August 21, 2020 Edition

Good afternoon Leota families!

I want to share that the entire Leota Middle School staff is working very hard to prepare for a fabulous start to the school year this year. They've been in trainings all week this week and will continue this work at our Staff August meetings next week—all to prepare for the arrival of your child. The excitement and energy are building and we can hardly wait! We've missed them and you so much. I also want to recognize that the start of this school year is one like we could never imagine and we ask that we approach all we do by granting patience and grace. I also want to say that this unusual start to the year has not deterred us from working hard, preparing amazing lessons, and going about business as close to "normal" as possible in order to help it be a smooth transition back to school. Please remember that the official first day of school for all students is September 2nd and we will follow the schedule below. Attendance will be taken, so please be sure your child is up and ready to log in to each class before the scheduled time so they are not counted absent or marked tardy. Teachers will be sending out zoom links to their classes soon.

In order to not only stay connected, but for you and your child to be able to see their schedule, be watching for information to come via email for how to access your ParentVue account and for how your child can access their StudentVue account. This email will also have instructions for students to recover passwords if they have forgotten. If you need a ParentVue login, you will need to contact our Registrar, Mary Hayes, at mhayes@nsd.org. Again, more information will be coming soon, so be watching for that. Please be sure to read this newsletter in its entirety for information about important events and details.

Schedule for September 2nd:

8:30-8:40 WEB Intro Video in Zoom Rooms for all 6th graders & WEB Leaders (be watching for a zoom link coming soon)

8:40-10:00 WEB leader activities with 6th graders for all 6th graders & WEB Leaders

10:00-10:30 Break
10:30-12:45 - **All students will go through their schedule and meet all of their teachers**

10:30-10:45 Per 1 **for ALL students**
10:50-11:05 Per 2 **for ALL students**
11:10-11:25 Per 3 **for ALL students**
11:30-11:45 Per 4 **for ALL students**
11:50-12:05 Per 5 **for ALL students**
12:10-12:30 Per 6 + Outro/ASB Assembly Video **for ALL students**

Thank you so much for being such a supportive community. We have the best students and the best families EVER! I’m so proud to be a part of Leota! Have a fabulous weekend.

Warmly,

Audee Gregor
Principal

Happy Friday to you! In this weekly bulletin, you will see:

**The first day for ALL students - September 2, 2020**

- School Supplies List
  - NSF School Supplies for Fall
  - Backpacks for Students in Need
- Upcoming Events – See details to mark your calendar below
  - Tech Device Pick Up
  - Materials Drop Off & Yearbook Pick-up for all 2019 - 2020 Leota students
  - AAP Summer Events
  - Student Materials Distribution
- Free and Reduced-Price Meals Information
- NSD Links to Community Assistance
- Leota Office Contact Info
School Supplies
Every year the Northshore School District evaluates the list of needed school supplies for students to bring. In recent years we have worked to reduce the amount of money and time parents spend purchasing items, while still providing those basics needed for academic success. This year, as we start in an online format in the midst of a pandemic, that task seems even more important. At this time we ask that all students have at their disposal writing utensils (pens and/or pencils), paper for note-taking, and a way to organize their subjects. This last item can be a series of bins or boxes, a notebook, an accordion folder, or some other way in which students can learn and practice keeping track of important work. In addition to paper and pencils, middle school students may need additional items, such as highlighters. Please check the Leota website for a full list by grade level. Specific classes in middle school, like art, may also have additional items that will be used for specific experiences throughout the year. We understand that the beginning of this school year looks differently than in years past. Please do not feel obligated to purchase all of these supplies right away. Our posted school supply list is designed to meet student needs when we are in person. While we are learning virtually, most assignments will be completed virtually and online as well. However, we know that purchasing school supplies can put your child in the frame of mind that school is beginning. We will leave this fully up to each family. It is important to us that these items not create a burden on family budgets. For 18 years, many of our families have received extra help with school supplies, and that assistance will continue this year. The Northshore Schools Foundation has collected, organized, and distributed school supplies to families who have needed them. We want to thank NSF as well as the many businesses, families, and individuals who have contributed. If you would like to order supplies from NSF, please use the following link: requesting school supplies. Similarly, if you would like to contribute to their school supply drive, please use the following link: donate school supplies. Additionally, Liberty Road has generously donated 75 backpacks filled with school supplies. If you are in need, please contact our Office Manager: Felicia Casolary at fcasolary@nsd.org
Mark your Calendar:

