

The PTO wishes you the warmest

WELCOME TO LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY



The Lafayette Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is thrilled to welcome you to our Lafayette community! Inside you will find useful information created by your fellow Lafayette parents to make your transition as smooth and welcoming as possible.



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Questions about anything? E-mail us! president@cougarpto.org

QUICK REFERENCE RESOURCES

BELL TIMES

First bell rings at 7:50 a.m.

Second bell rings at 7:55 a.m.

Late start every Wednesday: 8:50 a.m.

Dismissal every day at 2:50 p.m.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

www.bvsd.org/calendar

LUNCH MENUS

food.bvsd.org/meals-nutrition/menus

REPORT CARDS

<https://bvsd.infinitecampus.org>

PARENT DIRECTORY & VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

bvsd.helpatschools.com



Make sure to create an account on Help At Schools. It's where the school administration, classroom teachers, and the PTO will post volunteer opportunities - and you can opt in to the school directory to connect with fellow parents!



MEET OUR MASCOT - CT

LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY MAIN OFFICE

(720) 561-8900

ATTENDANCE

(720) 561-8902

STAFF DIRECTORY

lae.bvsd.org/about/staff-directory

LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY PTO

www.cougarpto.org

@LafayettecougarPTO on Facebook



THE COUGAR CONNECTION: WEEKLY SCHOOL MESSAGE

The school administrative team sends out a weekly message every Monday. It includes a calendar of upcoming activities, things that are going on at school, calls for volunteers, participation opportunities, and more! Don't miss this weekly email full of important information.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Lafayette Cougar Community,

My name is Megan Weir, and it is an honor and privilege to serve as the principal of Lafayette Elementary!

I'm thrilled to be part of the Lafayette Elementary–Angevine Middle–Centaurus High feeder system. Lafayette holds a special place in my heart- my family and I moved here when I was 12. I started at Angevine in 7th grade, while my younger siblings attended Lafayette Elementary, and we all graduated from Centaurus High School. Though I now live in Erie, Lafayette is where my roots run deep. I spent summers working at the Lafayette Recreation Center, Lamont Does Pool, and the YMCA, and I continue to volunteer with local organizations today. I absolutely love this community and know firsthand what a unique and vibrant place it is.

Lafayette Elementary offers a rich academic experience in a culturally diverse setting. Students benefit from individualized learning supported by our Gifted and Talented focus program, interventionists, tutors, paraeducators, and dedicated teaching staff. Our team is committed to meeting the needs of every learner, including second language students and children with special needs. Our school climate is strengthened by programs like character education, class meetings, Peace Place, No Place For Hate, and student leadership groups. We also offer Preschool, Full-Day Kindergarten, and a School Age Childcare (SAC) program—providing a wide range of supports for families. Lafayette Elementary is a nurturing neighborhood school and an inclusive, engaging place to learn and grow. *(To learn more about what Lafayette can offer your family, please [visit the "About" section of our website!](#))*

I'm excited to get to know all the students and families who make up our amazing school community. My door is always open, and I truly welcome conversations about how things are going. I will communicate with you often as well, and keep you up to date on Cougar happenings!

I look forward to connecting with each of you—please don't hesitate to reach out throughout the year.

Have a great day, and go Cougars!

Megan Weir | megan.weir@bvsd.org | (720) 561-8900

ADMIN TEAM TO KNOW



Robin Stone, Dean of Students | robin.stone@bvsd.org | (720) 561-8946

Welcome to Lafayette Elementary! My name is Robin Stone, and I'm proud to serve as the Dean of Students here at Lafayette. Whether you're brand new to our school or returning for another great year, we're so glad to have you as part of our Lafayette community. I began my journey in education right here at Lafayette and have cherished being part of such a vibrant and diverse community ever since. At Lafayette, we're committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and joyful environment where all students can thrive—academically, socially, and emotionally. We believe in the power of strong relationships, high expectations, and a deep love of learning. As a gifted and talented focused school we pride ourselves on providing students with differentiated learning using the principles of depth and complexity. As Dean of Students, I work closely with students, staff, and families to support a positive school climate and help every student feel seen, heard, and valued. I'm here to help with anything from conflict resolution and restorative learning to celebrating successes and encouraging student leadership. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you ever have questions, concerns, or just want to say hello. I look forward to partnering with you and getting to know your family better throughout the year. Here's to a wonderful year ahead at Lafayette!



