Academy Fund Advocates

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Academy Fund Advocates are a dedicated group of volunteers who believe in the mission of North Yarmouth Academy and want to help strengthen support for our students, faculty, and programs.

Advocates encourage participation in the Academy Fund by making personal connections, celebrating the impact of giving, helping ensure that every family understands the difference philanthropy makes at NYA, and thanking those who contribute.

Thank you to the 2027-2027 Academy Fund Advocates:
Chairs: Trustee Jess Lynch P'29, '31 and Trustee Meg McGoldrick Stornelli '05
Parker Adams '01, P'31
Morgan Cuthbert '94, P'28
Margaret Dow P'42
Roger Duncan P'32
Joel Harrington P'31, '31
Dave Holman P'34, '36, Trustee
Tara Merrill '04, P'34
Diane Mutagoma P'22, '25, '33
Chad Sylvester P'29
Gary Tirabassi P'31

What Do Advocates Do?

- Connect with fellow parents and school leadership
- Share why the Academy Fund is important and how gifts support students every day
- Encourage participation through authentic, peer-to-peer outreach
- Thank and recognize donors for their generosity
- Help strengthen a community-wide culture of engagement
- Act as an ambassador for NYA's mission and values
- Serve as a valuable two-way connection between families and school leadership, sharing community feedback and perspectives that help shape NYA
- Make your own gift to the Academy Fund at a level that is meaningful for your family.

Training & Support
The Head of School will provide Academy Fund Advocates with an update on the Academy's strategic priorities, current initiatives, and long-term vision, ensuring volunteers are well-informed about NYA's goals and accomplishments when engaging with community members.

The Director of Development will organize a training and provide all resources and materials needed for success, including:

- Orientation and training (1 hour session in September)
- NYA talking points
- Participation reports and outreach lists
- Sample emails, text messages, and thank-you notes
- Ongoing support from the Development Office
- NYA swag as a thank you for time and efforts
- Invitation to the Head of School reception

Time Commitment & Key Activities
The Advocate role is designed to be flexible and manageable for busy volunteers. Typically, the time commitment is 2-5 hours per month from October – January and during March.

Activities may include:

- Attend a one-hour training and briefing with Head of School in September
- Attend the Head of School Reception in October
- Send personal outreach messages (October – November)
- Make thank-you calls (November – January)
- Support Show Your Love effort (March)
- Serve an ambassador for NYA (year-round)

Why Participation Matters
Every gift to the Academy Fund makes an immediate, positive impact on the student experience.

Academy Fund support provides:

- Exceptional academic programming
- Faculty excellence and professional development
- Arts, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities
- Financial aid and access initiatives
- Campus enhancements and educational resources

Strong participation demonstrates the collective commitment of our community and helps secure vital philanthropic support for NYA.

Who Makes a Great Advocate?
You do not need fundraising experience. Successful Advocates are:

- Passionate about North Yarmouth Academy
- Comfortable connecting with fellow community members
- Good listeners and relationship-builders
- Enthusiastic advocates for student success
- Willing to share their personal NYA story
- Able to make a gift to the Academy Fund

Join the Team
Help inspire participation, strengthen connections, and make a meaningful impact on the future of North Yarmouth Academy.

For More Information
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