



Welcome to
Laurel Elementary School
of Arts & Technology

2023-24 Kindergarten
Parent Information
December 2022

Tommi Sue Cox, Principal
Amanda Pawelski, Assistant Principal



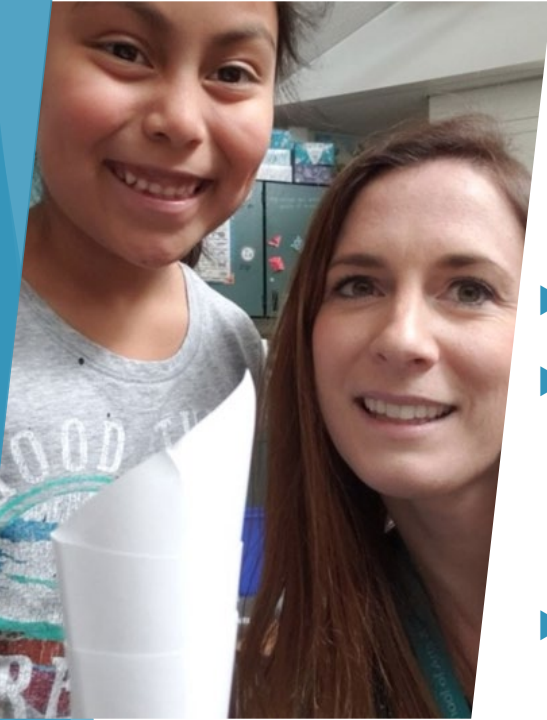
Laurel History

- ▶ Laurel Elementary School of Arts & Technology is the oldest elementary school in the town of Fort Collins and has been educating Fort Collins' youth since 1906. The original building is on Laurel Street and is now Centennial High School.
- ▶ Our current building was constructed in 1993. It is a beautiful architectural design called the Delany Model. There are 6 other schools in PSD of this design.



Mrs. Cox, Principal

- ▶ This is my 21st year as principal of Laurel
- ▶ I have been married to Dan for 39 years. We have 3 grown children, Jake (33) & wife Corey, Tim (29), and Danni (26).
- ▶ Tim and Danni went to school here
- ▶ I am half Navajo and grew up on the Navajo reservation
- ▶ I love Laurel!



Mrs. Pawelski, Assistant Principal

- ▶ Fourth year as Laurel Assistant Principal
- ▶ My husband Joe and I live just down the road from Laurel with our 3 daughters, Tennessee (8th Gr.), Nikola (5th Gr.), and Zasu (2nd Gr.).
- ▶ We love our school and neighborhood!



Laurel's Diverse Population

- ▶ We highly value and embrace our beautiful diversity!
 - ▶ Cultural
 - ▶ Economic
 - ▶ Ethnic
 - ▶ Learning Strengths and Needs
 - ▶ Linguistic



Introductions

Kindergarten Teachers

▶ Michelle Arnold, Teacher

▶ 17 years experience; 17 years at Laurel

▶ Miriam Cromley, Teacher

▶ 18 years experience; 18 years at Laurel

▶ Deandra Gardner, Teacher

▶ 4 years experience; 1 year at Laurel

▶ Jenna Sloan, Teacher

▶ 3 years experience; 1 year at Laurel



Introductions

Kindergarten Paraprofessionals

- ▶ Liza Pappas, Instructional Paraprofessional
 - ▶ 16 years experience; 16 years at Laurel
- ▶ Jason Dickerson, Instructional Paraprofessional
 - ▶ 1 year experience; 1 year at Laurel



Enrichment Opportunities

Before and After School Enrichment

Enrichment Opportunities

- ▶ PSD After 3! after school program
- ▶ Laurel Strings program during the school day
 - ▶ Information will be sent home the first few weeks into the school year
 - ▶ Lottery based program
 - ▶ Waitlist



AlphaBEST

- ▶ Register for before and/or after school care
<https://www.alphabest.org/poudreco/>
 - ▶ 6:30am-7:30am & 2:23pm-6:00pm

Parent Engagement (Get Involved!)

- ▶ Parent Engagement activities throughout the school year

- ▶ Back to School Night
- ▶ Laps for Laurel fundraiser
- ▶ Fall Festival
- ▶ Family Nights
- ▶ Parent-Teacher conferences



- ▶ Volunteers welcome anytime!

- ▶ All volunteers are required to register as a PSD Volunteer using this link:

[PSD Volunteer Registration](#)

- ▶ Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

- ▶ Amazing – Incredible – Real – Friendships

- ▶ School Accountability Committee (SAC)

