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

# **January 5, 2024 Family Newsletter**

Hello Leota Middle School Families!

Happy New Year! It was great to see Leota full of students and staff this week. We have just three weeks left in the first semester. Help us encourage your student/s to finish the semester strong. We have a number of upcoming events to highlight over the next couple of weeks.

Students will be taking the iReady screener this coming week. Students will take the math screener on Tuesday during their Math and Science class. Students will then take the Reading screener on Thursday during their English Language Arts and Social Studies class. If needed, students will have the opportunity to complete the screener during their Pride class. Our final day of make-ups will be on Friday, January 19th. I very much look forward to seeing all of the progress our students have made so far this school year. We will have one more opportunity to demonstrate our growth in June. Please encourage your student/s to bring their headphones and charged computers.

**Leota Yearbooks On Sale Jan.20th- Feb. 3rd**

You can purchase your student’s Yearbook online or in the office from 1/20/24- 2/3/24 the cost is $28. If you are not sure if you have already purchased a yearbook this year you can either check in the office or your student online history in touchbase.  If this is a financial hardship for your family at this time, please let your student’s counselor know. There is funding available. Please use this link to pay for your yearbook online o[nline Payments](https://wa-northshore.intouchreceipting.com/) . Thank you and if you need help with your online Touchbase information please contact Mrs. Spencer @ 425 408 6503

We have just a short break between Sports Season 2 and Season 3. During that break, Leota is offering  one day of Intramurals,  Friday, January 19, 2024. This is a great opportunity to gather with friends and have some friendly competition.

As I mentioned earlier, the first semester is winding down. With that being said, we are providing one more official notification on January 12th for students earning an A, D, or F. There is still time to make improvements in academic success.

Mark your calendar, Monday, January 15th is a non school day to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

May your New Year be off to a great start. I very much look forward to seeing the success of your student/s throughout 2024. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Also, the next Principal Chat is on Friday, January 19th at 10:00am. You can join me in person or on Zoom. I will send a Zoom Link out closer to the event.

In partnership,

Scott Leick, Principal

Leota Middle School

**Upcoming Events:**

**01/08**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Game Club: 2:35 Library

6th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Canyon Park@Leota

8th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Canyon Park

7th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Leota@Canyon Park

**01/09**

Periods 1-6, Pride

i-Ready Math in Math and Science Classes

ASB Meeting: 2:35 P-5

**01/10**

Periods 1-6, Early Release

**01/11**

Periods 1-6, Pride

i-Ready Reading in  ELA and SS Classes

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@Kenmore

8th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Kenmore@Leota

7th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Kenmore@Leota

**1/12**

Periods 1-6, Pride

DF&A Notifications emailed home.

**01/15**

**MLK Holiday – School is Closed**

**01/16**

Periods 1-6, Pride

ASB Meeting: 2:35 P-5

Boys Basketball End of Season Party: 2:35 Gym

**01/17**

Periods 1-6, Early Release

Black Student Union: 7:30am Room 604

South Asian Club during lunches Choir Room

Staff Appreciation Luncheon: International Theme

**01/18**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Latino Cultures Club: 7:30am Library

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 Timbercrest@Leota

8th Boys Basketball: 3:30 Leota@Timbercrest

7th Boys Basketball: 4:30 Leota@Timbercrest

**1/19**

Periods 1-6, Pride

Principal Chat: 10:00am at Leota MS

Bookworms Club: 2:35 Library

Intramurals Badminton (today only): 2:35pm Gym

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

*E-newsletter originally published Jan. 3, 2024*

**In this issue:**

* PTSA meeting on Jan. 17
* Gratitude from the nurse
* Staff Appreciation signup
* Open PTSA roles
* Thank you, sponsors

**Come one, come all to the PTSA meeting on Jan. 17!**

**Parents and students are welcome**

Please join us at the **next PTSA General Meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 7 pm in the Leota Library.** Parents as well as students are invited! The agenda will include:

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

Since this is an in-person meeting, you’ll also have the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and get to know other parents, staff, and students in attendance. A Zoom option will not be provided for this meeting.

Be sure to add this event to your calendar! If you have questions, please email [president@leotaptsa.com](mailto:president@leotaptsa.com).



**Gratitude from the school nurse**

Leota Nurse **Vicki Duncombe** asked us to share the following message with the PTSA community. It’s not too late to contribute to her wish list; if you’d like to help, please [view the Amazon wish list here](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3S81GR3YRMJ64?ref_=wl_share).

*Thank you to all of the Leota families who donated snacks to the Health Room. I appreciate your generosity more than you know. I hope that you all had a wonderful winter break and holiday season.* ***--Nurse Vicki***



**Staff Appreciation lunch signup**

Let’s kick off the new year with a fantastic lunch showcasing food from all over the world! On Wednesday, Jan. 17, we’re welcoming our incredible Leota staff back from winter break with tasty dishes from around the globe.

**Jan. 17:** [International lunch](https://signup.com/go/WrOQTKE)

If you’d like to contribute a warm dish, please drop it off at the Leota Main Office in a Crock Pot between 9-10 am on Jan. 17. All Crock Pots and serve ware should be labeled with your name (including lids!). Please pick up your items after school on Jan. 17. Nonperishable items (marked “for Staff Appreciation”) may be dropped off at the office Jan. 15 or 16, or before 10 am on Jan. 17.

Please also include a description of your dish and a “country of origin” label.

Thank you for your help!



**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).

**Thank you to our sponsors**

The Leota PTSA thanks all of the Paving the Way Together donors, and especially this year’s sponsors (listed below). Our programs and events are possible because of you all!

**Lionheart Champions**Anonymous  
Cheng Peng & Jerry Zhang  
Noli Bruk  
Gene & Sharon Park

**Lionheart Heroes**Mosaic | Pablo Sala | Vijay Ankireddi

**Lionheart Friends**Carrie Mosley | Paul Chang | Held Family | Stodola Family  
Prajinesh & Priya | Peter Waddington | Randy Graybeal  
Dynamic Natural Medicine | Theresa Miller | Tracey Ward

**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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