



The Lesh Difference

Welcome to THE SHIP!

December 2020

Lesh Middle School

1400 Stover St.

Ft Collins, CO 80005

Main Office

970-472-3800

Attendance Line

970-472-3815

Principal

Dr. Tom Dodd

Assistant Principal

Grade 8

Mr. Waren Morrow

Dean Grade 7

Ms. Lisa Crossland

Assistant Principal

Grade 6

Mrs. Janice Martinez

School Website

click HERE



From the Principal

Dear Viking F-A-M-I-L-Y (Students, Parents & Staff):



Every year the Merriam-Webster dictionary picks a Word of the Year. A couple of weeks ago they announced the 2020 word of the year was.... "pandemic." Not a shocker.

Evidently the title goes to the most searched word on the Merriam-Webster website. I'm not sure how to best sum up

2020. The challenges of learning and working in isolation without the joy of seeing each other, the disruption to our everyday lives, you get it. We all get it. Yet I remain optimistic. We managed the 19 days we were in phase 3 A/B groups second quarter well. I'm hopeful we will get back to phase 3 A/B groups in January, and am eager for phase 4 before the end of the year with all our extra and co-curricular offerings, so we can finish out the year on a high note and send our 8th graders off to high school the right way.



continued...



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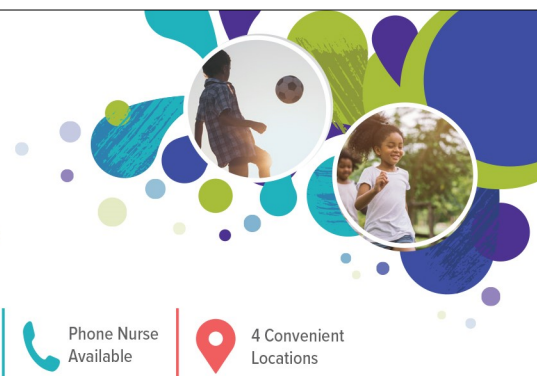
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From the Principal, continued...

I envision classrooms and hallways full of smiles, handshakes, high fives, hugs and laughs. We can do it if we work together as one big Leshar F-A-M-I-L-Y, Forget About Me I Love You! I will continue to use the platform I have as your principal to advocate for responsible in-person learning and all the cool things that go with it, and ask you all to continue to follow the advised 3Ws safety protocols (Wear masks. Wash hands. Watch your distance.) so the policy makers and political elites deciding whether we are online or on campus choose the latter. With the new year comes new beginnings, even in the middle of the school year, and a chance to see opportunity beyond the trying moments that have defined an unrelenting year. As we end 2020, I'm thankful for the grit and patience our students, parents, and staff have demonstrated and look forward to re-committing, re-connecting, and re-engaging with our kids spring semester, whatever the schedule looks like. Around the time you receive this newsletter PSD will likely have made the announcement of what phase or phases we will be in 3rd quarter. As soon as that decision is finalized, we will communicate Leshar's plan. Stay tuned, and as always, stay positive and test negative!



Shine on,

Dr. Tom Dodd, Principal, tdodd@psdschools.org, 472-3810

Waren Morrow, 8th Grade Asst. Principal & Athletic Director, wmorrow@psdschools.org, 472-3802

Lisa Crossland, 7th Grade Dean & MTSS Coordinator, lcrossla@psdschools.org, 472-3850

Janice Martinez, 6th Grade Asst. Principal & Assessment Coordinator, janicem@psdschools.org, 472-3854

Abryana Wood, 8th Grade Counselor & 7th Grade M-Z, awood@psdschools.org, 472-3877

Ashley Broody, 6th Grade Counselor & 7th Grade A-L, abroody@psdschools.org, 472-3851



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Bullying Prevention Committee Meeting