- ▶ Wellness Team

- ▶ Parent Memos and Parent Newsletter

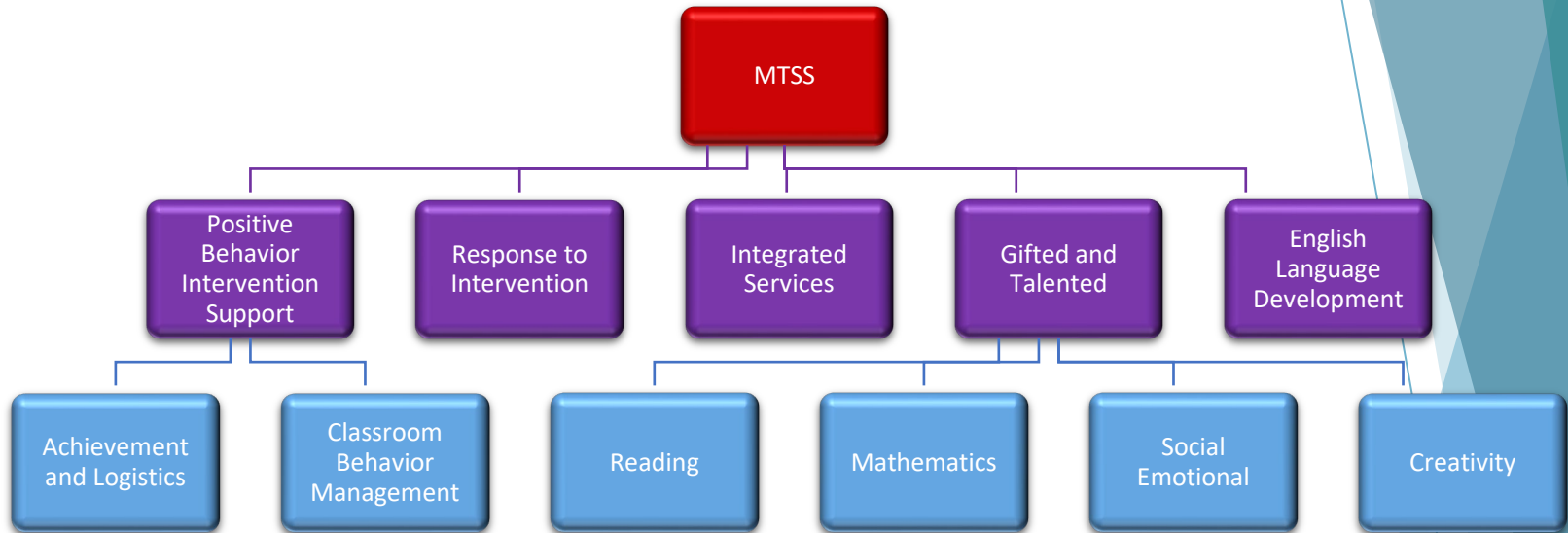
- ▶ Weekly and monthly communication from Administration and classrooms

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS)

- ▶ Core Values ROAR: Respect, Own your behavior, Attitude, Responsibility
- ▶ Teach expectations; ROAR Pledge
- ▶ Recognize and praise children
 - ▶ Paws
 - ▶ Classroom rewards
 - ▶ Friday ROAR Model drawings
 - ▶ Positive Office Referrals
 - ▶ Treasure Box
- ▶ Restorative Justice/Restorative Practices
 - ▶ Learn how to respectfully resolve conflicts
- ▶ ROAR Assemblies



Multi Tiered System of Support (MTSS)



2023-24 Kindergarten

- ▶ Full day 7:45am-2:23pm
- ▶ Half day option is available on a case-by-case basis
- ▶ School Choice
 - ▶ Registering for Kindergarten at your Neighborhood school is required.
 - ▶ 2023-24 – we are only accepting School Choice applications for siblings of current students.
- ▶ Transition Days/Staggered Start for Laurel Kindergarten students:
 - ▶ Thursday, August 17th students with last names beginning A – L attend.
 - ▶ Friday, August 18th students with last names beginning M – Z attend.
 - ▶ The first day of Kindergarten for all is Monday, August 21st.



Current Kindergarten Experience

(Times may change for 2023-24)

Daily Schedule

- ▶ 7:15 – 7:40 Students arrive at school
- ▶ 7:45
- ▶ 7:45 – 8:10 Morning Meeting
- ▶ 8:10 – 8:55 Whole Group Literacy and Writing
- ▶ 8:55 – 9:25 Small Group Literacy Clubs
- ▶ 9:30 – 10:15 Specials (Art, Arts & Tech Enrichment, Media Lab, Music, PE)
- ▶ 10:15 – 10:30 Snack and Recess
- ▶ 10:35 – 11:40 Whole Group
- ▶ 11:40 – 12:10 Small Group Math Clubs
- ▶ 12:15 – 12:55 Recess and Lunch
- ▶ 1:00 – 2:10 Centers and Science
- ▶ 2:10 – 2:23 Pack Up and Dismissal



Specials

K-5 Experience

45 minutes/day; weekly rotation

- ▶ Arts and Tech Enrichment— a unique hands-on experience
- ▶ Media & Technology, Mrs. Gallahan and Mrs. Reed
- ▶ Music, Ms. Kelly
- ▶ Physical Education, Mrs. Rittner
- ▶ Visual Arts, Mrs. Saunders



Technology Integration

- ▶ Two 3D Printers – Bubble wands and free choice in 5th
- ▶ Name plates with Braille in 4th





Technology Integration



- ▶ Programming Robots – Bee Bots and Dash Robots
- ▶ Virtual Reality – CoSpaces/VR Goggles –students design a virtual world and then use VR Goggles to become a part of the world
- ▶ Computer and Clay Animation
- ▶ Coding with Scratch



Kindergarten Curriculum

- ▶ Colorado Academic Standards
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Reading, Writing, Communicating
 - ▶ Science
 - ▶ Social Studies

- ▶ Phonics Instruction

- ▶ Reading Program TBD

- ▶ enVision 2.0

- ▶ Based on the idea that we encounter and use mathematics in our everyday lives so students must master procedural fluency, conceptual understanding, and universal application.
- ▶ Provides whole group, small group, partner and independent learning activities
- ▶ Hands-on, interactive lessons
- ▶ Calendar time daily



Registration for Kindergarten

- ▶ **Online registration for Kindergarten is open!**
 - ▶ **Immunization records, birth certificate and proof of residence may be uploaded when registering online**
<https://www.psdschools.org/schools/school-registration>



Thank you for learning about Laurel!

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