

Published October 26th, 2022

## Lafayette Res Run strengthens relationships between businesses, community & schools

By Sharon K. Sobotta



Photo Sharon K. Sobotta

More than 2,300 runners and walkers made their way through downtown Lafayette bright and early Sunday, Oct. 23 for the annual Lafayette Res Run for Education.

Sandeep Patath participated in the race with his wife and his daughter for the first time. "Last year we didn't make it because it was soggy and rainy and we were really happy to make it this year," Patath said. "It was lots of fun to see so many people out having a good time together. It makes me think we should do this kind of thing more often."

Ria Di Costanzo was the Lafayette Elementary School Res Run Chair. "It's really beautiful to be out here on this day and to see so many other families out here from all the other schools in our community. It's really special." As the parent of a few elementary school students, Di Costanzo said getting involved was a no

brainer. "The Res Run raises money for the schools. They give back quite a bit of money to the PTAs. The PTAs help build community. All of these students will eventually be in the same school and the sooner we can connect them, the better."

Di Costanzo said she ran more of the race than she imagined she would and she was grateful for the opportunity to do it. "(Running alongside so many people from all ages and walks of life) reminds me that there are so many wonderful people in Lafayette," she said. "It's great to see the community, the schools and local businesses coming together. The more we can support our local businesses, the more they support us and our local schools and it just goes full circle. Everyone is very invested in this community and that's truly beautiful."

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