



## Dr. Laurie Edmondson

Dr. Laurie Edmondson currently serves as the co-chair of the Rosie Committee. She is a Distinguished Professor of Education at Drury University. Laurie joined the faculty at Drury University in 2003. She is primarily responsible for teaching literacy classes at the graduate and undergraduate level. Her passion is in helping prepare future teachers for teaching their students how to read. Before her journey in higher education began, Laurie taught first grade and then Title 1 reading in Springfield Public Schools. She went on to become a district literacy specialist and worked in the curriculum office for the last few years in SPS.



Laurie earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology and education from (Southwest) Missouri State University. She received her doctorate in Educational Leadership from Saint Louis University. She has served in many leadership roles in her time at Drury including being the Director and then the Dean of the School of Education and Child Development. Currently she is serving as a Faculty Fellow for Civic and Community Engagement.

Community involvement is another passion for Laurie. She was in Leadership Springfield Class 30. Since that time, she has served as an advisor for the Academy Class. In addition to that, she has served on many local nonprofit boards and organizations. She is a past president of the Community Foundation of the Ozarks Board of Directors and past member of the Mayor's Commission for Children. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors for the Foundation for Springfield Public Schools and the Board of Directors for the Springfield Greene County Library Foundation.

Laurie lives in Springfield with her husband Ben who works at Central Bank of the Ozarks. Her daughter Emily just graduated with her master's degree in Occupational Therapy and her daughter Amy will graduate with her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Saint Louis University in May.

