



February 14, 2020 Edition

From Audee Gregor:

Wow! Where did the time go? It feels like we just finished winter break and yet, we are now heading out for mid-winter break. I think the snow days in between made the time feel like it sped by more quickly this year than normal. Even though it's gone fast, it's palpable around campus that a break is needed by all. The long days of winter, rising and going home in the dark, can be wearing on even the strongest of us. It will be so nice to have a few days off to recharge our batteries. I hope you each are able to take the time to do something you aren't normally able to do while school is in full swing—go to the park, the movies, hiking, spend the day in your “jammies” reading a favorite book, etc.

Some of the fun things that have been going on around campus this week are below. Enjoy!

- **PTSA Italian Luncheon:** We have the most generous and thoughtful PTSA. Wednesday was their Italian Luncheon where they provided different kinds of pastas and sauces, bread sticks, a variety of salads, and yummy Italian sodas. We are so grateful for all this committee does to lift the spirits of our staff while also filling our tummies with yummy food.
- **Leota Sock Drive:** We had a very successful sock drive, headed by the inspiration and follow through of Tanya Bhandari's student leadership. Tanya has such a heart of giving and we are so grateful for her. She delivered a large box full of new socks to Threads and Treads, a clothing bank housed on the campus of Canyon Park Middle School, run by their PTSA. Threads and Treads is available to any of our students and families who are in need. They also welcome donations of gently worn or new clothing. If you haven't heard of it, I encourage you to check it out. You can find more information at: <https://cpptsa.org/programs-activities/threads-treads/>
- **Spoken Word Poetry; Listening:** I want to give a huge shout out to Jiya Joshi. Jiya performed her spoken word poem both at Dr. Reid's State of the School Address and again at the evening event for Dr. Tony Wagner. Her words were so energizing and inspiring. Thank you to Jiya for these profound words of wisdom and her brave ability to speak to large groups with poise and clarity. Great job Jiya!
- **5th Grade Parent Night:** Don't forget that if you are the parent of a 5th grader coming to Leota next year, please mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 26th, which is our 5th Grade Parent Night. Your child will be (or has, depending on the school) bringing

a flyer home with all the details. Pre-sessions for special education, students with 504 plans, and students in the highly capable program (AAP), will begin at 6:00. The general session to kick off the night will begin promptly at 6:30 for all parents in our gym. We are excited to see you all!

I wish each of you a safe and wonderfully restful mid-winter break!

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Feb. 17-21      No School/President's Day/Mid-Winter Break
- Feb. 24              Spring Play Rehearsal 3:10-4:40pm Theater  
6th Girls Basketball Leota@Skyview 4:00-5:15pm  
7th Girls Basketball at Skyview@Leota 4:00-5:15pm  
8th Girls Basketball at Skyview@Leota 5:15-6:30pm
- Feb. 25              Spring Play Rehearsal 3:10-4:40pm Theater  
STAR Time 3:15-4:40 Library
- Feb. 26              Early Release  
5th Grade Parent Night Pre-Session 6:00-6:25pm  
5th Grade Parent Night 6:30-8:00pm
- Feb. 27              Spring Play Rehearsal 3:10-4:40pm Theater  
STAR Time 3:15-4:40pm Library  
Chess Club 3:15- 4:40pm Rm 615  
6th Girls Basketball Northshore MS@Leota 4:00-5:15pm  
7th Girls Basketball Leota@Northshore MS 4:00-5:15pm  
8th Girls Basketball Leota@Northshore MS 5:15-6:30pm
- Feb. 28              Spring Play Rehearsal 3:10-4:40pm Theater  
Yearbook Club 3:15-4:40pm Room 623  
Wrestling Jamboree Leota&Kenmore at Timbercrest MS 4:00

### **Leota Middle School 5th Grade Parent Night**

Leota will host a Parent Preview Night on February 26 for all parents of current 5th graders slated to feed to Leota. Our preview night is designed to help parents better understand the middle school setting and to make informed decisions about our course offerings. The night will run from 6:30-8:00 p.m., with optional pre-sessions beginning at 6:00. Our opening ceremony will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. in the gym with opening remarks along with details about the evening. Spanish translation will be available. Please plan ahead for parking as it often bottlenecks getting into Leota and the main stoplight on Woodinville-Duvall Road can often cause delays. We have three parking lots available (in front of the school along 168th Avenue

NE, to the north of the school along NE 195th Street, and behind the school near the track). Additionally, we will have our overflow parking open along 168th Avenue NE, closer to Woodinville-Duvall Road to the south of the school.