Anna Gamble, Counselor | anna.e.gamble@bvsd.org | (720) 561-7113

Hello! I'm Anna Gamble. I'm excited to be in my second year as the school counselor at Lafayette and feel lucky to have worked with students and families in the Lafayette community for nearly 20 years. Supporting students' social and emotional growth is my passion, and I truly believe these skills are just as important as academics. I've worked with kids from kindergarten through 12th grade and love helping them build confidence, kindness, and resilience. Outside of school, I enjoy hiking, biking, and spending time in the mountains or by the ocean. I also love cooking, trying new foods, and making memories with my son, family, and friends.



Patty Gruber, Registrar | patty.gruber@bvsd.org | (720) 561-8900

Welcome to Lafayette Elementary! This is such a wonderful school, with awesome staff & teachers and awesome kids! You will see me at the front window (most of the time - I do have to eat!). The kids call me Ms. Patty and I do attendance taking, enrollments/withdrawals, checking kids in & checking kids out on Infinite Campus and much more. If I don't have an answer, I can find you one!



OUR SCHOOL

The Mission of Lafayette Elementary School is to foster academic and social development of our students through a challenging and engaging curriculum, differentiated instruction, and on-going communication between parents, staff members, and students. We empower our students to be logical problem solvers, compassionate decision makers, and responsible citizens. Our commitment to high quality instruction nurtures the curiosity within and creates a community of learners who are capable of independent thinking.

Our vision includes:

- Strong BVSD standards-based curriculum, assessment and reporting.
- Trained staff members who are committed to learning and leading.
- School-wide focus on gifted and talented education
- Parents and community involved in supporting the education of all children.
- Students engaged in their learning and increasing their knowledge for real life applications.
- Safety and security for all students, staff, and volunteers.

For more information about curriculum for each grade level - visit the [Academics page on the school website](#).

In addition to their main classroom experience, students visit the school library once a week and participate in daily specials, rotating weekly between Art, Music, and PE.



Art, Music, and PE (called "Specials") rotate each week. During the first week of school, students will visit one each day - and then they will move to a rotation: one week of Art, one week of Music, and one week of PE. The order varies by class - check the link on the [Academics page on the school website](#) or link in the Cougar Connection for details on the rotation for the current school year.

GIFTED & TALENTED

FOCUS SCHOOL

Lafayette Elementary is a gifted and talented focus school, providing enriching learning experiences for all students.

Our teachers and staff work with identified students K - 5 and provide differentiation and support to help meet the needs of identified students. The school offers advanced math programming for grades 4 and 5 as well as math extension opportunities in grades K - 3. There is also a strong focus on social/emotional learning and literacy enrichment during our WIN time ("What I Need" time - additional support and extensions) in all grades. The school provides professional development for teachers in depth and complexity strategies that can be implemented across content areas.

We also provide enrichment opportunities for all students during after school programming (see information on Clubs on the next page) and we have competitions for all students: National Scripps Spelling Bee for intermediate students, and a school level spelling bee for primary students. Noetic Math Contest for students in grade 2 - 5, and a Geography Bee for 4th and 5th graders.





CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Lafayette offers many ongoing enrichment activities throughout the school year. Enrichment activities are supported by school as well as by the Boulder Valley School District.

