

# Lockeland Design Center PTO

## 2019-2020 Annual Report



### President's Message

The vocabulary word for this school year will be "unprecedented," a word that I'm sure even the Kindergartners have learned. Through it all, the LDC community has been remarkable. I am so thankful for Principal Lewis's leadership and all of the 19/20 PTO Board members who weathered many storms with me this year, both literally and figuratively - more vocabulary words!

Within days of the tornado, we rallied together to not only help our school and community with donating time, supplies, and funds, but also to support the emotional well-being of our students by producing the Lockeland Live! variety show as planned. The staff had everyone in tears of joy with its rendition of *Lean on Me*, and it was an easy decision to donate all funds raised that night to tornado relief for any LDC families directly impacted. Only a week later, we were met with another school closure. Our wonderful teachers quickly organized to offer optional at-home learning activities, and the PTO Board was tasked with approving and planning a 20/21 budget virtually with many unknowns. During this time, staying safe at home, my appreciation for the LDC teachers and staff only strengthened. A Teacher Appreciation MONTH, not week, was planned to show our gratitude virtually!

Despite this challenging year, I am so proud of our accomplishments and to have served on the board for the past five years. LDC is such a special school in the heart of a very special community, one that I think we are all so happy to be a part of. Best wishes to the 4th graders and families who are leaving LDC. We wish them the best at their new schools, and please know you are always welcome back! Looking forward to the 20/21 school year, a school year that will hopefully see children in schools and safe no matter what social distance they are from friends and loved ones.

- Amy Taylor, President



### Lockeland Design Center – National Blue Ribbon School

Lockeland Design Center Elementary earned the distinction of being a National Blue Ribbon School. Blue Ribbon Schools are exemplary high performing schools that are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.

The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

*"Lockeland students' success is an inspiring example of how teachers, parents, and community leaders can work together to help students prepare themselves for what comes next. The United States Department of Education acknowledges your commitment to the well-being of every child and your innovations in teaching and learning."*

- Betsy DeVos U.S. Secretary of Education

## Community and Family Events Report

### Story Telling Night with Bright Star Theatre Group



Every year, the PTO loves sponsoring the always well-attended Storytelling Night. This event encourages families to gather around and listen together to create fun memories as they explore a world of stories. During the week, the storyteller makes classroom visits to students to introduce the art of storytelling with Interactive Sessions. Students and families are invited back for Storytelling Night, which is usually coupled with our annual book fair.

This year we enjoyed the talents of the Bright Star Theatre Group as it performed a collection of *Winter Fables*! As a special addition this year, the event featured local authors Layne Ihde, Amy Sturm, Kristin Maher, and Forlanda Anderson!

### Family Climb Night

Now in our 4th year, the PTO partnered with Climb Nashville and offered a Family Climb night. We had over **59 participants and raised \$400!** It was wonderful seeing kids and parents helping each other climb. A big thanks goes to Mr. Schumacher, who not only helped belay kids, but incorporated climbing techniques and auxiliary skills into his physical education curriculum. Thank you to Tower Deli for donating the 5-foot sandwich that fed hungry climbers and parents!

Thank you for coming out to this great event!



### Urban Cowboy Soiree



For the second time, the PTO was pleased to honor our teachers, school staff, parents, and "Community Leader Donors" in our East Nashville business community who make our "little neck of the woods" so magical. Butcher & Bee provided small bites. Woodland Wine Merchant provided drinks, and Urban Cowboy Public House offered specialty snacks and drinks. It was awesome to spend some time mixing and mingling with other LDC parents in such a beautiful place. We hope to partner with Urban Cowboy next year!

### Lockeland Live!

We can all agree that Lockeland Live! was never more needed than it was this year. After a devastating tornado ripped through East Nashville, watching our talented kids perform was just the motivation we needed to keep going. Many thanks to all of the amazing volunteers who helped by working the ticket table, concessions, backstage and more! The LDC faculty and staff's rendition of *Lean on Me* was such a reminder of how wonderfully supportive they all are to our kids and community.

Special thank you to Jeff Coplan, Christa Gifford, and Willie Sims for coordinating and hosting our event. Thank you to Dave Punchocar and Good Wood for the set design and the "Dare to Be Different" wood burned DJ booth!

A humongous THANK YOU and recognition to Melissa Bahan who runs this event. It is no small task!



### LDC Community Fundraiser Nights & Events



This year, the LDC PTO coordinated multiple Community Night Fundraisers. LDC had fundraiser nights at Pied Piper Creamery, The Grilled Cheeserie, Nashville Urban Winery, Clean Juice, plus TWO fundraiser nights at BoomBozz! In addition to our restaurant nights, LDC attended a Titans game for the second year in a row! Thank you to all of you who attended our Community Fundraiser Nights and helped us raise an additional \$2,700 for our school!

# Individual Fundraising Report

Thank you, Lockeland families! This school year, you raised more than **\$56,000** to support students and staff!

**InvestLDC!** accounts for over half of the PTO's annual income. Thanks to your generosity, we raised over **\$45,000** this year through Invest.

**City Saver Coupon Books** are a fun way for our families to raise money for Lockeland while offering valuable savings to friends and family members. This year, City Saver sales raised more than **\$8,700** for LDC.