### **Update from NSD Transportation Department**

The following Leota buses are FULL. We have been asked by transportation not to issue bus passes for the following buses:

**Bus 114**

**Bus 131**

**Bus 135**

**Bus 152**

**Bus 172**

We are so sorry for the inconvenience! Please contact transportation directly 425-408-7900. if you have any questions.

### **Immunization Rule Changes for 2020**

2019 has seen several law changes for school related required immunizations, including 2019 MMR vaccine law changes regarding exemptions. Additionally, I would like to alert families to law changes that will be going into effect August 1, 2020. These changes will impact many students transitioning to 6th or 8th grades, transitioning to new schools in or out of district and new to the district enrolling students.

The update to Chapter 246-105 WAC has three major focuses:

- It now requires medically verified immunization records for school and child care entry.
- It clarifies conditional status in regards to school and child care immunization requirements and implementation.
- It changes the Tdap immunization requirement to 7th through 12th grades.

### **Medically Verified Records:**

Starting on August 1, 2020, the revised rule requires medically verified immunization records for school and child care entry. A medically verified record includes one or more of the following:

- A Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) printed from the Immunization Information System (IIS)
- A physical copy of the 2020 CIS form with a healthcare provider signature
- A physical copy of the CIS with accompanying medical immunization records from a healthcare provider verified and signed by school staff
- A CIS printed from [MyIR](#) (state database for immunizations)

***The focus will be to get incoming 2020 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 8<sup>th</sup> graders moving to the high schools in fall 2020 immunization records in order before the first day of school September 2020 to comply with the law.***

***I will be sending home notification letters this spring to alert current TMS families whose 8<sup>th</sup> grader is missing medically verified records for some or all vaccines so that there is ample time to find and provide health care provider documented vaccine records before the first day of school 2020.***

### **Conditional Status**

Starting on August 1, 2020, the revised rule grants children conditional status entry into school who are making progress towards completing their immunization requirements. Children may begin school or child care only if they received all of the required immunizations they are due to receive and submitted medically verified records on or before the first day of attendance.

If additional immunizations are needed after receiving all immunizations they are eligible to receive before starting school, children may start school or child care in conditional status and remain until the next dose becomes due (ie it is too soon to get the next dose of vaccine in a series). Children will then have 30 calendar days to turn in updated records showing they received the missing dose. If the 30 days expire without updated records, the child must be excluded from further attendance.

### **Change to Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap) Vaccine Requirement**

Starting on August 1, 2020, the requirement for a Tdap dose changes from grade 6-12 to grade 7-12. All students entering 7th through 12th grades must have one booster dose of Tdap vaccine. In the 2020-2021 school year, all students in 7th grade must have received their Tdap dose on or after age 10 years. Students in 8th through 12th grades must have received their Tdap dose on or after age 7 years.

Incoming 2020 6<sup>th</sup> graders (current 5<sup>th</sup> graders at our feeder schools) will be seeing this information coming home soon in their registration packets.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/Immunization/SchoolandChildCare/RuleChanges>

As always, feel free to contact the school nurse with questions. Have a safe and healthy mid-winter break!

## Yearbook News

If you have any great photos of students from this school year, we would love to have them for consideration in the Leota yearbook. Please send pictures to Mrs. Hurley at the following mail file site <https://mailfile.nsd.org/filedrop/jhurley@nsd.org>. Thanks!

## North Creek High School Registration

North Creek High School will be hosting a Family Registration Event on Thursday February 27th.

