting Recap

Thank you to all who were able to attend Wednesday night. We covered the plans for the second half of the year, (calendar here), and learned about the upcoming bond & levy proposal. Meeting minutes will be posted to the website shortly and more detailed information can be found in the next PTSA newsletter. In the meantime, please continue to follow to learn

Events

Career Day (March)

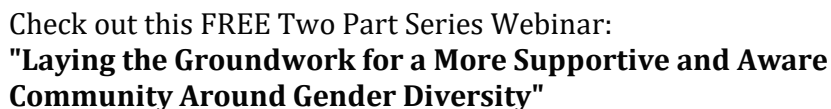
- Northshore Middle Schools are coming together to host another District-wide Virtual Career Day for Middle school students.
- Format:
 - All students/teachers will join via zoom.
 - Morning (Date TBD)
- All students/classrooms kick off with KeyNote speaker video
- Classroom hears from speaker 1 (about their career, how they got there, what's exciting about it)
- Classroom hears from speaker 2 (repeat)
- Classroom hears from speaker 3 (repeat)
- Classroom hears from speaker 4 (repeat)
- Career day end.

8th Grade Graduation (June)

- Planning in Progress
- June 10th
- Outdoors
- Survey to the 8th graders, to get their opinion on theme/attire and "action/what to do."
- Will Include Food, music

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Join gender education specialist Aidan Key with Gender Diversity in examining the topic of gender diversity in children and teens, the challenges faced by these children youth and their families, exploring current research and identifying the best approaches for creating inclusive, supportive environments for these children.

Learn More About this Event: <http://www.northshorecouncilptsa.org/council-blog/upcoming-parent-education-event-on-gender-diversity>

TWO PART SERIES WEBINAR:

Laying the Groundwork for a More Supportive and Aware Community Around Gender Diversity



Gender Diversity

Wednesdays at 6pm February 2nd and February 9th

All Northshore School District families are invited to this
FREE webinar series presented by Gender Diversity.

SESSION 1:

Informational Presentation

February 2nd, 2022, 6:00-8:00pm

Login opens at 5:45pm.

SESSION 2:

Q&A Session

February 9th, 2022, 6:00-7:00pm

Login opens at 5:45pm.

There is NO requirement to attend both sessions.
Session 1 will be recorded, with no question & answer or discussion time.

Questions? Email advocacy@canyoncreekpta.org.

Register Now! Space is Limited.

Please register for webinar link and submit questions in advance for presenter
by Wednesday, February 2nd at 4pm.

Register for Webinar at:

<https://bit.ly/GenderDiversityWebinar>

Scan to
Register:



These sessions are intended for families, caregivers, educators, and community members.
Students are welcome to attend, however content (and terminology used) may be more
suited for middle & high school students.

Through the generous support of the PTAs (and their members) below, this event is offered to you **FREE OF CHARGE**.

Northshore Council PTSA, Arrowhead Elementary PTA, Canyon Creek PTA, Canyon Park Middle School PTSA, Cottage Lake Elementary PTA,
Hollywood Hill PTA, Kenmore Elementary PTA, Lockwood PTA, Northshore Middle School PTSA, PACE @ Wellington, Ruby Bridges PTSA,
Shelton View PTA, Skyview Middle School PTSA, Sunrise Elementary PTA, Wellington Elementary PTA, Westhill PTSA, Woodin PTA



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court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials including attorney's fees and judgments or awards.