

* 2026-27 Committee Descriptions

BUILDING & GROUNDS



Contact: Jessica Hickinbotham

ptabandg@laurelridgeelementary.com

Liaison: Joanna Carr

ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

This committee focuses on projects to beautify and improve our school grounds inside and out. Team members coordinate projects with school admin, organize community workdays, and provide sign-ups for ongoing volunteer projects.



STUDENT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Contact: Laura Davis LDKennesaw@gmail.com

Liaison: Joanna Carr

ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

This committee works closely with the school administration to assess students' and families' needs and determine how the PTA can best support them. This team manages and organizes donations for the Eric Hunt Care Closet, packs Friday food backpacks weekly, and helps with the Giving Tree program each holiday season.



DEI

Contacts: Co-Chairs André Hopkins and Kathleen Lorio dei@laurelridgeelementary.com

Liaison: Lauren Barineau

ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

The DE&I committee fosters a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion within our school community.

They research and suggest educational opportunities, strategies, and actions to help move us closer to these goals.

This year's events will include International Night and a Used Book Drive. This committee also plans and installs rotating DEI representation billboards. In addition, they also coordinate school Culture and Heritage Celebrations and promote upcoming DCSD & community events.

COMMUNICATION



Contact: Mandy Betts

ptacommunications@laurelridgeelementary.com

Liaison: Lauren Barineau

ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

This committee links the PTA and the school community through the PTA newsletter, website, Class Dojo, and social media. This committee is an excellent fit for those with communications backgrounds and those who speak languages other than English, especially Spanish.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



Contact & Liaison: Joanna Carr

ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

The Family Engagement Committee is behind our community's special events and activities! These events include the Welcome Back Picnic, Fall Festival, Family Fun Nights, and more.

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

Contact - Chelsea Holman:

chelsea.b.holman@gmail.com



FALL FESTIVAL

Contacts - Jamie Chrisman and Allison Nesbit:

Familyengagement@laurelridgeelementary.com



LOST & FOUND

Contact: OPEN POSITION - email Joanna C for info

ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

Help maintain and organize the school's lost-and-found items, share reminders with families via PTA communication, and collect and donate unclaimed items at the end of each semester.



2026-27 Committee Descriptions

FUNDRAISING/ SPONSORSHIPS

Contacts: Mary-Rachel Clasen mkantala2@gmail.com
 Liaison: Lauren Barineau ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com



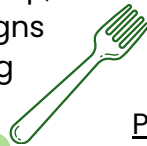
This committee generates income, solicits sponsorships, sells merchandise, and hosts fundraising events for the LRES PTA. We especially need great managers, organizers, and strategic thinkers. There are many ways to participate by leading or joining one of our Fundraising sub-committees.

BOOK FAIR



Contacts: Victoria Dragstedt,
 Kara Johnson, & Kristin Wright:
lresbookfair@laurelridgeelementary.com

The Book Fair Committee coordinates and manages our Fall and Spring Book Fairs. Coordinating and planning these successful fundraising events includes choosing vendors, scheduling preview times with teachers, setting up, breaking down, creating signs and flyers, and organizing volunteers.



BUDGET / FINANCE

Contact: OPEN POSITION - email [Lauren B](#) for info

The Budget and Finance Committee ensures that the LRES PTA is a good steward of money. The committee proposes budgets, completes financial audits, and tracks the books. This committee appreciates volunteers with a mind for budgets & accounting, and is great for those with limited time.

FALL FUNDRAISER

Contact - [Lauren Barineau](#) & [Joanna Carr](#)

The Fall Fundraiser Committee works with our PTA's Exec Committee to coordinate our primary direct fundraising campaign. This fundraiser is our largest of the year and takes place each September. Our 2026 Fundraiser will be through Raise Craze!

SPIRIT NIGHTS

Contact - Katie Dod
Ptasecretary@laurelridgeelementary.com

Our Spirit Night volunteers organize dine-outs and fundraising events with local restaurants and businesses that benefit Laurel Ridge. We aim to host four or more Spirit Night events per year.



