

Communications Committee:

Information for the PTA meeting presentation

- Newsletter: we have been sending an electronic newsletter, both in English and Spanish, every Thursday. We do a printer version once a month (next one this week). If you have a topic of interest you would like us to cover, please email me at ptacommunications@laurelridgeelementary.com. We are normally looking to highlight volunteers, kids and teachers. Special thanks to our newsletter content creator, Amy Heldman, who works hard every week to make sure the information you need makes it to the newsletter, to our webmaster, Joey Wilkinson for his work sending the newsletter every week and to Dora Curry for helping us with the translation of the newsletter.
- Our committee is working on releases new swag and we are currently in the process of getting quotes
- Because of the above, we are working on the launch of a logo contest. Details will be available soon but there may be a financial incentive to the winning logo.
- MSA: we had a chat with the help desk and found new functionality that may improve our way to use this app. We are working with the room reps to find a date for new training
- Facebook page: thanks to Mandy Betts, our social media guru, for all the awesome post in our PTA facebook page. If you are interested in be part of the page, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LaurelRidgeElementaryPTA/about/> and request access answering some easy questions.
- Bulletin board: you may have seen that we took over the bulletin board next to the cafeteria. Still a work in progress but we want to put there information that should be permanent and also, calendar events for easy browsing.
- Our next committee meeting is on October 29th

Hi Mara,

Please see below for our update. Feel free to cut down if needed. I would also like to give a verbal update, if possible. Thank you!

Building & Grounds update for PTA Meeting

10/23/18

- The Building and Grounds committee has launched the Climb the Ridge initiative to motivate our community around our facility improvement project. We look forward to our community's assistance and support, and we hope that you will join us at a workday or volunteer your time and talents to improve our children's learning environment.
- The Building and Grounds team would like to thank everyone for their input in our recent survey to gather community input on potential projects for the LRES facility. The Building and Grounds committee chairs along with Principal Schrock and the PTA Executive Committee, used the survey feedback to align on priority projects for the

PTA this year. Dekalb County Schools will also be involved in assisting in infrastructure projects that have been identified. Results of the survey will be available on the webpage soon.

- Our first two workdays were a success. Thanks to our incredible volunteers, we have completed over 15 projects, including new front entrance space, playground landscaping and the beginnings of our courtyard revitalization!
- Additional workdays have been scheduled to focus on special projects and accommodate everyone's schedules. Upcoming dates include:

• Date	• Time	• Title
• October 24	• 3 - 7PM	• Care Closet Workday
• November 3	• 9AM - 1PM	• General Workday
• November 13	• 3 - 5:30PM	• Courtyard Workday
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- Many thanks to our partners on the Communication committee, fundraising and budget committee for assisting in workday promotions, and food donations for volunteers.
- Initial kick-off session completed with Ms. Schrock and Mr. Arnold for our Climb the Ridge Initiative. Process established to communicate DCSD maintenance requests, as well as approval process for PTA sponsored projects.
- B&G budget for usage allotment finalized. Additional projects outside of budget allotment to be proposed for Fundraising goals and/or sponsorships.
- We need help to make our school beautiful and our children's learning environment functional! Join us for a workday, assist in identifying sponsors for projects, organize and track maintenance requests and let your family and friends know how they can help. Contact Lauren, Daniel or Amy for ways to help!
- Final SY2018-2019 Building and Grounds projects:

• **Phase 1 Projects** •

• Project	• Projects
• General	• Tools, bags, masks, etc.
• Infrastructure & work orders	• Coordination with DCSD to address immediate and long term needs
• Classrooms	• Coordination with room parents for individual classroom needs
• New Entrance Areas	• Front entrance, rock wall, gym walk refurb, fixing lobby plant bed
• Courtyard	• Update classroom, clean pond, update garden beds, fall plantings
• Bathrooms	• Clean-up, painting walls & doors
• Care Closet	• Set-up of community care closet
• Playground	• Outdoor painted games, playground clean-up
• Outdoor Clean-up	• Front landscaping & pinestraw, bus stop bench
• Indoor Clean-up	• General clean-up, refresh student displays

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- **Special Projects**
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• Project	• Source
• New Marquee	• PTA
• Acoustic Tiles	• PTA
• Outdoor Paint	• Sponsor - Home Depot
• Indoor Paint	• Sponsor - Home Depot
• Outdoor trash cans	• TBD - Sponsor, Fundraiser
• Playground Balls for each class	• TBD - Sponsor, Fundraiser
• Cafeteria Updates: Wood refinishing & furnishings	• TBD - Sponsor, Fundraiser
• Playground Sails	• TBD - Sponsor, Fundraiser
• Media Center Renovation	• TBD - Sponsor, Fundraiser

Thank you all for your help making our childrens' learning environment safe, clean and functional!

Family Engagement Committee:

Fall Festival is just around the corner and we have a ton to be excited about! A petting zoo, hay ride, inflatables, and some incredible food describe just some of the components of the festival that we are looking forward to. We have worked hard to ensure that families have a blast, and that the community is represented at Laurel Ridge's 61st Fall Festival. Don't forget that the Book Fair will be at the festival as well!

Our next event after the Festival is the Variety Show on January 25. More info at the next meeting will be given to what the process looks like for students to express interest in performing. Please mark your calendars for this awesome showcase of talent from our own Laurel Ridge kids.

The best is yet to come!

Brandon Henson
Family Engagement Committee Chair