



September 2019

Volume 1

Leota Middle School PTSA

19301 168th Ave NE

Woodinville, WA 98072

www.leotaptsa.com

contact@leotaptsa.com

The Lions Den

The Leota PTSA monthly newsletter

Welcome Back Leota Families and Staff

Hello! I am Robin McKenzie, your 2019-20 Leota PTSA President. Every year is action packed with fun and educational activities and this year is no different. We are off to a fabulous start with a very successful Back to School Fair. Thank you to Valerie Kok for leading us and to all the volunteers it takes to put this on.

The Back to School Newsletter was refreshed this year with a new look, more information and was mailed to all families. A big shout out to Felicia Casolary and Carrie McKenzie for all their efforts.

We are combining forces with ASB to create the Leota PTSA Annual Fund that will benefit both ASB and PTSA. What this does is provide over 15,000 hours of student programs, important teacher grants and parent education while reducing the cost to raise funds by over 90%. The partnership with Principal Audee Gregor, AP Bryan McNeil and ASB Leader Valerie Olsen has been amazing. There are multiple ways to participate in the annual fund and the grand prize is Seahawks Tickets.

We are also proud to offer

two new programs this year: the PTSA Community Café and Science Olympiad. The Café is to help parents meet other parents and get connected to the school. Science Olympiad is new STEM competition open to all students. See more details on page 3.

Your membership in PTSA is very important to us. It shows your support for PTSA, gives you voting rights to determine programs offered, and adds your voice to advocate for all kids. No volunteering is required to join, but there are many benefits. Thank you!

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- ⇒ Back to School Fair Pictures

Your 2019-20 PTSA Officers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Leota PTSA Email

President	Robin McKenzie	president@leotaptsa.com
Vice-President	Open	vp@leotaptsa.com
Secretary	Carrie McKenzie	Secretary@leotaptsa.com
Treasurer	Amber Mills	treasurer@leotaptsa.com

STANDING COMMITTEE

AAP Liaison	Karen Grieser	contact@leotaptsa.com
Emergency Preparedness	Robin McKenzie	eprep@leotaptsa.com
Career Day	Suzette Hart	careerday@leotaptsa.com
Community Café	Carrie McKenzie	contact@leotaptsa.com
Newsletter & Website	Deirdre Hall	communications@leotaptsa.com
Back to School Fair	Valarie Kok	contact@leotaptsa.com
Special Education Rep	OPEN	spedrep@leotaptsa.com
Staff Appreciation	Jana Saarti	staffappreciation@leotaptsa.com
Science Olympiad	Shraddha Bhargava	contact@leotaptsa.com
Student Store	Austina De Bonte	studentstore@leotaptsa.com
Volunteer Coordinator	OPEN	volunteer@leotaptsa.com
Watch D.O.G.S.	Matt Vandenbeld	watchdogs@leotaptsa.com

Upcoming Events

- 9/4 First Day of School for 6th Graders
- 9/5 First Day of School for 7th and 8th Graders
- 9/10 PTSA Staff Appreciation
- 9/11 Curriculum Night @ Leota Middle School
Early Participation Rewards Drawing
- 9/20 PTSA Community Café @ 7:30am Lounge
Theme: Cool to Be New In School
- 9/25 WATCH D.O.G.S. Pizza Night @ 7pm Cafeteria
- 9/25 Vision and Hearing Screening
- 9/30 Science Olympiad Registration Deadline
- 10/4 PTSA Annual Fund Deadline
Prizes: Seahawks Tickets, XBOX ONE S & more
- 10/16 PTSA General Meeting @ 7pm Village Wines
Prize drawings/celebration for Annual Fund

If your actions inspire others to dream more,
learn more, do more and become more,
YOU ARE A LEADER.
- John Quincy Adams

**A BIG
THANK YOU
our amazing leaders!**



LEOTA PTSA ANNUAL FUND

LEOTA PTSA and ASB JOIN FORCES



WHY are we raising funds? Because we want to continue providing educational programs, experiences, sports, arts and grants far above basic education. All kids are able to use and benefit from these programs. **WHY are PTSA and ASB combining forces?** Because we want to make it clearer and easier than it has ever been while slashing the cost to raise funds by over 90%. **WHY are we calling this a fund and not a fundraiser?** Because we want to invest in programs and people, not sales quotas.

WHY are we asking for \$75 per student? Because Leota PTSA and ASB are committed to creating a school that provides excellence and opportunity for ALL students. \$75 per student maintains all the existing programs. Your PTSA membership gives you voice and vote over which programs are offered, which is why we have provided 4 ways to contribute \$75 or more per student.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE— NOW THROUGH OCT 4



Option 1: Leota PTSA

Membership + Sponsorship + Corporate Matching +
Donations can be made at:

www.leotaptsa.com

Option 2: 99Pledges

Donations + Ask Friends and Family to Participate +
Follow Individual and Pride Level Totals at:

bit.ly/LeotaTogether2019

Note: Qualifying purchases made on www.leotaptsa.com will be added to the rewards totals on the 99Pledges website. bit.ly/LeotaTogether2019 is case sensitive so the T and L must be capitalized. Link is also on leotaptsa.com website. **ALL DONATIONS ABOVE \$75 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS IN NEED.**

PAVING THE WAY IS HARD WORK AND DESERVES A REWARD

EARLY PARTICIPATION

Curriculum Night 9/11

Community Café 9/20

PTSA Paid Memberships and Donations at the cut off times for these events will be eligible for dinners out, family nights, swag bags and more (\$25-\$75 value)

GRAND PRIZE

Seahawks Tickets

1 ticket is provided for every \$25 donation above \$75. Example: total donations, memberships, sponsorship, corporate matching equaling \$125 will receive 3 tickets.

