

# Gallatin Gateway School Service Learning

Service learning is a teaching method that enriches learning by engaging students in meaningful service to their schools and communities. Young people apply academic skills to solving real-world issues, linking established learning objectives with genuine needs. They lead the process, with adults as partners, applying critical thinking and problem-solving skills to concerns such as hunger, pollution, beautification, and diversity.

"Service-learning is education in action." — Sen. John Glenn

## **Kindergarten and 1st Grade Community Beautification**

Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students recognize the importance of community beautification by learning about their environment in science classes recognizing calendar events such as World Forestry Day, Arbor Day, Earth Day, and May Day, and keeping the playground clean and safe.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Historic Preservation**

Students in second grade experience the education of early Montana settlers by visiting the Little Bear Museum. Students learn lessons about their ancestor's education including teacher requirements, heating a classroom with a wood stove, and using chalk on black boards! In addition, the students learn about preserving one's heritage through stories passed down through the generations and how museums are created to save artifacts from the past. Students rake, pull weeds, and beautify the area in preparation for the summer visitors to Gallatin Gateway. As a final treat, students play on the merry-go-round.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – School and Community Safety**

Third graders are always looking for ways to contribute to the Gallatin Gateway Fire Department. Students help the firefighters by washing the fire engines; they assist in fire and emergency drills at school, and promote overall school safety. Keep an eye out for information and posters from the third grade during October – *Fire and Earthquake Safety Month*. Students are also assistants to the fire department at their annual Pancake Breakfast.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Community Library**

Each year, fourth-grade students provide service to the Gallatin Gateway School library through learning projects. The Unwaxed Museum and the GGS Book Sale make it possible to purchase new materials for our library. Fourth graders serve the library by learning to shelve and repair these resources.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Flag Education**

Who raises the flag each morning at the school? Fifth-grade students educate the student body about flag etiquette and respect. Students can be seen distributing flag information, holding ceremonies on the lawn, and contributing to our own school newsletter to educate the community about our nation's and state's flags.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Beautification on Tunnel and Trail Project**

The sixth-grade class coordinates activities with the Tunnel and Trail Committee and the state and federal road departments to beautify the community trail and tunnel in Gallatin Gateway. Students can be seen picking up trash, painting over graffiti and looking for safety hazards along the trail system. The students also engage in community government by learning how organizations in a community work together.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Salesville Cemetery**

The seventh-grade class is developing a community service-learning project with the Salesville Cemetery. The students learn the history of the local cemetery and assist in the cleaning and beautification of this historical landmark of our community.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Community Marquee**

What is happening in Gateway? Eighth-grade students serve the community as they determine the upcoming events and post them on the community marquee at the school. Community members can see at a glance as they drive by what is happening around the area! You can also find community businesses, organizations, and events by visiting the school website at [www.gallatingatewayschool.com](http://www.gallatingatewayschool.com)