**August 28, 2020 & September 1, 2020 - Tech Device Distribution**
For those students who need to check out technology for the upcoming school year, distribution of devices/hotspots to Leota families will take place on **August 28 and September 1 from 8:00am – 3:00pm**. Complete this form (https://form.jotform.com/202085825509053) in order to receive a device, exchange a device that is either not working or is one of the old white Chromebooks, or obtain a hotspot. You will need a device if:

- You have a newly enrolled Leota student who doesn’t have access to a device at home
- Your currently enrolled student’s needs have changed and your student now needs a device
- Your student has an older white Chromebook and will need to exchange for a newer black Chromebook device for best connectivity and operation
- You do not have internet service at home. Hotspots are available. Please do not request a hotspot if you do have internet at home that is slow. The hotspot will not help with that.

**The Tech Device Distribution Process on August 28th and September 1st:**
- If families or students have been exposed to COVID or currently have COVID, please do not attend the event. Please email the main office secretary, Felicia Casolary, at fcasolary@nsd.org to arrange for an alternate pick-up.
- Please be sure that you have filled out the form online so that we have a device available for you
- Drive-up to the area near Leota’s front office
- Stop at the sandwich board in front of the office
- Call the phone number on sandwich board to let staff know you are here
- Turn your car off and stay in your car
- Please put on your mask
- A staff member will bring the device to your car
- If you are exchanging an old device for a new one, the staff member will collect the old (white) device at this time

**August 28, 2020 - Materials Drop-off & Yearbook Pick-Up:**

*Material Drop-off:*
For those students who need to return items, such as textbooks, library books, athletic uniforms, novels, etc. from last school year (in order to prevent them from moving to a fine or fee), we are holding a drive-thru drop-off event on August 28, 2020 from 8:00am – 3:00pm. Collecting items now allows us time to re-distribute items and books that will need to be used for the 2020-2021 school year and check them out to the new students.
**Yearbook Pick-up for all 2019-2020 students:**
Yearbook distribution for last year’s students is happening at the same time as the materials drop-off. We are happy to announce that through a generous donation all students who may not have had the opportunity or means to purchase a yearbook last school year will still be receiving one.

**Materials Drop Off/Yearbook Pick Up Process:**
- Car pick-up/drop-off only (no walkers or bicyclists)
- Please adhere to the pick-up/drop-off schedule and protocols.
- If families or students have been exposed to COVID or currently have COVID, or are sick, please do not attend the event. Alternate dates will be offered later in September.
- Expectations during pick-up/drop-off:
  - See map below to ensure proper flow of traffic for pick-up/drop-off
  - Please follow all signs and directions to allow for safe and fluid traffic flow
  - Please stay in your car with your seatbelts engaged and masks on
  - All items to be returned to the school should be accessible without leaving your car
  - Due to social distancing requirements, no signing of yearbooks are allowed on site
  - Please hand items through the window to your station greeter
    - **Curricular items** (textbooks, library books, teacher loaned classroom items, locker keys, etc.) should all be placed in one bag for return, if possible, for ease of exchange
      - Items will be scanned in and checked for condition (damage, etc.)
      - Your child can check their own account to see what is checked out to them (textbooks and library books) by clicking here to view a slide from last spring’s distribution days. They will need their student ID number and their Google account password to log in. [Click here for directions.](#)
    - **Athletic uniforms** should be in their own bag and clearly labeled with the students first and last name and student ID number
    - **Technology Items** only need to be returned if they are not working or if you need to swap a white Chromebook for the newer version black Chromebook. Be sure to include any items that were checked out with it (device, cord, bag, etc.)
  - Who can pick up items?:
    - Parent, guardian, or anyone already listed as an emergency contact
    - Anyone if the student is in the car (neighbor can bring your student)
**September 14th & 15th: School Material Distribution Day:**
Our School Material Distribution Days have been scheduled. This is for all students to pick up novels, curricular, textbooks, yearbooks not yet picked up, etc. To alleviate traffic concerns, we have assigned different times alpha by last names. Please save the date for now and more information will be forthcoming.

