

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AT CLARK FORK SCHOOL

Clark Fork School is a parent co-op, which means that parents play a very important role in keeping the school running. The executive board consists of dedicated parents who are committed to educational excellence. All parents are required to perform some hours of service each month, but most parents gladly help out and even go beyond the work requirements.

There are many ways parents can get involved, including volunteering in the classrooms, maintaining the school building and playground, working in the office, helping on field trips, coordinating fundraising projects, and much more. Each family plays a special role at Clark Fork School. Every individual is a valuable asset to our school community.



“They cheered like he was a rock star. I didn’t understand what was going on...”

Not too long ago, I had just kissed my little boy goodbye and was preparing to leave the Kindergarten classroom. Connor’s dad, Andrew, entered. “Yeah Andrew!” Peter called. “Andrew, Andrew!” yelled Quinn. “Whoo Hooo!” kids shouted. Others clapped and danced. The adoration for this man was palpable. I gave an inquiring look to my son. “He’s the food dude, Mom,” Joseph said. “It’s Tuesday – Cooking Class. We’re making bread stick pythons. Andrew is the teacher.” “Oooh,” I replied. “What a fun parent job that must be,” I thought to myself. I left, that morning, feeling so blessed to be a part of a school community where legal professors teach my child to bake bread. How totally cool is that?!!

Because of incredible teachers and staff, and amazing parents like you, Clark Fork School is a unique and special place. Being a “parent cooperative” gives us ownership of our facilities, grounds, and other tangible resources. It also, thankfully, requires our ownership of things not so material, such as exemplifying charity, stewardship, and a sense of duty concerning all our children’s educational experience. Diversity, professionalism, creativity, patience, drive, organizational skills, silliness, fun, affection, these are all attributes that are needed to make our school run. Ideally, your talents, skills, and time will be utilized to the maximum, so that you find joy and a sense of pride in performing your parent job and volunteering for projects. Who knows, you may even feel like a rock star.

- Betsy Sannella, Executive Board Secretary