



Robotics Grant: Harrison Middle School  
5th graders use VEX IQ robotics kits to  
build and code robots.

## OUR MISSION

The Yarmouth Education Foundation (YEF) is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the overall educational experience of students in the Yarmouth School Department. The Yarmouth Education Foundation promotes and enhances educational excellence by generating independent funding for innovative educational projects and initiatives that fall outside the standard budget and support the curriculum.

The Yarmouth Education Foundation:

- Encourages teacher innovation and teaching excellence by providing funding opportunities for new initiatives.
- Provides financial support to help the Yarmouth School Department respond to emerging education needs.
- Develops a long-term relationship between the community and the schools.

The **Yarmouth Education Foundation** was formed in 2010 to maintain and grow the high quality of education in the Yarmouth School Department. Since then, YEF has awarded **more than \$400,000** across the four schools, making a positive impact on thousands of students.



## HOW IT WORKS...

YEF raises money to fund innovative programs through donations, sponsorships, and fundraising events such as the Blue Jean Ball and the Clipper Honors program.

Educators and students can apply for grants during the fall or spring grant cycles. Grant applicants present their ideas to a 13-member Grants Advisory Committee comprised of community members, board members and other educators.

The Grants Advisory Committee uses the YEF mission statement as a guide to determine which grants are funded. With much excitement, there is a grants parade announcing the winners at each school!

## CODING DRONES

Grant applicants: Todd Abbott with Ryan Gleason  
Yarmouth Elementary School

This exciting opportunity will help teach young students how to code, program, and fly drones. Besides computer science, students will work on math concepts like degrees of angles, velocity, measurement, and more. Students will also play a role in fixing the drone if their intended flight path doesn't quite work out! Drones are used everywhere today—from delivering packages to exploring the ocean—and Yarmouth students will be one step ahead.



HMS staff & educators used a drone from a YEF grant to capture this amazing photo on Winslow Field

## LIGHT, LENSES & EYE

Grant applicants: Deborah Landry with Karin Ney & 3rd Grade Team / Yarmouth Elementary School

Every third grade classroom will receive innovative tools to study the human eye. Students will use lasers, lights, and eye models to explore how the eye and brain are connected, why people wear glasses, and much more. YEF is pleased to provide materials so students can study the inspirational work of Dr. Patricia Bath. Dr. Bath was an African-American woman who grew up in the 1950s in Harlem. She overcame a long list of challenges to become a world-renowned eye surgeon. Teachers will bring together science and social studies for an inspiring unit for every Yarmouth third grader.

## ART MEETS CLIMATE SCIENCE

Grant applicants: Deborah Landry, Chaké Higgison,  
4th Grade Team, Morgan Cuthbert, Holly Houston & Chris Hill

This grant impacts 400 students and more than a dozen educators across three schools. Climate scientist and working artist Jill Pelto spent years studying glaciers in Antarctica and the northwestern United States. From there, she developed an innovative classroom curriculum that combines artwork with scientific data. Her lessons leave a lasting impact on all kinds of learners – from math and science lovers to creative artists and everyone in between. She will work with all fourth graders, seventh graders, high school art students, and YHS environmental science and marine biology classes.



Pelto's artwork featured on the cover of Time Magazine

## HMS ROBOTICS-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Grant applicant: Rod Corey  
Harrison Middle School

This grant funds 24 state-of-the-art VEX IQ robotics kits and one robotics challenge field so that all Yarmouth fifth graders are exposed to robotics. HMS will be one of the first schools in the state to have this kind of technology in fifth grade classrooms. Students will work in pairs to build and code their own robots with cutting-edge technology. This exciting program will teach computer science, engineering, math, teamwork, problem solving, and so much more to all fifth grade students.

## BOYS TO MEN

Grant applicants: Jonas Allen with Dylan Thombs & YHS  
Administrators / Yarmouth High School

Ninety high school students, coaches, and staff members have the opportunity to attend the nationally-recognized Boys to Men Reducing Sexism and Violence Program. These workshops provide a safe space for students to consider and discuss sensitive and difficult topics that are often avoided. This is a youth leadership program that empowers students to understand and speak out against gender-based harassment, abuse, and violence. Participants will collaborate with school leadership on projects that will help shape school culture. YHS administration hopes to expand the program to reach even more students in the future.

## MARINE BIOLOGY TOUCH TANK

Grant applicant: Chris Hill  
Yarmouth High School

YEF is funding a 100-gallon marine touch tank at Yarmouth High School. Students will be able to study the sea creatures of Casco Bay with this hands-on piece of equipment. From scallops to sea stars to baby lobsters and more, the Maine State Aquarium will allow YHS to borrow aquarium animals for use in the tank. Several different science classes will use the tank as part of their studies, and younger students in the district will be able to visit the YHS aquarium as well.

## VERMICOMPOSTING

Grant applicants: Students Emma Moll & Hannah Swift  
with Melanie Moll / Yarmouth Elementary School

YHS students Emma Moll and Hannah Swift will work alongside YES teacher Mrs. Moll to introduce second grade students to vermicomposting – composting food waste with worms! There will be an indoor worm composting bin in second grade classrooms, and students will study how food scraps from snack time can be recycled into valuable compost. To start, the compost will be used in the Yarmouth Community Garden, but when YES construction is complete, the compost will be added to the new school garden.

