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

# **December 15, 2023 Family Newsletter**

Hello Leota Middle School Families!

The past two weeks have been rewarding. In partnership with PTSA, we have had the opportunity to share the Square Dancing experience with first semester Physical Education classes. The staff was spoiled with delicious treats last Wednesday. The winning Pride classes enjoyed a pizza party during class on Thursday. Leota Middle School is so fortunate to have such a supportive community.

All week long, students and staff have been competing with Timbercrest Middle School, looking for the most school spirit. I might be a little biased, but I say Leota Middle School is the winner. To top the week off, we celebrated with an all school assembly. Great student leadership and amazing musical performances by the orchestra and band.

**Health and Fitness Ordering is now open**! If you would like to order items from Cloud9 Sports, they will be delivered to Leota the week of January 30th. Orders close on Wednesday January 3rd.    Here is the link to order. [https://leotamspe2023.itemorder.com](https://leotamspe2023.itemorder.com/)

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kristina Berube (kberube@nsd.org)

**Missing Glasses?**

Since the beginning of the school year the Health Room has received several pairs of glasses that have been found around campus. If your student wears glasses, please check to make sure they know where they are. If these belong to your student, please have them stop in the Health Room to pick them up.

A group of glasses on a table

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**Childhood Immunization Records: WA MyIR.Net has moved to MyIRMobile**

Background: When you or your family members are vaccinated, your vaccine history gets entered into the state’s immunization information system (IIS) operated by the Washington State Department of Health’s Office of Immunization and Child Profile. The secure system even allows you to print out a pre-filled Certificate of immunization Status (CIS), which is the form required for entry to schools and childcare, without an additional visit or call to your healthcare provider. If you change healthcare providers, this database also eliminates the need to transfer immunization records. This makes it so much more convenient to provide required immunization records. Most healthcare providers enter vaccines into the IIS; ask if yours does.

Want to get a print copy of your family’s immunization records? **There are new changes to accessing immunization records from the state immunization database:**

**MyIR.net** **has been officially been replaced by a newer version called** "**MyIR Mobile",** where you can access you or your family’s Washington State immunization records, including a ‘Certificate of Immunization Status’. The first time you visit this new platform, you will need to register for an account.

<https://app.myirmobile.com/auth/register>

Related Resources to learn more and signup process:

* [How to Register for MyIR Mobile (video)](https://myirmobile.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/12963686683163)
* [Add A Child (video)](https://myirmobile.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/8136498552347)

For questions or help please contact the Washington Department of Health by creating a support ticket here below:

[Washington State Department of Health MyIR Support Form](https://redcap.link/MyIR_HelpRequest)

Once completed and submitted, someone from Washington Department of Health will reach out to you by email within 2 business days.

Washington state users needing any assistance with MyIR vaccination records may also call the state COVID-19 hotline at: **1-866-397-0337**.

**Reminder for our return in January**

Bring a fully charged Chromebook to school each and every day. Your student is also encouraged to have headphones that can plug into their chromebooks.

Have a wonderful winter break. See everyone in January of 2024!

In partnership,

Scott Leick, Principal

Leota Middle School

**Upcoming Events:**

**01/02**

Periods 1-6, Pride

ASB Meeting: 2:35 P-5

Yearbook Club during lunches: Room 711

6th Grade Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Timbercrest (rescheduled from 12/11)

**01/03**

Periods 1-6, Early Release

South Asian Club during lunches Choir Room

**01/04**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Latino Cultures Club: 7:30 Room 604

East Asian Club during lunches: Portable 2

Star Time: 2:35-4:05 Library

Geography Club 2:35pm Room 720

6th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Northshore

8th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Northshore@Leota

7th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Northshore@Leota

**01/05**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Bookworms Club: 2:35 Library



*E-newsletter originally published Dec. 13, 2023*

**In this issue:**

* Fundraiser totals + prize winners
* PTSA meeting agenda
* Advocacy action items
* Math club registration
* Nurse’s wish list
* Open PTSA roles

**Paving the Way fundraiser closes 2023 on a high note**

The PTSA extends our heartfelt gratitude to the generous supporters and top donors of our Paving the Way Together fundraiser. Your unwavering commitment has paved a brighter future for our community. As we celebrate the holidays, we reflect on the unity and generosity that define us. Wishing everyone in our incredible community joyous holidays filled with warmth, love, and shared moments of celebration. Thank you for being the driving force behind positive change.

**Total amount raised**$18,775*Includes donations and company matches*

**Top donors**Champion ($500+)Anonymous  
Cheng Peng & Jerry Zhang  
Noli Bruk  
Gene & Sharon Park

Hero ($350+)  
Mosaic  
Pablo Sala  
Vijay Ankireddi

Friend ($250+)  
Carrie Mosley  
Paul Chang  
Held Family  
The Stodola Family  
Prajinesh & Priya  
Peter Waddington  
Randy Graybeal  
Dynamic Natural Medicine  
Theresa Miller  
Tracey Ward

**Grand prize raffle winner**

We invited some special guests to last week’s PTSA Board meeting to help us select the raffle winner. Thanks to ASB President **Connor C.** and Vice President **Tyson C.** for helping select and announce the recipient of the grand prize of Seattle Kraken tickets.