During the school day, the school offers an annual Geography Bee (4th and 5th grade students participate in the National GeoBee sponsored by National Geographic Magazine) and an annual Spelling Bee (for both primary and intermediate students). The school winner from the intermediate division then moves on to the Boulder Valley District Spelling Bee. Winners may go as far as the state and national level bees.

Lafayette Cougars can participate in a variety of free after-school enrichment clubs and activities. Activities are held after school from 2:55 - 3:55 p.m. At the start of the school year, staff members sign up to sponsor clubs and extension opportunities, many of which support different areas of giftedness. Club offerings are shared with students and families through our Wednesday television station, C.T.T.V., teacher newsletters and weekly family communications.

Some of our past clubs have included:

- Choir
- Chess Club
- Shakespeare Club
- Math Mania
- Sewing Club
- Service Learning Club
- Curious Cougar News
- And more!

Lafayette also takes pride in its strong **No Place for Hate** and **Destination Imagination** programs. Parent volunteers lead Destination Imagination clubs. Are you interested in getting involved with DI? [Learn more here.](#)



Club funding from the district isn't confirmed until around the time that school starts in August. The school works quickly to identify staff who are willing to take on clubs that have funds - and sometimes they will also volunteer when funds are not available. Parent support for clubs is often requested.

ABOUT THE PTO

WHAT IS THE PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION?

Lafayette Elementary's Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) unites families, students, teachers, administrators, businesspeople, and community leaders devoted to children's educational success and parents' involvement in schools. Lafayette Elementary PTO strives to build a strong partnership between faculty and families by providing diverse opportunities for involvement.

Our PTO is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. The PTO's success depends on you! We count on your support financially and through volunteer opportunities.

The PTO has partnered with Lafayette Elementary School to raise funds for:

- **Part time Literacy & Math tutors**
- **Classroom Support for teachers, specialists, and the library**
- **Field Trips & Outdoor Education**
- **A Teacher Grant Program**
- **Garden to Table**
- **Community events & fundraisers, including Laps for Lafayette (Fall), The Read-a-thon (Winter), and The Cougar Carnival (Spring)**
- **And MORE!**

LEARN MORE AT
www.cougarpto.org



GET YOUR
COUGAR WEAR!

Lafayette Elementary Cougar Wear is available for sale year round! Proceeds of all sales go directly back to support Lafayette Elementary's PTO. New styles come out at the beginning of each school year.

www.cougarpto.org/cougarwear

WHAT WE DO

The primary purposes of Lafayette Elementary's PTO are captured in the Five C's:

- **Communication** – Provide clear, concise communication between teachers, parents, students, and staff about PTO events and activities.
- **Community Building** – Engage families in events that build a strong sense of community and develop mutual respect and positive relationships.
- **Classroom Support** – Sponsor, advocate, and promote activities and events for all students that supplement and enhance the BVSD curriculum.
- **Creating Volunteer Opportunities** – Provide many and varied opportunities for families to become involved in their children's education and school experience.
- **Cash** – Raise funds through advocacy to meet students' needs not provided through district allocations.



THE PTO'S MISSION

Our mission is to support the education of children at Lafayette Elementary by fostering relationships among the school, parents, and teachers, to develop a closer connection between school and home by encouraging parent involvement, and to improve the environment at Lafayette Elementary through volunteer and financial support.



PTO SPONSORED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

The Lafayette Elementary PTO sponsors many events each year that support our school and community. Events & activities include:

- 4 General PTO Meetings throughout the year (open to all - including students!)
- Laps for Lafayette (Fall Fundraiser)
- Read-A-Thon (Winter Fundraiser)
- Cougar Carnival (Spring Community Event & Silent Auction)
- Garden To Table
- Monthly Restaurant Night Outs
- Community Nights with Skate City, Colorado Rapids, Colorado Rockies, and more!
- Sunshine Committee - Ongoing Teacher & Staff Appreciation and school-wide coordination for Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week (first week of May)
- The Trash Pandas - Parent-led School Grounds clean-up team
- Colfax Marathon Relay Teams



QUICK TIPS

Lafayette Elementary PTO funds our schools Garden To Table program - offering students opportunities with hands-on learning in our school garden. Volunteer opportunities for parents are available in the fall, spring and summer!



