

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.bvsg.org/calendar

LUNCH MENUS

food.bvsg.org/meals-nutrition/menus

REPORT CARDS

<https://bvsg.infinitecampus.org>

PARENT DIRECTORY & VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

bvsg.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.bvsg.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 Alicia Champlin and I am honored and excited to join the Lafayette Elementary community as your Interim Principal. From the moment I learned about Lafayette, I could see that this is a school where students, families, and staff are deeply connected by a shared commitment to learning, kindness, and belonging. It is a privilege to become part of such a special community.

I joined BVSD as the dean of students at Boulder High School, served as assistant principal at Longmont High School, served as the deputy division director of child programs at Adams County Human Services and most recently served as manager of extended learning and student engagement in BVSD.

I believe that strong schools are built on strong relationships. My first priority is getting to know the students, families, staff, and community members who make Lafayette such an incredible place. I value listening, learning, and working together to ensure that every child feels safe, supported, challenged, and celebrated each day they walk through our doors.

As an educator and leader, I believe every child deserves to be known, valued, and inspired to reach their full potential. I am committed to partnering with families because I know that when schools and families work together, students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Whether we're celebrating student successes, solving challenges together, or creating meaningful learning experiences, my goal is to foster a welcoming school where every family feels connected and every student knows they belong.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my husband, 5 kids, 3 dogs, and friends, planning my next Disney trip, getting lost in a good book, being outdoors, tending to my garden, and finding joy in life's simple moments. I also love embracing school spirit—you'll often find me proudly wearing my Cougar gear (and maybe even a pair of custom Cougar earrings!).

I look forward to meeting each of you, hearing your stories, and partnering with you to make this an exceptional year for every Lafayette Cougar. My door is always open, and I can't wait to get to know your family.

Welcome to another wonderful year at Lafayette Elementary. Go Cougars!

Alicia Champlin | alicia.champlin@bvsd.org | (720) 561-8900

ADMIN TEAM TO KNOW



Peter Zola, Dean of Students | peter.zola@bvsd.org

I'm Peter Zola, your new Dean of Students! I'm so excited to join Lafayette Elementary. Having grown up in Boulder, I now live in Lafayette with my wife and two cats. As a kid, I used to play in this very neighborhood with my cousins who lived across the street from the school! I feel so lucky to be working in my home community.

I spent the last 14 years at an elementary school in Aurora starting as a student teacher then classroom teacher, math coach, dean of students, and most recently as an administrator. I have master's degrees in math education, curriculum & instruction specializing in diverse contexts, and educational leadership. I hold licenses in elementary education, special education, and administration.

I'm passionate about building strong relationships with staff, students, and families as well as helping develop school and classroom communities where teachers and students find joy in learning every day. I love biking, scuba diving, fantasy/sci-fi, cooking, and woodworking. I'm very excited to get to know you all, and support the Lafayette Elementary community.



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.



Lindsay Plampin, Registrar | lindsay.plampin@bvsd.org | (720) 561-8900

Welcome to Lafayette Elementary! This is such a wonderful school, with awesome staff & teachers and awesome kids! I was previously at Centaurus High School and I am thrilled to be here working with elementary school students. You will see me at the front window (most of the time). The kids call me Ms. Lindsay 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! I enjoy reading, collecting Christmas ornaments, watching sports (especially watching my college aged boys playing), traveling and making memories with my family.



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 specialists, and the library**
- **Funds for Clubs, Activities & 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 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:

- 3-4 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
- 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 (May)



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

Volunteers are critical support for
Lafayette Elementary School.

How will I know about volunteer opportunities?

- Email us at president@cougarpto.org
- Keep on eye on **Help at Schools** for opportunities as they come up.
- Read 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
- Join the PTO
- 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

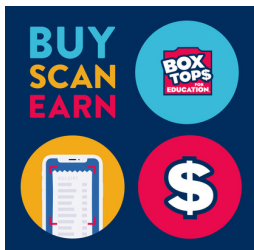
One of the easiest ways to help the PTO raise funds is by participating in some of our passive income programs. Partnerships with companies like the Box Tops for Education, Longmont Dairy, and King Soopers allow us to raise money while you're simply purchasing things you need and were planning to purchase 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 2025-26 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