

School Finances

As the principal, I am often asked, “Why does Laurel Mountain need to request additional financial support from our parents and our community?” “Doesn’t the school receive money from the district and the state?”

Continue reading to find out more about the budget process at Laurel Mountain.

RRISD Budget for Laurel Mountain

District Budget

RRISD receives education dollars from the Federal Government, the State Government, and local taxes. The RRISD district budget pays all salaries, utilities, building maintenance, benefits, substitutes, and technology infrastructure.

Campus Budget for 2008-2009

\$63,320

All RRISD elementary schools receive a campus budget from the district of \$88 per student enrolled. Campus budget dollars are used for; technology equipment, software, ink cartridges, buses for field trips, general supplies (paper, print services, all office supplies), professional development, instructional materials for teaching reading, math, science, and social studies, professional reading material, nurse supplies, safety items, art supplies, music resources, PE equipment, and replacement of capital equipment (examples, overhead projectors, DVD players).

Special Programs Budget for 2008-2009

apprx. \$10,000

State and Federal dollars are directed to Laurel Mountain for special programs such as; Texas Reading and Math Initiative, Special Education, English Language Learners, Safe and Drug Free Schools, and library books.

Total LME Campus Budget for 2008-2009

\$73,320

How can additional dollars be added to our LME campus budget?

Using our district and campus budgets, LME provides our students excellence in education. Your generous donation of volunteer time and dollars allows Laurel Mountain the opportunity to add additional resources and educational opportunities to enhance this excellence.

Additional Funding Sources

1. Campus Activity Fund

\$20,000

2008-2009 estimated income

Activity Funds are generated through parent and community support of programs such as; Scholastic Book Fairs, school pictures, rebate opportunities (Schoolpop, General Mills Box Tops, Target, Randalls), recycling paper and ink cartridges, corporate grants, club participation fees, voluntary \$10 supply donation.

2. Laurel Mountain Excellence Fund

\$75,000

As part of the continued implementation of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM), the LME Excellence Fund was created in 2006-2007. We established the LME Excellence Fund, enabling LME families, businesses and other donors to make tax-deductible contributions via check, credit card or stock donations. The Excellence Fund provides the funds necessary for our Enrichment Specialist, student resources, and professional development. Additional information about the Schoolwide Enrichment Model and LME Excellence Fund is available at www.lmesem.org.

3. PTA Jungle Adventure Carnival

\$35,000

2008-2009 Carnival proceeds to LME

Your generous support of the 07-08 PTA Jungle Carnival and Spring Auction provided \$35,000 in additional resources for students and teachers. This year our campus purchased 16 laptops, a cart and laser printer, art supplies, music technology, P.E. equipment, digital cameras, math manipulatives, student response system, Renzulli Learning System license, and professional development with this grant.

4. PTA General Budget

\$16,000

The PTA, through the Jungle Carnival, Spring Auction, and other fundraising projects, directly supports the Laurel Mountain students and teachers:

At School Enrichment Programs

STEP, 4th & 5th Grade Planners, KPAW, Field Day, Global Fest, Field Trips, Enrichment Assemblies, library authors, music volunteers, and art volunteers in the Classroom

At Home and After School Programs

Math Superstars, Science Fair, Take Home Science Boxes, Reflections, Destination Imagination

Additional Campus and Community Support

Teacher/Staff Appreciation, Professional Development Scholarships, Building and Ground Enhancements, School Directories & Yearbook, Community Services: Clothes Closet, Donations to RRISD Technology Fund, Westwood Graduation Project, Angel Funds, Anna Mitchell Scholarship, Outreach, Parent Enrichment, Safety Patrol Kindergarten Welcome Picnic, Family Picnic, Red Ribbon Week, Skating Party

5. Grants

\$7,500

In 2007-2008 LME received \$7,500 in grants from Best Buy, Time Warner, and Clean Up This Mess. This year we will again be applying for various grants to enhance the learning opportunities at LME for our children.