ALL SCHOOL GOALS

If the donation total reaches \$25, \$50, or \$75 per student levels, Audee and Bryan and maybe some teachers will:

Kiss the Piglet \$75

Ice Bucket Challenge \$50

Pie Eating Contest \$25



PAVING the WAY TOGETHER

Rewards based upon totals as of
October 4, 2019

TOP 1 STUDENT/GRADE*

Principal for a Day

TOP 10 STUDENTS/GRADE:*

Jamba Juice Gift Card

ALL INDIVIDUALS RAISING OVER:*

\$1000 High School Gear Pack

\$500 Leota School Gear Pack

\$250 Night at the Movies Gift Card

\$125 Front of the Line Lunch Pass

\$75 Free Pride Time with a Friend

*Individuals over \$125 also entered into a drawing for "XBOX ONE S" console

TOP 3 PRIDES

Top 3 Prides in total donations will each receive:

PIZZA PARTY

TOTAL PRIDE GOALS

Every Pride that reaches a total donation level that equals \$75 times the number of students in the Pride will receive:

KONA ICE

thank you for

- your love
- your support
- your generosity



Have you ever wondered how to connect with other parents or staff in the school? Our new PTSA Community Café will give you a way to connect with other parents in our school community. Every third Friday of the month, we will be holding a community café at the school or at other locations around our area. We will alternate between the morning and afternoon.

The teachers Lounge has been REFRESHED AND REDESIGNED. Come see what the creative team did during community serve day.

COFFEE | MEET PEOPLE | BE IN THE KNOW | HAVE FUN

Staff Appreciation

September 11: Welcome Back Snacks!

We LOVE our teachers and staff and every month we like to show it with a wonderful Treat. This year's themes are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sept 11th - Mailbox Treat | Feb 12th - Italian Lunch |
| Oct 9th - Tailgate Lunch | March 18th - Hawaiian Themed Lunch |
| Nov 13th - Fall Lunch | May 4-8th - Teacher Appreciation Week |
| Dec 11th - Mailbox Gift | June 3rd - Summer Dessert |
| Jan 15th - Healthy Start Lunch | |

To get notified each month, look for a sign up link in the newsletter or Leota PTSA Volunteers and Info Facebook group or contact Jana Sarti at staffappreciation@leotaptsa.com


Science Olympiad: Sign up Now!



Become a disease detective and solve medical mysteries by examining the details. Apply STEM skills to help build a robust boomilever. Craft a battery buggy that defies speed yet can run precisely to the millimeter. Try missions like these and more by participating in the 2019-2020 Science Olympiad! With almost 25 different topics included in the curriculum, participants will delve deeply into a variety of scientific topics and learn to develop and apply creative and innovative ideas together as a team. Qualified teams present their skills at regional, state, and even national level competitions. The club is also seeking parent volunteers to support students by either volunteering as a team coach or even simply coming to occasional meetings to offer suggestions or expert guidance on particular topics. For more information, please contact Shraddha Bhargava at scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com or by phone at 425-368-8984. Sign up at www.leotaptsa.com.

2019-2020 Reflections Theme: Look Within

National PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home. Categories for submissions include: Visual Arts, Literature, Photography, Music Composition, Film/Video, and Choreography/Dance.

To participate in this program, students work independently on their chosen creative work during the summer and early fall using the guidelines established by the national program. In November, Leota hosts an Art Walk displaying student submissions for the student body, and students pick their favorites in the People's Choice Awards. In January, the Northshore Council PTSA hosts an open house featuring all participants who make it to the council level and announce the submissions moving to the state level. This year's theme is 

We have had some very talented students participate in recent years, including one student who progressed to be a national finalist in 2018-2019. If your student wants to become involved in this program, please contact Nicole Stremlow-Monahan at reflections@leotaptsa.com for more information or visit the Reflections website at <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections> for program entry details.

Leota Ski & Snowboard Club Students and Chaperones



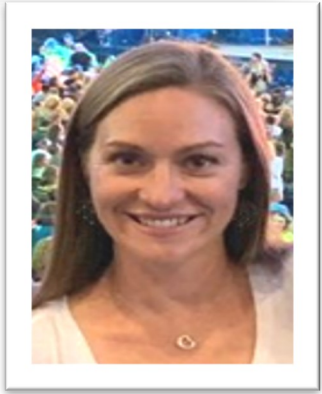
Join the Leota Ski & Snowboard Club this winter and your FRIDAYS WILL ROCK! Take the ski club bus from Leota and ski and snowboard with friends at Stevens Pass. For the 2020 season, the lessons will start in January and run for seven weeks. Registration opens September 1, 2019. The Leota lesson and transportation spots are generally full by October. If you would like to Chaperone, the bus fee is refunded and a free lift pass is provided every week. For more information and to register, go to www.lyonskischool.com.

WATCH D.O.G.S.

September 9 @ 6:30pm: Pizza Night!

Come join the WATCH D.O.G.S for their pizza night on September 9 at 6:30pm in the Leota Cafeteria and learn more about this wonderful program! Sign up to experience your students daily life and help around the school in a variety of ways. Matt Vandenberg is the chair and you can contact him for more information at WatchDogs@leotaptsa.com





THANK YOU VALERIE KOK and Volunteers for another great Back to School Fair.

LEOTA PTSA SUPPORTS

... AND SO MUCH MORE