# **A green lion head with a white letter l Description automatically generatedLEOTA MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# **November 17, 2023 Family Newsletter**

Hello Leota Middle School Families!

As we are quickly approaching the Thanksgiving break, I want to thank you for all that you do supporting Leota Middle School and your student/s. I hope the time off provides you with quality time with family and friends. I very much look forward to being with my family and continuing a long family tradition of making homemade noodles for Thanksgiving. I am not sure what your special treat is during this time of year, but I hope it brings you as much joy as homemade noodles does for me.

**National Junior Honor Society** officer elections will be on Tuesday, December 5th after school (2:35-4:05) in the library. The officer positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Grade Level Representative. Students should view the document posted on Schoology to learn more about each position. If they want to run to be an officer, please email Mrs. Fast at (hfast@nsd.org) to tell her which position they plan to run for. Then they should prepare a short speech that they will give on December 5th.

On Tuesday, December 5th everyone who attends this meeting will be able to vote on the election and will be able to get 1 Leota community service hour by making some cards.

Our **Lost & Found** in the cafeteria is overflowing with hundreds of jackets, sweatshirts, water bottles, lunchboxes, and shoes!  Please remind your student to check for lost items during lunchtime.  Everything will be donated to Threads & Treads over Winter Break!

A group of water bottles and hats on a shelf

Description automatically generatedA rack of clothes on a floor

Description automatically generatedA shelf with shoes and bags

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**Construction Update**

The design team is meeting on a monthly basis discussing upcoming construction at Leota Middle School. The timeline continues to align for a June ground break date. There is still a lot of planning going on, but to help gain a greater appreciation for where your tax dollars are being spent, here is a picture where the current planning is.

A building with trees and a parking lot

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**Wednesday, November 22nd, Bell Schedule**

A schedule of lunches and lunches

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In partnership,

Scott Leick, Principal

Leota Middle School

**Upcoming Events:**

**11/20**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Game Club: 2:35 Library

**11/21**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Yearbook Club during both lunches Room 711

ASB Meeting 2:35 P-5

**11/22**

Half Day Adjusted Schedule Dismissal at 11:15am

Black Student Union: 7:30 Room 604

**11/23**

**Thanksgiving – School is Closed**

**11/24**

Native American Heritage D**ay – School is Closed**

**11/27**

Periods 1-6, Pride

7th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Skyview

8th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Leota@Skyview

**11/28**

Periods 1-6, Pride

ASB Meeting 2:35 P-5

**11/29**

Periods 1-6, Early Release

Combined Choir Concert: 6:30-8:30pm Inglemoor HS

**11/30**

Periods 1-6, Pride

East Asian Club during lunches P-2

Star Time: 2:35-4:05 Library

Geography Club 2:35pm Room 720

7th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Northshore

8th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Leota@Northshore

**12/1**

Periods 1-6, Pride

[](https://leotaptsa.com/Home)

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**In this issue:**

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* Fundraiser update
* Reflections art program
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**YOU can make awesome things happen at Leota!**

We have some wonderful parents who have stepped up to chair many of our committees, but **we still have vacancies that need to be filled.** You don’t need any prior experience, just a willingness to jump in! Please reach out to [president@leotaptsa.com](mailto:president@leotaptsa.com) if you would like more information regarding any of the open positions. Without volunteers we are unable to run these amazing programs for our kids and community.

**8th Grade Party: Open***(one event near end of year)*  
**Advocacy:** Rachel Fitzgerald*(temporary until new chair found)*  
**Awards:** **Open***(one event)*  
**Career Day:** **Open***(one event)*  
**Communications:** Carol Dillingham  
**Community Donation:** **Open***(few times a year)*  
**Dance/Social:** **Open***(one event)*  
**Emergency Preparedness:** **Open***(year-round)*  
**Fundraising: Open***(one event)*  
**Launch Day:** **Open***(one event in Aug. 2024)*  
**Lions Day:** **Open***(one event near end of year)*  
**Math Olympiad:** Valli Dorai *(temporary until new chair found)*  
**Membership:** Tracey Ward  
**Nominating Committee:** **Open***(start Jan.)*  
**Reflections:**Heather Jenks  
**Science Olympiad:** Surendra Mohan  
**Special Education Rep:** Liz Wong  
**Staff Appreciation:** Vicki Johnson, Karla Pak  
**Student Store:** Emily Cavanaugh



**Multiply your math skills with Math Olympiad**

The Math Olympiad Club is now enrolling participants for the new school year! This free school-wide math enrichment program is **open to any Leota student at any math level or grade.**

Students participate in weekly Zoom meetings (Wednesdays 3-4 pm) with the North Creek High School Math Honor Society Club to hone their math problem-solving skills. They also participate in many math competitions throughout the year.

To learn more about Math Olympiad, including how to access the online sessions and club/competition info, sign up here: <https://forms.gle/1N58DnR95ahgc9Ls6>.

Leota Math Olympiad begins Nov. 15. That meeting will also be an informational session for interested students and their parents.