SPIRIT WEAR

Contact: Haley Harben
haleyjharben@gmail.com
 Liaison: Joanna Carr
ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

Our Spirit Wear coordinator is responsible for coordinating LRES merchandise. That includes communicating with Spirit Wear vendors, managing inventory, organizing sales & orders, and managing the web store for sales. This coordinator also assists with ordering Field Day shirts provided each year by the PTA.

PENNY BOWL

Contact: OPEN POSITION - email [Lauren B](#) for info

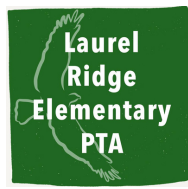
Penny Bowl is a beloved fundraising challenge each winter where students donate change to see which grade level rises to the top at the end of the week!

STAFF ENGAGEMENT

Contact - Mel Gleason & Liz Pashayan
lizpashayan@gmail.com
melkicks@gmail.com

Liaison - Lauren Barineau ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

Staff Engagement Committee supports teachers and staff throughout the year with meals, treats, and other tokens of recognition. Major projects of the year include providing meals (some catered and some contributed by parents) during pre-planning, post-planning, Teacher/ Staff Appreciation Week, and conference/curriculum nights.



2026-27 Committee Descriptions

YEARBOOK

Contact - Samantha Katz

lreyarbook@laurelridgeelementary.com

Liason: Lauren Barineau

ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

The Yearbook Committee facilitates the planning, photo collection, editing & publishing, plus promotion of our annual yearbook. Comfort with learning web-based programs is helpful for the design process, but is not required to participate in the yearbook committee.

ROOM PARENTS

Contact: Mackenzie Niebieski

ptaroomparents@laurelridgeelementary.com

Room parents are the primary liaison between your child's teacher, the classroom families, and the PTA.

Responsibilities include communicating class and PTA news to families in a timely manner, organizing volunteers and class events, assisting with staff gifts, and coordinating during Staff Appreciation Week.

If you are interested in being a Room Parent, please indicate your interest on the Room Parent form in each classroom during Open House!

Volunteering 101

There's a volunteer role for everyone—no matter your schedule or skills! Volunteering with the PTA is a great way to support our students and connect with the school community.

Here's how to get started:

- Fill out our [Volunteer Interest Form](#). We'll reach out with more information and help get you connected.
- Watch for upcoming opportunities in the Eagle Flyer newsletter and in our private Facebook group.
- Complete DCSD Volunteer Certification (Level II) so you're ready to jump in when opportunities arise. (Many volunteer roles require Level II.) Learn more [here](#).

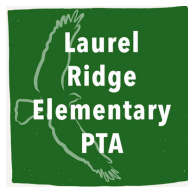


Scan here for the volunteer interest form.



Scan here for volunteer certification info.

Have questions? Email us at ptainfo@laurelridgeelementary.com!



2026-27 Open Positions

BUDGET / FINANCE

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ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

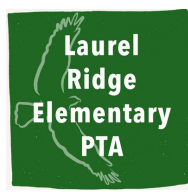
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2026-27 Open Positions

PENNY BOWL

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ptacopresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

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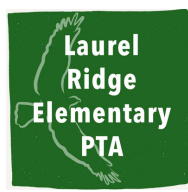
This is a position where the bulk of the time commitment occurs during one week in February.



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2026-27 Open Positions

LOST & FOUND

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ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

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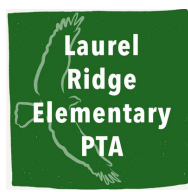
This is a position that is great for someone that needs flexibility in their volunteer time.



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2026-27 Open Positions

CO-VICE PRESIDENT

**Contact: email Lauren B or
Joanna C for info**

If you're ready to explore a bigger role in the PTA, come join us on the executive committee! The co-VP role has a lot of flexibility to choose which committees they are most interested in working with and is great for someone that wants a deeper understanding of the school community and how it operates.

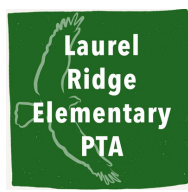
This is an elected role.



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2026-27 Open Positions

COOKIE EXCHANGE COORDINATOR

Contact: email Joanna C for info
ptapresident@laurelridgeelementary.com

Help continue this new tradition that was a hit with the staff last year. Held in early December, this would be a great position for someone that has good organizational skills and enjoys connecting with the staff. Someone that enjoys baking would be a big plus!



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