- September 14: 3:00pm-4:30pm (Students with Last Names: A-D)
- September 14: 4:30pm-6:00pm (Students with Last Names: E-K)
- September 15: 3:00pm-4:30pm (Students with Last Names: L-P)
- September 15: 4:30pm-6:00pm (Students with Last Names: R-Z)
**August 27 - Leota AAP Summer Events, Sponsored by Northshore HiCap Parents Council:**

Incoming 6th Grade AAP Students Meet & Greet Zoom: **Thursday August 27, 6pm**

Students are encouraged to wear Spirit Wear from their elementary school so students can see where everyone is from.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84154471101?pwd=Q3YwYkRmTC9PU25zcS9sTUhiT3VoQT09
Meeting ID: 841 5447 1101
Passcode: lions

AAP Parent Meet & Greet Zoom: **Thursday August 27, 7pm**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85690003758?pwd=SDUyamxFZTl6SUR0dFBTanBoano0QT09
Meeting ID: 856 9000 3758
Passcode: lions

**Contact for Zoom Links or Questions:** Austina De Bonte, austinad@hotmail.com

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**Free and Reduced-Price Meals Information**

The Free and Reduced-Price Meal application for the 2020-21 school year is now available. Don't forget! Families must re-apply every year. Please[click here to apply online](#) for the 2020-2021 school year for free or reduced-price meals.

Parents whose income falls within specified guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture should apply for free or reduced-price meals for their students. All students who qualify for reduced-price meals can receive a breakfast at no charge. Students K-3 who qualify for reduced-priced meals also receive lunch at no charge.

If you qualify for Free or Reduced Meals you may also qualify for:

- School fee waivers (a fee waiver form must be completed, available in August).
- Other services such as health insurance. Contact your school nurse for more information.

The[online application](#)only takes a few minutes and is the fastest, easiest way to get approved. Parents wishing to have a paper application mailed to them should contact the Food Services office at 425-408-7657.
Optional Student Insurance

As a service, we are providing information regarding optional student accident and health insurance coverage administered by Myers-Stevens & Toohey, Inc. These low cost plans are distributed by many districts across Washington. Although they are not the only provider of this type of coverage, they have been recommended by our Washington Schools Risk Management Pool. For more information: https://www.nsd.org/our-district/departments/business-services/risk-management/student-insurance

NSD Links to Community Assistance

During the COVID-19 outbreak, our community has come together to provide assistance to families in need. The organizations linked on the NSD Community Assistance page are ready to help with food, housing, healthcare and more.

Please visit https://www.nsd.org/covid19/community/assistance as another option for locating resources in a time of need.

Leota Office Contact Info

Office Manager Felicia Casolary: fcasolary@nsd.org
ASB Secretary Melanie Spencer: mspencer@nsd.org
Attendance Secretaries: Barb Roetcisoender: broetcisoender@nsd.org; MaryLynn Kaiser: mkaiser@nsd.org
School Registrar Mary Hayes: mhayes@nsd.org
School Nurse Deb Park: dpark@nsd.org
Principal Audee Gregor: agregor@nsd.org
Assistant Principal Bryan McNiel: bmcniel@nsd.org

Leota Website: www.nsd.org/leota