



January 2022

The Leshers Difference

Welcome to THE SHIP!

Principal

Dr. Tom Dodd

Assistant Principal

Grade 8

Warren Morrow

Dean Grade 7

Lisa Crossland

Assistant Principal

Grade 6

Janice Martinez

School Website

click [HERE](#)



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does not imply endorsement by
the school or district.*

Message from the Principal

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

The sense of community. It's one of the things we value most about our school. Since the first public school opened in America in April of 1635 (Boston Latin) teachers and students have come together in one space to learn content, concepts, skills, and share experiences. And since the World Wide Web (www) was launched in the public domain in April of 1993 and more recently since covid arrived in FoCo in February of 2020, we have used technology to learn and share in a virtual space when we couldn't always be in a physical space.

Today, building community and expanding social interaction has become more important than ever. While separated physically last year, we worked hard to maintain pathways for learning, conversation, and friendship, through teacher learning pages, Google classroom, etc. This year the return to fully in-person schooling with concerts, clubs, athletics, student-of-the-month celebrations and monthly school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support challenges (Post Cards Home, Why You're Awesome Forms, Thankful Calendar, BINGO Boards, etc.) has strengthened those pathways. It's clear, The Viking Ship is a vital gathering place for all of us. Conventional wisdom holds that the more we are in school the more learning and socially beneficial connections we will experience. But without responsibility and accountability it could also mean higher incidents of quarantine and isolation, which none of us want. We are not a collection of individuals going it alone, we are an inclusive and informed Leshers F-A-M-I-L-Y from diverse backgrounds, joined together to thrive in the present and create our future. It's in our hands. The quality that sets Leshers apart from the average school is the level of dedication to our collective mission – teaching every student and caring for every family who walks in our door by attracting and retaining the best and brightest faculty and staff.

As we move into 2022, we will continue to make good things happen for other people, promote togetherness, and lift the levels of those around us. We're committed to providing the inspiration and expertise that empowers teaching and learning in our school. We're grateful for you, our Leshers community, and how far we've come the last two years. More than ever... we're ready for whatever.

Shine on,
Dr. Tom Dodd
Principal

2022
HAPPY NEW YEAR



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Aspen Perkins

Call or text: (907) 764-2932

Email: Aspen.Perkins@educatus.org

School of Choice Application - Deadline Approaching!

Did your student come to Leshar as a School of Choice student? If so, do they have a 5th grade sibling hoping to join them here on The Ship? Then it's time to submit your application for School of Choice for the 2022-23 school year! Parents of 8th graders interested in attending a High School that is NOT your school of attendance should also submit Choice applications for your student's preferred school(s). The application, and more information, can be found by visiting <https://www.psdschools.org/schools/school-options-choice>.

Some special circumstances dictate that current Leshar students also submit a Choice application to return to Leshar next year. Check out the below flyer to see if these circumstances apply for your family!

The first-round consideration period for School of Choice applications closes on Friday, January 21 at 12 pm. Please submit your application(s) prior to that date and time!

School Choice is now Open for the 2022-23 School Year!

Wondering if you should submit a School Choice Application to stay at Leshar next year?

PSD School Choice Application: <https://psdschoolchoiceapplication.com/apply/>.



*This only applies if you began your enrollment with Leshar as your **NEIGHBORHOOD** school. If you are a School Choice student who changed addresses within PSD, simply contact Registrar Jessica Palin to update your information.



*Current 5th, 6th and 7th grade students and families who have been re-zoned by the [new boundary changes](#) and DO NOT want to attend Timnath MHS in 2022-23 (or until 9th grade) need to submit a School Choice Application. Please remember, transportation is NOT provided to school choice students. **We want you to stay with us!** 😊



When does the School of Choice application window open and close?

The first consideration School Choice application window opened Friday, October 1, 2021 and closes at 12pm, Friday, January 21, 2022. Second consideration opens in February and remains open until the start of the 2022-23 school year; however, we encourage families to get applications in during the first consideration window for the best chance of being offered a spot aboard The Viking Ship!

When will I know if my student is accepted through the School Choice process?

Invitations are extended via email after the lottery is run the week of Monday, January 24th. Invitations are based on enrollment numbers and space availability.

Additional questions regarding enrollment, boundaries, or School Choice?

Contact Leshar Registrar, Jessica Palin, at 970-472-3804 or jpalin@psdschools.org.

Leshar Open House and Curriculum Fair

We're ready to welcome our prospective Viking parents/guardians and students to Leshar on Thursday, January 13th from 5-7:30 pm when we host our Open House & Curriculum Fair. If you have friends or family members that are considering becoming a part of the Leshar F-A-M-I-L-Y, encourage them to join us for an evening of exploration and learning about The Leshar Difference!



Leshar Middle School, an IB World School Open House & Curriculum Fair Thursday, January 13th 5 – 7:30pm

Meet some of our students, talk with teachers, tour the building, and learn more about our Leshar community.

For more information visit our website at

<https://les.pdschools.org/>.

We are accepting School Choice applications for the 2022-23 school year. The first-round deadline is

Noon, Friday, January 21st. Apply online at <http://psdschoolchoiceapplication.com/site.php>.



Leshar Middle School, Colegio del Mundo Promoción de Programas Educativos

El jueves 13 de enero
De 5 a 7:30pm

Conozca a algunos de nuestros estudiantes, hable con los maestros, recorra el edificio, y aprenda más acerca de nuestra comunidad de Leshar.

Para obtener más información, visite nuestro sitio web en:

<https://les.pdschools.org/>.