**Bike Rack Pavers** were offered again as an opportunity for Lockeland families to buy a personalized, etched brick as a permanent fixture in our Lockeland bike rack to commemorate their time at LDC. With 18 bricks sold, the paver sales raised over **\$2,300** for our school. This year's pavers will be etched and ready for viewing by the middle of May.

**Rewards Programs** provided another significant contribution to our fundraising efforts. Thank you for your purchases at Amazon Smiles, Kroger, and the Lockeland Table Community Hour and for collecting Box Tops and scanning receipts on the BoxTops app. Thanks also to Keri Adams, who organized and oversaw our Box Tops program.

Thank you again Lockeland families for all you do & for making this an amazing year!

Chris Wright, VP of Fundraising Individual Giving

April Benson-Searce, Assistant VP Fundraising Individual Giving



## Lockeland PTO Community Leaders Program

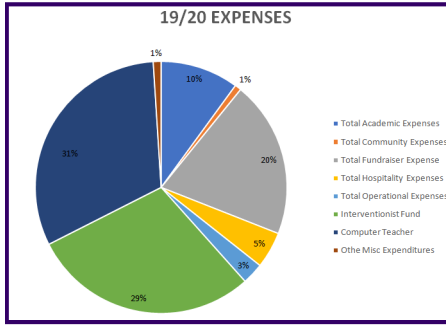
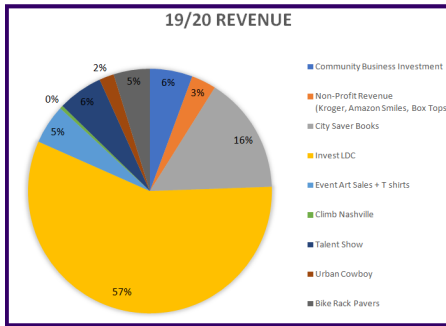
More than ever, this year has shown us the importance of community! At Lockeland, we are fortunate to live in a community that includes local businesses who help fund essentials for our children so they can grow and thrive educationally. This school year, businesses provided over **\$7,000** in cash donations, helped us raise over **\$2,700** from hosted events, and provided over **\$14,000** in in-kind donations. These are many of the same businesses who immediately stepped up to help rebuild and feed our community after the tornado and the same businesses who are now adjusting and coping with a new way of life alongside us, all the while helping to keep our resilient little pocket of Nashville a positive and safe place for our kids.

Melissa Bahan, VP of Community & Family Events

Niki Griffin, VP Fundraising - Community Support



## 2019-2020 LDC Budget Report



- During the 2019/20 school year, we raised \$94,000, which was \$8,200 more than our fundraising goal!
- Total expenditures were \$14,000 less than expected. This was primarily due to the early school closure, although other costs throughout the year were also lower than expected
- The combination of strong fundraising results and lower than anticipated expenses resulted in \$19,000 net operating revenue for the 2019/20 school year. As a result, we did not need to utilize reserves during the 2019/20 school year. We plan to use the 2019/20 surplus during the 2020/21 school year.
- For the 3rd year, the PTO voted in favor of partially funding the computer/technology teacher and fully funding a reading intervention specialist. These teachers will be utilized in a virtual learning environment as well.
- The 2020/21 budget will be presented at the first PTO meeting this fall.

- Cali Ewing, Treasurer

## Volunteer Shout-Outs!

The main driving force behind LDC is our wonderful volunteers. The LDC Administration & Staff would like to extend many thanks to all the volunteers who help make our school great! We're forever grateful!

Parents have volunteered countless hours in a wide variety of ways:



### In Individual Classrooms:

- Planned & Set Up Class Parties
- Chaperoned Field Trips
- Read aloud to students

### From Home:

- Sent in Snacks & Treasure Box Items
- Donated Supplies for Class Projects
- Donated books to classrooms

### In Related Arts:

- Helped Set Up & Run Book Fair
- Hung Art in the Hallways
- Helped with Hispanic Heritage Month



## 2019-2020 LDC Board/ 2020-2021 LDC Board Slate

President: Amy Taylor/ Angie Jones (20/21)

President Elect: Angie Jones / Jaime Drown (20/21)

Secretary: Suzanne Nahay (19/20/21)

Treasurer: Cali Ewing (19/20/21)

Assistant Treasurer: Emily Crawford (19/20/21)

Vice President of Grade Level: Samantha Eagle (18/19/20/21)

VP of Individual Fundraising: Chris Wright/ April Benson-Scearce (20/21)

Assistant VP of Individual Fundraising: April Benson-Scearce /Dawn Ducote (20/21)

Vice President of Communications: Amy Smith (18/19/20/21)

VP of Community Events: Melissa Bahan (18/19/20)

VP Fundraising- Community : Niki Griffin (19/20/21)

Asst. VP Fundraising Community/Family Events: Megan Manly (20/21)

Vice President of Membership: Mandy Whitaker (19/20/21)

VP of Student Engagement: Gretchen Zimmerman & Amy Taylor (20/21)

Past President: Jaime Drown/Amy Taylor (20/21)

*If you're interested in serving on a future board, please reach out to us!*

Want to know what's going at LDC?  
Subscribe to the LDC PTO Newsletter  
at [LockelandPTO.org](http://LockelandPTO.org)!



105 S 17th Street · Nashville, TN 37206  
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