



# North Yellowstone Education Foundation FAQs

## **What is the mission and vision of NYEF?**

Our mission is to work with the community to build sustainable support and enhance innovative educational opportunities for students, teachers and community members in partnership with Gardiner Public Schools. Our vision is to provide sustainable support through fundraising, volunteerism, and community collaboration. With the school's current budget and enrollment situation, the time is ripe to come together in support of this foundational community resource.

## **How is NYEF different from the Booster Club?**

The Booster Club will continue their efforts to support extra-curricular activities and update facilities maintenance. NYEF is a nonprofit that will provide sustainable support for GPS through a larger fundraising arm, pursuing grants and funds that will bolster additional education activities, our innovative programming, and infrastructure needs. We will collaborate to fund the diverse offerings that have given us the reputation of providing a world-class education.

## **What is the structure of this organization?**

NYEF operates with a volunteer board and committees, including a Community-Parent-Teacher Organization. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt philanthropic organization of local citizens, independent of but collaborating with Gardiner Schools.

## **Is there a membership--do I need to "join"?**

You are already a member! We are eager to connect our community as a whole to join in the effort to keep our school as the hub of our community, even if you do not attend or have a child in school. If you have interests or skills to contribute, or wish to know some identified needs, please let us know! NYEF is counting on all community members to contribute in small or large ways. With everyone's help, we can keep our school functioning at a high level, benefiting us all.

## **I pay my taxes. Why do we need NYEF?**

While taxes do pay for basic funding, student enrollment and funding sources have decreased. Tax dollars keep the school open, but don't always support the margin of excellence we're committed to. State funding will not cover the innovative programming GPS currently offers. If we want these exceptional programs to continue we must be proactive. We join neighboring communities in creating a schools foundation to make up those funding differences. The North Yellowstone Education Foundation is also a vehicle to increase community volunteerism.

## **How do I offer support or give input to NYEF? How can I stay informed with what NYEF is doing?**

Visit us on the web at <https://www.GardinerNYEF.org>. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GardinerNYEF>. Email [info@GardinerNYEF.org](mailto:info@GardinerNYEF.org) to join our mailing list and stay informed of needs and upcoming community events. We have several volunteer opportunities, and accept donations at our website and in-kind. If you have ideas for how to support Gardiner Schools, please get in touch!