**5:00 - 6:00 PM Electives Fair, Main Gym**

**Pre-meetings -**

5:30 - 6:00 PM Students with Hi- Cap Services RM 3194

5:30 - 6:00 PM Students with ELL Services RM 3196

5:30 - 6:00 PM Students with Special Education Services RM 3142

**Registration Presentation for all Incoming 9th Grade, (current 8th grade), students & Families  
North Creek Commons 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**



**Weekly Update**

**February 14, 2020**

## Upcoming Events

2/26	Parent Education Night <i>Hidden in Plain Sight</i> @ Northshore Middle School, 6:30-8:30pm
3/18	<del>PTSA General Meeting</del> – <b>RESCHEDULED to April 22nd</b>
3/18	March Staff Appreciation: <b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!</b>
3/19	Career Day 2020: <b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!</b>
4/3	<b>Officer Nominations Due:</b> Vice-President & Treasurer <a href="mailto:contact@leotaptsa.com">contact@leotaptsa.com</a> to nominate or get more information
4/22	PTSA General Meeting: 7pm @ Leota Middle School Library
<b>TBD</b>	<b>8th Grade Party</b> <b>CHAIR(S) and VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b> <b>PARTY WILL BE CANCELED WITHOUT CHAIR AND VOLUNTEERS!</b>

## **LEOTA PTSA Needs Your Leadership – Nominations Due April 3th**

### ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!***

For the last two years we have had an amazing team that has provided outstanding leadership and continuity. However, many will be graduating to high school or have served their full 2-year term. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Involvement with PTSA at middle school is much different from elementary, making it a more reasonable time commitment. The students can be involved to a much greater extent which makes PTSA impactful in new and different ways.

### **Executive Board**

Currently, we are seeking people who are interesting in filling any of our executive board roles, but specifically need people interested in being **Vice-President** or **Treasurer**. Please submit nominations by March 4th. *YES! Contact us if you are interested in one of these positions.*

### **Committee Chair Positions**

Many of our committee chairs are also moving on after this school year. For the next school year, we need volunteers to lead:

- Communications Chair (weekly newsletter, social media management)
- Membership Chair (help organize our fundraising and membership drive)
- Advocacy Chair
- Career Day (one of our most popular PTSA events!)
- Reflections (National PTA Art Program:  
<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>)
- Watch D.O.G.S. (<https://dadsofgreatstudents.com/>)

Please step forward to take on a role with us! Contact Carrie McKenzie at [contact@leotaptsa.com](mailto:contact@leotaptsa.com) if you would like to learn more, volunteer, or nominate.

### **8th Grade Parents: WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

### ***PARTY WILL BE CANCELED WITHOUT CHAIR AND VOLUNTEERS!***

Can you believe it's almost time to send our 8th graders off to high school? It seems like it was only yesterday that they were the first class of 6th graders nervously wandering through the hallways of Leota. Yet this week they brought home their high school registration materials and are making decisions about their future beyond Leota. Their three years here have gone by fast!

Leota Middle School PTSA traditionally organizes an end-of-year 8th grade party to celebrate their years at Leota and give our 8th graders one last bash with their friends. Since our 8th

graders are moving on to at least three different high schools next year (North Creek, Woodinville, and Innovation Lab) this will be their last party together as a class.

***Unfortunately, we do not have an 8th grade party chair this year to organize our 8th grade party.***

***We are in desperate need of an 8th grade parent, or group of parents, to step forward and volunteer to organize this party for our students. It is already getting late in the year to start planning.***

If you are willing to help as a chair and/or organizational volunteer, please contact Carrie McKenzie at [contact@leotaptsa.com](mailto:contact@leotaptsa.com) **immediately** to get the process started.

**This is an event that can only happen with your help.**

**Staff Appreciation, March 18, 2020: Hawaiian Haystack Lunch**  
***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!***

For our February staff appreciation event, we are going to put together a Hawaiian themed lunch with all the tropical treats. Sign up to bring rice, chicken, and tropical goodies such as pineapple, almonds and olives. Or sign up to help our staff finish out their lunch by satisfying their sweet tooth with lemon bars, or berry pie/cobbler.

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 @ 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. 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 [careerdayleotaptsa@gmail.com](mailto:careerdayleotaptsa@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 have any questions or need more information, please contact Suzette Hart at 360-815-3018 or at [careerdayleotaptsa@gmail.com](mailto:careerdayleotaptsa@gmail.com).

#### **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](http://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.