Lafayette Elementary School Garden

Learn more about how to **VOLUNTEER**

There are many ways to get involved!

Volunteers are critical support for Lafayette Elementary School.

How will I know about volunteer opportunities?

- Keep on eye on **Help at Schools** for opportunities as they come up.
- Read the PTO section of the **Cougar Connection** (weekly school newsletter that comes out every Monday)
- Read emails that come from **your student's teacher** for classroom specific opportunities.

There are a variety of roles available to volunteers, including:

- Volunteering in the Classroom
- Becoming a Room Parent (ask your student's teacher about their specific needs)
- Joining the PTO Board
- Joining a PTO Committee
- Helping plan one of the PTO's major fundraising events (like Laps for Lafayette, the Read-A-Thon or the Cougar Carnival)
- Supporting the Sunshine Committee with ongoing teacher & staff appreciation efforts
- Chaperoning during field trips
- Volunteering to support a Club
- Volunteering for Garden to Table
- Joining the Trash Pandas (to keep school grounds clean!)
- And more!



BEFORE YOU VOLUNTEER

All BVSD school volunteers must be approved by an administrator and work under the supervision of school district staff members.

Visit BVSD's Volunteer site for a volunteer application and more information about the type of background check you may need before volunteering.

bvsd.org/parents-students/get-involved/volunteers



OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY PTO

PASSIVE INCOME PROGRAMS

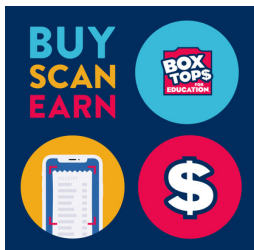
One of the easiest ways to help the PTO raise funds is by participating in some of our passive income programs. Partnerships with companies like the Box Tops for Education, Longmont Dairy, and King Soopers allow us to raise money while you're simply purchasing things you need and were planning to purchase anyway. These "free" ways to give back are a great way to support your PTO – and they are easy too!

King Soopers Community Rewards



- Go to kingsoopers.com – and either create an online account or login to an existing one.
- From Account Home – scroll down to Community Rewards
- Click on Enroll – and search for our organization number: **KV046**. You'll see Lafayette Elementary PTO
- Select Enroll again – and you're done! King Soopers will automatically donate money with every purchase!

Box Tops for Education



- Download the Box Tops for Education app and set-up an account.
- On your account page you can choose to *Manage Schools* – and *Add Lafayette Elementary School, Lafayette, CO* as your school.
- You'll use that app to scan your receipts when you shop – and qualifying purchases will automatically provide credit back to the PTO.
- *Do you have a Walmart Account?* In the box tops app – you can also link your Walmart account to have it automatically check your receipt for you!



Longmont Dairy – Milkcaps for Moola

- If you get milk from the Longmont Dairy – all you need to do is bring your rinsed off milk caps to school and drop them in the bin near the front office. That's it – you drop them off, the PTO raises money!

Become a Lafayette Elementary PTO SPONSOR

Events like our Cougar Carnival would not be possible without the support of our AWESOME sponsors! If you or your business would like to **BECOME A SPONSOR** of the PTO Events for this school year, contact our PTO at president@cougarpto.org.

Thank you to our 2024-25 SPONSORS



CORPORATE MATCHING

Many businesses offer corporate matching funds for donations made by employees. Some even offer funds in exchange for your volunteer time! Check and see if your company offers Corporate Match to take your support for Lafayette Elementary PTO even further!

Welcome to the Lafayette Elementary community!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about being a Lafayette Elementary parent!

We are here to help!

president@cougarpto.org

www.cougarpto.org

Follow us on Facebook:
@LafayettecougarPTO



LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY PTO