## COVID-19 DISTANCE LEARNING

YEF provided additional help to our schools and community during these challenging times. Beyond traditional grants, YEF also donated more than \$15,000 to ensure all students had technology access and the proper school supplies to help make remote learning a success during Spring 2020.

The YEF mission is to support innovation in education, and innovation is looking different during this pandemic. YEF has been here to help. Thank you to our administrators, teachers, and support staff for their hard work during this difficult time.



YHS students participate in a Boys to Men workshop

## LEARNING & THE BRAIN

YEF has also awarded nearly \$30,000 in scholarships in the past three years for Yarmouth teachers to attend world-renowned Learning & the Brain conferences, supporting five educators in 2019-2020. Attendees return and share their knowledge with peers, in their classrooms, and with YEF.

*"Thank you, a thousand times, for sending me to San Francisco for this incredible conference. I have been teaching for 15 years and have never attended a more engaging, informative, useful, and well-organized professional development event."* - Jackie Anderson, YHS

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Thanks to the support of donors and volunteers, YEF continued our mission of promoting and enhancing innovative education for Yarmouth students by awarding grants during the 2019 fiscal year totaling approximately \$49,800.

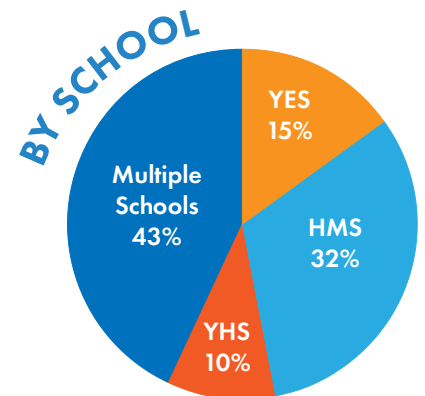
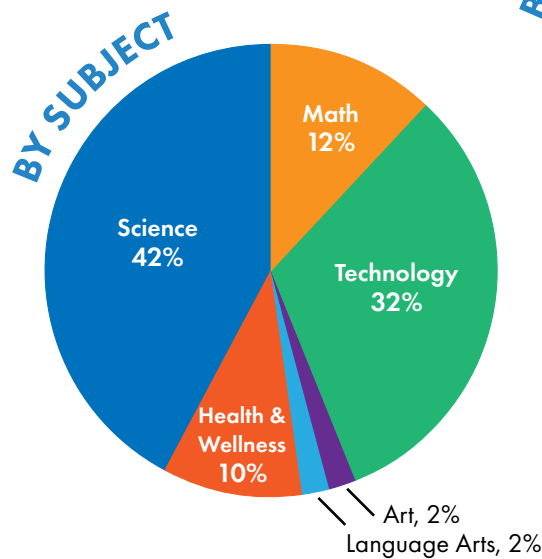


The Light, Lenses & Eye applicants receive their grant award

Revenue this year was approximately \$88,015. YEF's signature event, the Blue Jean Ball, raised \$31,000 of this total. YEF designates 75% of the prior fiscal year revenue to fund grants.

Operating expenses for the year totaled \$19,200 consisting of expenses to promote grant requests, develop the awareness of YEF's mission, maintain a donor database, and general administration.

## GRANT DISTRIBUTION



## CLIPPER HONORS THANK YOU YARMOUTH FAMILIES!

**\$15,525  
RAISED THIS YEAR!**

Our Clipper Honors Program provides an opportunity for parents or caregivers to thank, honor or congratulate an educator, administrator or bus driver through a donation to YEF. With a donation of \$25 or more, YEF will also include a gift for the recipient. This year, YEF included gift certificates to local Yarmouth businesses, Maples & Clayton's Cafe.



Above: Clipper Honors deliveries to the HMS front office staff; below: the YEF team prepares certificates and gifts



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2019-2020

- Meg Swift, President
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YEF Admin:  
Kelly Anderson

\* Board Member as of January 2020

**70 HOST COMMITTEE FAMILIES & \$31,000 RAISED**

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**THANK YOU!**

## 2019 BLUE JEAN BALL



Above: The Loose Threads perform  
Photos from left to right: YEF Board of Directors; VP Katie Leinwand and President Meg Swift; the Blue Jean Ball Event Committee



Thank you to everyone who helped make the 9th Annual Blue Jean Ball a huge success! We had our largest crowd in the history of the BJB, and we raised tens of thousands of dollars for Yarmouth schools. Visit our website for the long list of generous host committee families, as well as our dedicated and creative Blue Jean Ball Committee crew!

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS...



Grants Parade!  
Mr. Corey & students receive a Robotics grant

**GOLD:**



**SILVER:** Bingas Wingas, Yarmouth • Dirigo Pediatric Dentistry • Tyler Technologies • United Insurance  
Legacy Properties/Sotheby's International Realty: Kristina Keane, Heather Shields, Alexa Oestreicher, Carrie Martin

**BRONZE:** Center Line Design • Bayview Dental Associates • Brickyard Hollow • RLC Engineering  
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Bath Savings • Royal River Books • Town & Shore: Lisa & Pete Molloy • Learning with Fun! A Baines Method Co.

Interested in becoming a corporate sponsor?  
Learn more at [YarmouthEducationFoundation.org](http://YarmouthEducationFoundation.org).



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Ms. Elder's kindergarten class celebrates a special Clipper Honors delivery!