

Meet the NY Mills Public School Board Candidates

Five candidates are vying for the three open seats on the New York Mills Public School Board, with only one being an incumbent. In an effort to help voters get to know all the prospective school board candidates, we reached out via email to each candidate with several questions for information posters. Election Day is Tuesday, November 8.

Amy Wallgren



Why are you running for the Board of Education? If elected, what will be your priorities? I am running because I believe in education at all levels and I want to do what I can to support and be a part of such an important piece of our community. My priorities are to keep the school involved with the wider NYM community, look at all opportunities for academic success for our students, and continue to grow our fund balance.

Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on the board of education? No, there is no one particular issue that motivates me to serve. I want public education to be successful and for our district to be a place where students feel supported and ready to become successful, productive members of our society.

What do you see as the major issue(s) facing the NYM School District? Public education? I believe some items of focus for our district should be: 1) Building

space issues; 2) Mental health support; 3) Appropriate class choices and sizes, and 4) Continued focus on making our students college and career ready, no matter what their path is after high school graduation.

What should your school district do to better prepare students as citizens? Honestly, I think we do a good job giving our students the opportunities they need to become quality citizens of the world. Giving them ways to volunteer, both in the wider community and within the school building is one positive thing we offer. Also, any time we can offer our kids a connection to our business community, whether that be through the kids going out to the businesses via a school program, or by teachers bringing in speakers, I think that helps our students see how integrated our school is with the rest of the New York Mills community, and how that benefits us all.

In what school district or community activities/organizations have you been involved? I have been lucky enough to have had the opportunity to be involved with many groups and activities in our community! Some of these include the NYM Civic & Commerce Association, NYM elementary basketball, The NYM Community Carnival, The Play Matters committee, my church's education committee, the past 2 strategic planning sessions for

our school, #NYM2025 (strategic planning for our community), and I recently joined the NYM Lions Club.

What is your vision for education in this community? As our strategic plans have discovered, our community values an education that helps to nurture our students interests and makes them ready to be a great next generation of community supporters. We are a well-respected district. I think that is based largely on the holistic approach we take to teaching and mentoring our students. We don't focus on one particular group of students or activities. We encourage our students to be multi-activity participants. A single student can be involved in music and athletics and drama and speech and FFA and BPA and volunteering and more. We want our graduates to be on their way to well-rounded community members when they leave. We also have innovative supports for students who need them, but we often provide those additional learning programs to all of our students so no one is singled out and everyone benefits. Overall, I believe our students have a nurturing environment in which to grow and it shows. Let's work together to keep providing academic, athletic, and artistic opportunities, as well as social/emotional support for all of our students!