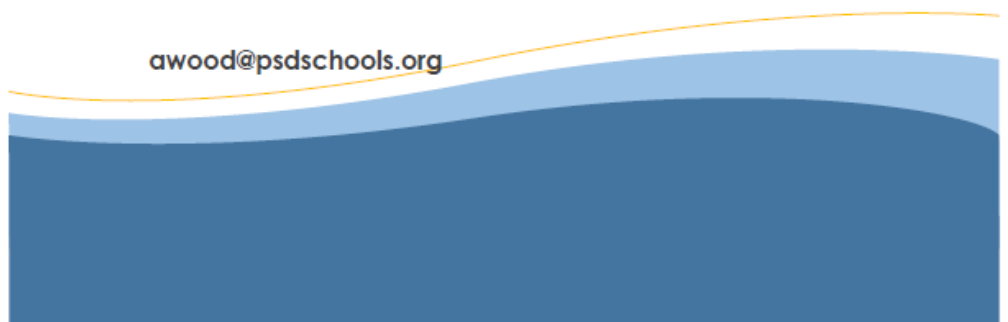
As part of Leshar's Bullying Prevention and Education Grant (BPEG), we are seeking committee members to discuss and provide input about bullying and our climate and culture. Leshar parents and students are invited to attend.

Friday, December 18th, 1:00 –1:45 pm

We will meet over Microsoft Teams.

Please e-mail Abryana Wood for the meeting link if you are interested in participating!

awood@psdschools.org



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Leshar participated in PSD's Annual Turkey Round Up in November!

Thank you to all who donated turkeys to the Larimer County Food Bank and to Dr. Dodd, who delivered them to the Tour de Turkey Round Up Drop Off!

Go Vikings!



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IMPORTANT

Viking yearbooks are still for sale but are going fast.

**Due to COVID, there will be fewer books available
this year, so reserve yours now!**

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Give Next

Give Next Summary:

Lesher's Give Next Program is run through 8th grade English Language Development and 8th grade ELA Strategic classes. Give Next is a school-based program designed to provide middle and high school students with hands-on experience in philanthropic giving. Students experience first-hand the power of teamwork, the impact they can have on their community, and the rewards of giving time, talent, and treasure.

Student Generated Mission Statement:

Lesher Middle School's Give Next program wants to help our community by preventing suicide and helping people with depression. We want to support non-profits which address mental health that make society better and help people who can't afford mental health services.

Give Next Members:

Abel Moncada Quintana
Aidan Favela
Alan Vega
Angel Garcia Cerda
Anthony Marquez
Fernando Gonzalez
Gisselle Alvarez Marcha
Isaac Olivas Cardona
Juan De Luna Rojas
Kaysia Miller-Trammel
Marcos Jimenez Penaloza
Mayte Julian Miranda
Nancy Mejia Hernandez
Naomi Mancia Salas
Nicole Mangaoang
Paige Swanson
Ryder Lamb
Samuel Stitt
Sofia Quintana Andazola
Valeria Ortiz Robles
Eric Perez



Abel Moncada Quintana, Eric Perez, Sofia Quintana Andazola, Naomi Mancia Salas, Nicole Mangaoang



Marcos Jimenez Penaloza, Mayte Julian Miranda, Angel Garcia Cerda, Juan De Luna Rojas, Fernando Gonzalez

**Please congratulate the following Leshar Vikings on winning
different categories in the
Little Shop of Physics Art of Science competition!**

You can see all winners and read the descriptions they submitted at [https://
www.lsop.colostate.edu/2020/11/16/art-of-science-contest-fall-2020/](https://www.lsop.colostate.edu/2020/11/16/art-of-science-contest-fall-2020/)

Also have a couple of former Vikings with winning submissions!

**BEST REPRESENTATION OF A SCIENTIFIC ISSUE OF SOCIAL IMPORTANCE IN THE
PHYSICAL SCIENCES BY A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT**



Climate Change by Danielle Doyle, 8th grade, Leshar Middle School

BEST WRITTEN COMPOSITION

The Cells Family, A Short Story

by Olivia Helgersen, 7th grade, Leshar Middle School

[The Cells Family: A Short Story \(pdf\)](#)