We are also looking for 2 parent volunteers to help run the program. Having adult volunteers will allow the students to participate in additional competitions and the club to be able to run at its full potential. Please contact [scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com](mailto:scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com) to volunteer for the Math Olympiad Club.



**Heads up: fundraiser starts soon!**

Even though our PTSA activities got off to a late start this year, we feel it is important to keep the momentum of fundraising alive. **We will be kicking off the annual Paving the Way Together fundraiser soon**, so please earmark any dollar amount you can spare.



**Artists, it’s your time to shine**

Calling all student artists! It’s time to think about your PTA Reflections art project. **The theme for 2023-24 is “I am Hopeful Because...”**

Entries can be submitted in the following categories: Dance, Film, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts (sculptures, drawings, paintings, etc.), and Special Artist Division. For more information about categories and art requirements, visit the [National PTA Reflections webpage](https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections).

Entry forms are currently available in the Leota Main Office. **Entries are due Dec. 1.** Physical artwork can be turned into the Main Office. Electronic/digital works can be sent to the Leota Reflections Chair at [heatherjenks@hotmail.com](mailto:heatherjenks@hotmail.com). Please contact Heather Jenks if you have questions.

[](https://mcusercontent.com/52d5de69028ed2a72314b9f68/images/8d702a22-21f4-d965-db76-f66d046cb0b8.png)

**Want to spend Spring Break touring DC, NY, and more?**

**Does your 7th or 8th grader have plans during Spring Break?** We were going to only Washington, D.C., but we have now added New York, Amish Country, and Hershey, Pa., to the itinerary. It’s a trip of a lifetime! Recently we had an informational meeting over Zoom. For those of you who missed the meeting or didn’t know about it, don’t worry! There are still a few spots left, so reserve your child’s spot before they are gone. Remember, this opportunity is available only every 2 years, so this trip in April 2024 will be both the current 7th graders’ and 8th graders’ only chance to go. It will not be offered again until April 2026.

**Registration closes Friday, Nov. 17**, or when the final 7 spaces are filled.

If you would like to get the Zoom recording or see the trip itinerary, or if you have other questions, don’t hesitate to contact **Mrs. Van Avery** at [lookingforwardtodc@hotmail.com](mailto:lookingforwardtodc@hotmail.com) or **Mrs. Flowers** in Room 606.

**NOTE:** *This trip is independently sponsored by Apple Student Tours and Mrs. Van Avery and Mrs. Flowers. This trip is NOT affiliated with nor sponsored by Leota Middle School, Leota Middle School PTSA, or the Northshore School District.*



**Sign up for the next Staff Appreciation lunch**

In November let’s treat the amazing Leota staff to one of their favorite Staff Appreciation lunch themes: **hearty homemade soup**. If you are able to contribute a soup, please drop it off between 9-10:15 am, warm, in a Crock Pot (with a liner if possible, for easy cleanup), with a serving ladle. All Crock Pots and serve ware should be labeled with your name and can be picked up after school on Nov. 8. Nonperishable items (marked “for Staff Appreciation”) can be dropped off at the Leota Office on Nov. 6 or 7, or in the morning on Nov. 8. Thank you for your help!

**Nov. 8:** [Soup](https://signup.com/go/ZgoeXjb)

Last month’s Bagel Lunch was a huge success, thanks to your help! Check out the tasty spread in this photo.

[](https://mcusercontent.com/52d5de69028ed2a72314b9f68/_compresseds/8ae31395-9b26-cc41-ea15-8c2cdd507320.jpg)

**Help needed at the Student Store**

Sign up to volunteer in the Student Store! We are still looking to fill volunteer spots in the later part of the school year (February-June), and we occasionally need substitutes when someone can’t make it in. [Sign up here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4BA9A922A7F85-44205802-leota#/) or email the Student Store Chair at [mlecavanaugh@gmail.com](mailto:mlecavanaugh@gmail.com) if you’d like to be added to the email/sub list.



**Reminder: Volunteer background checks**

To volunteer on campus at Leota or any other facility in the Northshore School District, you’ll need to submit an online application for a Level 1 background check. Volunteers must update the application every year, and it must be completed before the first day of volunteering. To begin the process, visit the district’s [Become a Volunteer](https://www.nsd.org/get-involved/volunteer/become-a-volunteer) webpage.

**Let’s get social**

For the latest news and opportunities, follow us on social media:

* Join the Facebook page [Leota Middle School PTSA](https://www.facebook.com/LeotaPTSA)
* Join the Facebook private group [Leota PTSA Volunteers and Info](https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeotaPTSAVolunteers)

**About us**Leota PTSA is a parent, teacher, staff, and student membership organization that advocates for all students. We make a variety of educational and community programs possible at Leota. For more information, visit [www.leotaptsa.com](http://www.leotaptsa.com).

Thanks for reading our e-newsletter! We hope you find it a valuable resource to learn about the events, programs, and opportunities available to all Leota families. If you have feedback or suggestions, please reach out to us at [communications@leotaptsa.com](mailto:communications@leotaptsa.com).

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