Estamos aceptando aplicaciones de Escuela de Elección para el año escolar 2022-23. La fecha límite de la primera ronda es el viernes 21 de enero a las 12 pm. Haga su solicitud en línea: <http://psdschoolchoiceapplication.com/site.php>.



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8th Grade Transition Information

8th Grade Students and Families!

As we continue preparing for our 8th graders transition into high school, please refer to our 8th grade transition [website](#) for updated information. Also note, students will be taking home permission slips to get signed by their guardians for our **February 11th** field trip to their projected High Schools.

If your student plans to attend a high school that is not their neighborhood school, you will need to complete the School of Choice [application](#) by **January 21, 2022**. To determine your student's neighborhood school, input your current address on this [website](#).

Please reach out to 8th Grade Counselor Cassie Yoder with any questions.

Email: cyoder@psdschools.org

Phone Number: 472-3877

Come out to Support our Teams!

Wrestling and Girls Basketball are kicking off their competitive seasons soon- show your support by catching an upcoming match or game!
Visit the links below for more information.

[Lesher Athletics and Activities](#)
[ALL Lesher Athletic Schedules](#)



PSD Athletics

Congrats to Molly Margeau, and the District Champion Runner-Up Lesher Cross Country Program!

[PSD Athletics: Molly Margeau Cross Country Lesher Middle School](#)





MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS
SERVING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! JOIN US TODAY

The Fort Collins chapter is currently welcoming 6th - 9th grade girls and their mothers to join for 2022-2023.

Informational meetings will be held November 21, 2021 and January 30, 2022

Interested in joining?
Contact us!

MembershipFortCollins@NCLOnline.org

NationalCharityLeague.org/
Chapter/FortCollins

Now Hiring!

Leshar is currently looking for a Head Custodian and Registrar (<https://psdschools.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>).

If you or someone you know is interested in either position please have them click these links to apply:

Registrar Vacancy –

<https://psdschools.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=4270>.

Head Custodian Vacancy –

<https://psdschools.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=4083>.

Celebrating the season with some special Shipmates

For nearly 35 years, Leshar's loyal PSD delivery driver Tim Sanchez's parents, Gil and Cindie Sanchez, with Tim's help have wowed their West Street neighborhood with an ever-evolving handmade Christmas display that's steadily grown since the late 1980s. They were featured in this 12/16/21 Coloradoan article right before break:

https://www.coloradoan.com/story/life/2021/12/16/best-neighborhoods-christmas-lights-fort-collins-west-street-holiday-decorations/8855519002/?utm_source=coloradoan-Daily%20Briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily_briefing&utm_term=hero&utm_content=1021CO-E-NLETTER65.



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I Matter

**I want to understand my
feelings because I matter**

The purpose of I Matter is to promote youth emotional and mental health. To begin, you will need to take a survey. Try to be honest as possible: your answers are completely confidential and will help match you with a clinician who can best support you. No matter your responses, you will be eligible for 3 free counseling sessions.

If you're 11 or younger, your parent or guardian will have to fill out the survey with you.

Parents, if you feel your child is struggling and needs help, you are in the right place to talk to a mental health professional for free. Seeking support for your child is not a sign of failure—it's a sign of strength. Start by filling out the survey below.

[Click here to start the survey](#)

**Every Colorado youth is
now eligible for three free
therapy sessions.**

Visit IMatterColorado.org
to learn more.

I Matter.



Morning Fresh Cash for Caps

If you are a Morning Fresh Dairy customer, please bring in your rinsed milk, juice, cream, or other caps to Mr. Mayer. Leshar Middle School earns money for every cap that is returned. If you are interested in Morning Fresh Dairy, every new household sign up raises \$25 for Leshar. Click [here](#) or ask Mr. Mayer (bmayer@psdschools.org) for more information.

Why You're Awesome! Planner Powerball and Trash Powerball

Date	Planner Power Ball	Trash Power Ball	Why You're Awesome
11/12/2021		Lily Galbreath	Esmeralda Martinez
	7 th – Griffin Botte - \$10	Jennifer Reyes Gonzales	Riley Ward
		Tristan Bush	Thomas Lynn
		Joel Vasquez	
		Rose Blackburn	
		Brody Gilson	
		Drew Wacker	



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Parent Drop Off and Pick Up

Parent drivers, please use the parent drop off and pick up area along Ellis St. on the east side of our building. We have a crossing guard at the Ellis St. drop off/pick up and you may also use the church parking lot to drop off/pick up, or exit. Please **PULL FORWARD**, yield to the buses, obey traffic signs and speed limits, **DO NOT** block crosswalks or driveways, make U-turns, or leave a vehicle unattended in a handicapped space. Our 4 buses drop off and pick up on Stover St. (West) and Lake St. (North) and we prefer to keep parent traffic away from the buses as much as possible.

Traffic Safety at Leshер Middle School

1400 Stover St. | Fort Collins



In the interest of student, parent, & staff safety:

Drivers

- Slow down
- Drop-off/pick-up students at designated times & places
- **PULL FORWARD** in the drop-off/pick-up area
- Yield to pedestrians & crossing guards in crosswalks
- **DO NOT BLOCK** the roadway, bicycle lanes, handicap spaces, bus entrances, or driveways
- NO parking, stopping, or standing at **RED CURBS**
- DO NOT make u-turns on streets around the school

Bicyclists/Skateboarders

- Bicycles should use bicycle lanes & obey traffic laws
- Dismount your bicycle/skateboard on the sidewalk in front of the school & walk
- Secure your bicycle/skateboard on the racks at the north side of the school

Pedestrians

- Use crosswalks
- Make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing