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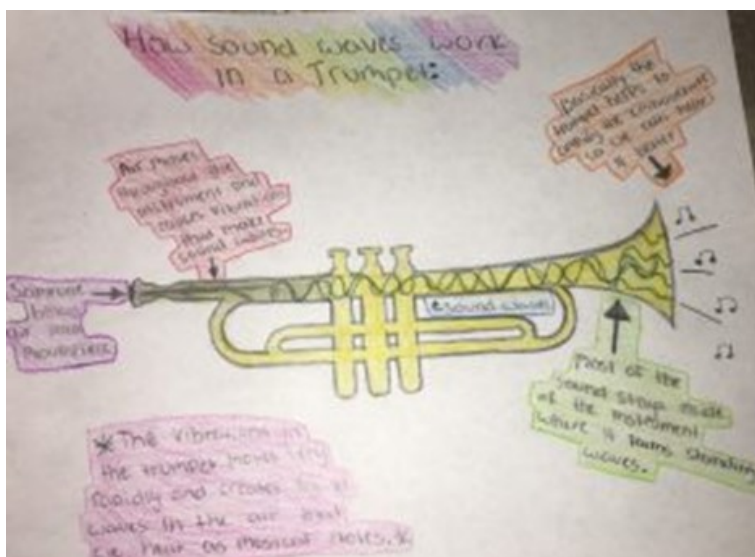
Little Shop of Physics Winners

BEST USE OF HUMOR TO EXPLAIN A CONCEPT IN THE LIFE SCIENCES



Terrific Tan Lines by Calista Carroll, 8th grade, Leshar Middle School

MOST CREATIVE REPRESENTATION OF SOMETHING THAT NORMALLY CANNOT BE SEEN OR HEARD IN THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES



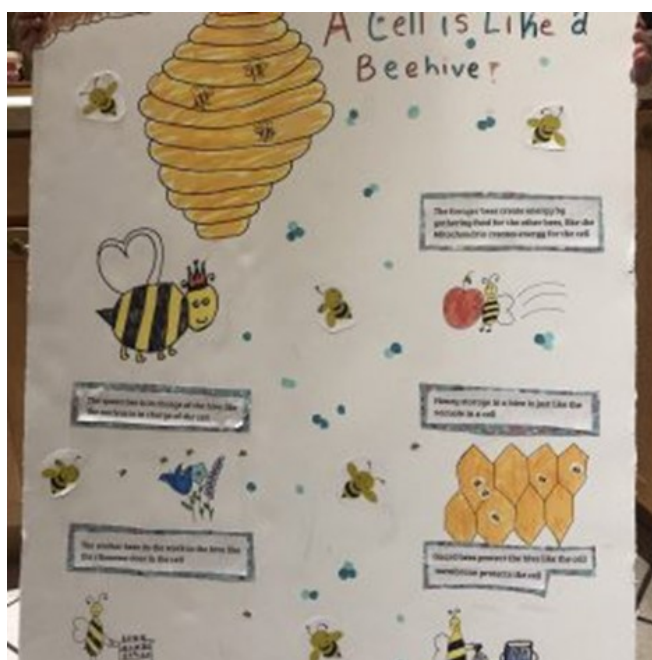
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Little Shop of Physics Winners

HONORABLE MENTION

At Play (A Musical Composition) by Sofia Rodriguez, 8th grade, Leshar Middle School

HONORABLE MENTION



A cell is like a beehive by Juliet Koenig, 7th grade, Leshar Middle School





10th Annual Adopt-a-Family was a Great Success!

Hi Students, Parents and Staff!

We hope you are having a great end to our first semester and are ready for the holiday break! We had a great culmination to our 10th Annual Adopt-a-Family community service program (see the attached pics) and were able to help out 4 families from one of our feeder elementary schools! The Leshar Community was so generous and helped in the following ways:

- Bringing essential household items (i.e. cleaning supplies, kitchen items, toiletries, food, etc.);
- Bringing gifts, toys or gift cards;
- Donating wrapping paper to wrap all the gifts;
- Donating new or like new clothing for family members;
- Writing cards/notes to the families; and
- Drawing pictures for younger family members.



continued...



Adopt-a-Family, continued...

Highlights from THIS YEAR- Lesher's Adopt-a-Family school-wide community service project involved a lot of our 800 students and 70+ staff members to bless 4 "adopted" families during this holiday season! Families that benefited were identified as low-income or in-crisis and all were from a Lesher feeder elementary school. All the families received gift cards averaging \$400/family and on average about 8-10 boxes filled with food, personal care products, school supplies, household products, toys, and new or like-new clothing that added up to 1,000s of dollars per family. The total amount donated by the Lesher community was around \$5,000!

Thank you for your support of our 2020 10th Annual Adopt-a-Family program! GO VIKINGS!

