



Shannon Behm – Candidate for Co-President

Hello Lafayette Families! My name is Shannon Behm, my husband Michael and I have been in the neighborhood since 2001. We are parents to Ryan (rising 4th grader), Andrew (rising 1st grader) and Matthew (rising Pre-k) – so we will be part of the Lafayette community for some time!

For the past 3 years, I have supported the HSA Board by helping with fundraising through our school events and local business partnerships, serving on the Ways & Means Committee as a Co-Chair for two years. This committee is very special to me, as it generates important dollars that fund so many exciting and special programs offered to our children at Lafayette.

For the 2015-2016 school year, I ask for your support as I would like to serve as Co-President on the HSA Board. I believe that my years of experience on the HSA Board combined with many years of fundraising, sales, operations and event planning experience will allow me to provide guidance and overall management to our incoming Board. I expect the upcoming school year to be very exciting and look forward to the challenge with a focus on community building as well as supporting our Lafayette families, staff, administration and neighbors. I hope you will agree and allow me to serve again for the upcoming school year. Many thanks for your continued and generous support of Lafayette.



Janine Finck-Boyle - Candidate for 1st Vice President

My name is Janine Finck-Boyle and I running for the 1st Vice President position. My family has been part of Lafayette since both our children, Finn(3rd grade) and Katie(Kindergarten) entered Pre K. I feel fortunate to be part of a dynamic school and believe in creating a stronger environment for our children by volunteering. Since the first year at Lafayette, I have volunteered in many capacities as a room parent, working on the auction and currently, helping to run Grizzly Gear, the school store. Over the past three years, I have been a board member of the HSA; first as a Hospitality Co Chair and now I am completing a two year term as Secretary. During my time on the Board, I have been committed to the positions I held, building and supporting events for the teachers, parents and community at large and helping to document and implement strategies to continue forward movement focusing on fundraising school support and major priorities for learning.

Through my professional career and currently, I have relevant experience to become the 1st VP. I operate a post acute care organization and facility here in D.C. My knowledge of managing budgets, strategic planning, fundraising and working in a non – profit will help me to move in to the 1st VP position and continue to strengthen the Board and our school community in the year to come.

I continuously am amazed and in awe of the parents and their commitment to Lafayette. The last few years have shown me that our school community is rich with volunteers and creativity. I would like to continue on the Board and move into the 1st VP position to help the momentum grow. I hope you will allow me to serve on the HSA Board. Thank you for your support.

Colleen Lyster - Candidate for 2nd Vice President

My name is Colleen Lyster and I am running for the 2nd Vice President position on the HSA board. I have two children at Lafayette, my son is in 1st grade and my daughter is in pre-k. During this past school year, I helped the web team to keep the Lafayette website up to date.

I am looking forward to contributing more to the HSA. I have been a practicing employment attorney for the last 13 years. During that time, I have also worked on budget formulations and operating plans, to ensure that budget priorities align with actual spending. Given my professional experience, I think I will be able to contribute a lot to the position of 2nd Vice President. Thank you for your consideration.

Kavita Chambery - Candidate for Treasurer

Hello - I am Kavita Chambery, a newcomer to Lafayette. My daughter starts kindergarten this fall after spending two years at Lowell School. I am an active parent at Lowell - serving as a group class parent for both years, and this year I am the pre-primary (3 classrooms with kids ranging from 2.5 yr to young 5) representative on the Lowell Parent Council. I have thoroughly enjoyed being an active member of the Lowell community and I hope to do the same at Lafayette. My professional background is international development where I manage large complex programs in challenging environments across the world. I believe my strong organizational and financial skills will be an asset to the HSA board. I look forward to becoming an active engaged member of the Lafayette community.



Sarah Remes - Candidate for Secretary

I am the mother of Isaac, who is currently in pre-k. I love being part of the Lafayette community and have enjoyed being a room parent and helping with the Politics and Prose book fair. I am applying to be HSA secretary because I want to be more involved and to help Lafayette be the very best school it can be. My pre-kids professional life prepared me well for a position that requires a high level of attention to detail. I was an immigration attorney where failure to pay attention to the slightest detail could get my client deported. I will bring the same commitment and attentiveness to the HSA.



Jenny Backus – Candidate for Ways & Means Co-Chair

My name is Jenny Backus and I am a candidate for one of the two Ways and Means positions this year. My husband Ed Pagano and I have lived in the neighborhood since 2001 and we are the proud parents of a third grader. I work for Google in their DC office as a Senior Policy Advisor and Head of Strategic Partnerships.

I have had the honor of serving on the HSA for the past three years -- working on the hospitality committee for two years and most recently designing and overseeing our new simplified Donation and Membership Drive. During these past two years, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand how important it is to have a strong and financially healthy HSA.

Next year as our school get renovated, it will not only be harder to raise funds the way we have traditionally done it but it will be more important than ever to design fun events and activities for our children, teachers, staff and the community who surrounds and supports us. We also want to be ready to fill any needs that might not be met by the City as we renovate.

I have spent the bulk of my career running strategic campaigns in both the public and private sector. I want to use my fundraising, communication, organizational and advocacy skills to recruit more supporters for the school from local corporations and community organizations and plan events for donors of all types and size that generate excitement about our incredible school.

I have appreciated the opportunity to be a part of the HSA and I ask for your support in this new position.



Chris Lisi-Frillici – Candidate for Ways & Means Co-Chair

Thank you for considering me for continuing to work for the second year in a row on Ways and Means. My daughter, Willa, is a first grader in Ms. Cacibauda's class. Our family could not be happier so far with our experience at this wonderful school and volunteering for the board is a small way we can give back to the community. For the last three years I have served on a private preschool board where I was part of a very involved parent cohort that completed a new head of school search during my tenure; relaunched their website bringing their application process online; drafted and began executing the school's inaugural communications and marketing plan, as well as served as part of their annual auction team. I would like to bring learnings from my board experience to our community.

Additionally, for the last nearly 20 years I have lived in Washington working in public affairs. I run my own consulting firm which provides me with the opportunity to work for a group of diverse clients. You can find out more about me professionally by visiting ChrisLisi.com

Thank you again for this opportunity. I look forward to continuing to be an active part of the Lafayette parent community.



Tonya Esposito Oliver – Candidate for Membership Chair

My name is Tonya Esposito Oliver and my husband Brian and I are the proud parents of two: Madeline (Pre-K/Ms. Martinez), and Emma (20 months old). I've served as one of two Lime Base room parents during the 2014-2015 school year, and have enjoyed getting to know our Lafayette community. I look forward to being an active Lafayette community member for years to come, and would like to serve on the HSA board in the "Membership" position for the 2015-16 school year. Having practiced law for 14 years, and also served as a member of my alma matter's alumnae board for the past six years, I am familiar with the importance of and challenges associated with both maintaining and increasing membership ranks, including the overarching need to be pleasantly persuasive. I believe I have the experience required to serve in this role successfully, and I would be honored to represent the Lafayette community in this capacity.



Eileen Dombo – Candidate for Volunteer Coordinator

My name is Eileen Dombo, and I have been a parent at Lafayette for six years! My daughter Katie is in 4th grade and my son Liam is in 2nd. My husband Lou Blick and I moved into the neighborhood in 2003, primarily because of Lafayette Elementary School and the amazing community of parents. We have not been disappointed!

For the coming school year (2015-2016), I am running for the position of Volunteer Coordinator. I am currently serving in the position this year, and love it. We have a community of public school parents who are extremely dedicated to helping Lafayette be an incredibly wonderful school. I have the pleasure of working with the Room Parents to coordinate many school activities and information. I also help mobilize parent volunteer time for events like the Spring Fair and Fall Festival. I continue to be impressed by how much time and efforts parents give to the school.

I hope you allow me the honor of continuing to serve in this role for the upcoming school year.



Eve Bennet - Candidate for Early Childhood Liaison

My name is Eve Bennet, and I am running for the Early Childhood Representative on the HSA Board for a second term. I have 3 kids, my son who is a Lafayette graduate now in 7th grade at Alice Deal Middle School, my daughter who is also a Lafayette graduate now in 6th grade at Deal and my 5 year old daughter who is currently in Pre-K at Lafayette. I think I am a great candidate for this position because I have served in this role for the past year, have been a Lafayette parent for 8 years and have had 2 kids go through the early childhood years at Lafayette and one going through it now so I both know the ropes and I have a vested interest in the community. In terms of school volunteer experience, in addition to being the Early Childhood Rep for the current school year, I have served as a room parent almost every year, co-ran the Bears Den store early on, volunteered on auctions, fall festivals, spring fairs, field trips, parties and in the classroom. In my professional life, I have a Masters in Social Work which never hurts when dealing with people!

My family loves Lafayette and I would love to serve in this role. Thank you for your consideration.



Gayle Moseley – Candidate for Environment Chair

I have been involved in the Lafayette community since 2006 when our oldest daughter, Iris, started Pre-K here. She is currently a 7th grader at Alice Deal Middle School. Our youngest daughter, Peyton, is in Ms. Yedwab's 3rd grade class.

Over the years, I have contributed to Lafayette in various ways. Most recently I have had the honor of serving on the HSA Board as co-President (2012-2014) and as Hospitality co-chair (2011-2012). Additionally, I have been a Room Parent, Fall Festival co-chair (2009), school portraits parent coordinator (2011-present), helped orchestrate the Spring Fair used book sale (2013-present), assisted with auction pre-K class creations for several years, co-chaired the Teacher's Treat auction category and like many other parents, I also enjoy participating in the classroom and attending field trips with my children.

My interest in returning to the HSA Board in the Environment position stems from my involvement with the upcoming renovation as a member of the School Improvement Team (S.I.T.). The role of the Environment position will most likely be quite different than in years past due to the renovation and I hope that being a member of the S.I.T. will be beneficial to the position should any issues arise. I am looking forward to the possibility of serving on the HSA Board once again.

Jen Lanoff – Candidate for Outreach/Tours

This is my eighth year as a Lafayette parent and I am looking forward to continuing to be involved in this amazing community. I have three children: Alex, who is in seventh grade, Natalie, who is in fifth grade, and Lilah, who is in 1st. I would be honored to serve again as the outreach/ tours chair for LHSA (this would be my fourth year serving in this position) and share my experiences with and welcome prospective parents to our school. I have been a room parent for several of Alex's, Natalie's, and Lilah's classes and have also been an editor for the Tuesday Bulletin. Currently, I work as an attorney at the Public Defender Service in the District. I also grew up in this neighborhood and attended Murch Elementary School.



Stacy Beck – Candidate for Communications Chair

I have spent the past school year serving as the Communications Chair on the HSA Board. I have worked with others on the HSA Board to keep families informed about school events and about the academic, artistic, and athletic achievements of our fantastic Lafayette students. I have also started communicating with Lafayette families in new ways, including by reactivating the long-dormant Lafayette Facebook page and spreading school news via Twitter. I have worked together with a group of Lafayette Moms, including webmaster Julie Coan, to keep the school website page up-to-date. I have learned a lot in the past year & I hope to continue in this role during the 2015-16 school year.

Kristin Nicholson – Candidate for Hospitality Co-Chair

Hello! My name is Kristin Nicholson, and I am the parent of two boys in Kindergarten and 3rd Grade. I also work at the House of Representatives, where I have been a staffer for 18 years. I am seeking one of the two Hospitality positions next year because I am eager to become more involved in the school, work with old friends and meet new ones, and play a role in maintaining the wonderful and welcoming community that my family has been so lucky to find at Lafayette. This will be a year of changes and challenges for the school, and I would welcome the opportunity to help us all get through it with ease. Most of all, I am at my happiest when plying people with food and drink!

I have greatly enjoyed my volunteer experiences at Lafayette, which include serving as a room parent, coordinating the “Guess Who’s Coming with Dinner” auction package for the past two school years, and helping with various events and classroom activities. I know that parental involvement helps to make Lafayette such a special place for our kids and our community, and I would be honored to support the school as a member of the HSA Board next year.



Nedra Pickler - Candidate for Hospitality Co-Chair

My name is Nedra Pickler and I represent a new family to Lafayette. My son, Will, is in Pre-K this year and his younger brother, Quinn, will be starting in 2016.

I'm running for a hospitality position not because I'm such an expert on that (although I can make a mean seven-layer dip) but because I want to give back and boost the school. So far, I've been involved by volunteering for recess and reading help, helping organize classroom events and chaperoning field trips. I am currently helping co-chair communications for the Spring Fair -- as a journalist, I'm always happy to help out with writing and publicity efforts. But I'd like to do more.

My husband, Eric Conner, and I moved to Chevy Chase when Will was an infant because of Lafayette's tradition as a strong neighborhood school. Our family has a long future here, and we want to do all we can to make the school the best it can be. When I told Will recently that is why I have been going to HSA meetings, he replied that Lafayette already is the greatest school. I've been so impressed by the skills and energy that Lafayette parents bring in pursuit of that and would love to do my part. Thanks for your consideration.



Jim Porter – Candidate for Community Representative

I would like to be a member of the Lafayette Home School Association Board to represent the interests of the community with a special focus on the planned renovation, administrative support, and fund raising.

My wife, Nancy, and I have lived in the neighborhood since 1998. My immediate connection with Lafayette is as guardian of a kindergartner and first grader attending during the current school year. The children and their parents are relocating to the States from Japan and will move to Texas for 2015 – 2016 school year.

I am a consultant with IBM. My professional specialties include designing and implementing administrative and student record systems for K through 12 and higher education institutions. Relevant accomplishments include leading the project that implemented the DC Stars student records system for over 150 DCPS campuses and multiple charter schools, managing the administrative systems for George Washington University, and leading a business process reengineering project for the University of Chicago.

My school board experience includes serving as president of the school board for the Parents Cooperative School in Jeddah Saudi Arabia.



Joseph Nelson - Candidate for Community Rep

I'm Joe Nelson, my wife (Jack) and I have lived in the Lafayette school district since 2005. We don't have children in Lafayette, but we are incredibly supportive of the school. I welcome an opportunity to participate in working with parents, teachers, and the community to ensure that Lafayette elementary continues to be the draw and center of the Chevy Chase area community. My background is military, engineering, and hard sciences and I have previously volunteered as a tutor and teacher for middle school/high school engineering prep

programs. This would be my third year as a community member and I have been an active participant on the board and was also involved in the selection committee for the new principal. As a member of the community, issues of school security, renovations, boundaries, and after school programs are among the interests and concerns I share with the HSA. If selected for the HSA, I feel my leadership, work, and educational background will continue to be of great value to the Lafayette community.