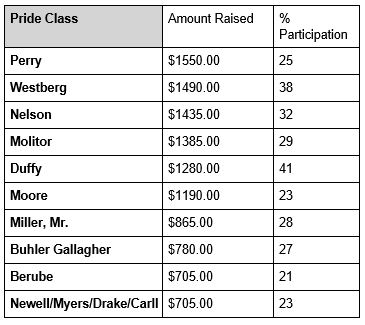
We’re thrilled to announce that 8th grader **Pepper C.** is the winner! Congrats and enjoy the game, Pepper!

*Pictured here: From left, PTSA Co-President Angela La Tourette, ASB officers Tyson and Connor, and PTSA Co-President Sarah Wolf*

[](https://mcusercontent.com/52d5de69028ed2a72314b9f68/images/6cf3ae31-8f9e-d436-c8c4-593d0b291647.jpg)

**Pizza party winners**

Congratulations to the top 10 Pride classes that raised the most money for Paving the Way! Each will be awarded a pizza party. Did your student’s class make the list? Check it out here:

[](https://mcusercontent.com/52d5de69028ed2a72314b9f68/images/d45e2c60-6fcc-bd53-f59f-1d7516acfd64.png)

**Save the date: Jan. General Meeting**

Please join us at the **next PTSA General Meeting on Jan. 17 at 7 pm at the Leota Library.** The agenda will include:

* Report from student members of Leota ASB
* Card making or another activity that students can earn volunteer hours for
* Election for Nominating Committee (which is responsible for presenting candidates to serve as the 2024-25 Leota PTSA elected officers)
* Guest speaker **Shelby Reynolds**, NSD’s assistant director of Instructional Technology and Library Services, who will share information about artificial intelligence (AI).

Additional meeting details will be shared closer to the date. In the meantime, please add this event to your calendar!



**Spotlight on advocacy**

Have you been hearing about the upcoming NSD budget cuts? **Are you wondering how you can make a difference in school funding**? Here are 6 things you can do now as an advocate:

Be informed; learn about the budget cuts

* [View recorded budget presentation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfEdERD5g7E)
* [Read the 2024-25 Budget Development Process](https://www.nsd.org/our-district/overview/2024-25-budget-development) on the district webpage, including a timeline for decisions

Connect with the School Board

* [Attend a School Board meeting](https://www.nsd.org/our-district/leadership/school-board/attend-a-school-board-meeting)

Attend advocacy meetups

[Northshore Council PTSA](http://www.northshorecouncilptsa.org/) is hosting several meetups and Q&A sessions to help connect advocates around the NSD community. [Click here to learn dates and locations.](http://www.northshorecouncilptsa.org/council-blog/advocacy-meetups-and-qas-how-parents-can-advocate-for-more-school-funding-with-wa-state-legislature)

Subscribe to WSPTA Action Alerts

During the state legislative sessions, [WA State PTA](https://www.wastatepta.org/) will send action alerts and informational broadcasts to members who have subscribed to the Action Network Group. These alerts are quick, easy ways to communicate with our legislators on topics they are actively working on. [Click here to subscribe.](https://actionnetwork.org/forms/subscribe-to-wsptas-action-network-group)

Attend WSPTA Focus Day in Olympia

On Monday, Jan. 15, join your Leota PTSA Advocacy Chair **Rachel Fitzgerald**, along with other advocates from Northshore and WA State PTA, in donning our “PTA Blue” and showing up in person in Olympia to advocate for children and schools with elected officials. **Students are encouraged to participate as well!** [Register to attend.](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/washington-state-pta-focus-day-registration-750928386017?aff=oddtdtcreator) *Note: Northshore Council PTSA will be organizing district-wide meetings with our legislators on this day and throughout Focus Week (Jan. 15-19). Email* [*advocacy@northshorecouncilptsa.org*](mailto:advocacy@northshorecouncilptsa.org) *to let Council know you’ll be attending and that you would like to join future meetings.*

Write your state representatives

* [Find your legislative district](https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/) and contact info for your representatives to send them an email.
* Northshore Council is organizing a letter-writing campaign. [Visit their website to download and print Advocacy Postcards.](http://www.northshorecouncilptsa.org/council-blog/advocacy-meetups-and-qas-how-parents-can-advocate-for-more-school-funding-with-wa-state-legislature) Complete and return them by Jan. 10 (dropbox located at the district admin office) to have Council deliver them for you or feel free to mail them on your own.

*Questions? Contact your Leota PTSA Advocacy Chair by emailing* [*advocacy@leotaptsa.com*](mailto:advocacy@leotaptsa.com)*.*

**Multiply your math skills in Math Olympiad**

The Math Olympiad Club is now enrolling participants! 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>. You’ll need to sign up to receive registration info for the first competition, which will be held Jan. 31 at Leota Middle School.

The club kicked off meetings in November, but it’s not too late to join. If you have questions about Math Olympiad, please email [matholympiad@leotaptsa.com](mailto:matholympiad@leotaptsa.com).



**Snack donations for Health Room**

The Health Room (aka Nurse’s Office) provides snacks to students for a variety of reasons, and they are currently running low. If parents are interested in donating snacks to the Health Room, the Nurse would love snack-size packages or bars. Please send any donations to school or order off the [Leota School Nurse’s Amazon wish list](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3S81GR3YRMJ64?ref_=wl_share) to have it delivered directly to Nurse Vicki. Thank you!



**You can make awesome things happen at Leota!**

Several wonderful parents have stepped up to lead 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



**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 webpage](https://www.nsd.org/get-involved/volunteer/become-a-volunteer).

**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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