



*Four Valleys Community School, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 790*

*Girdwood, Alaska 99587*

*www.fourvalleys.org*

*phone: (907) 742-5317 fax: (907) 742-5322*

## **What is Four Valleys Community School?**

Four Valleys Community School (FVCS) is a local, non-profit 501c3 tax-exempt organization, whose core purpose is *community enrichment*, achieved by providing educational, recreational, and cultural activities for all ages. It serves the community members of Girdwood, Bird, Indian and Portage.

The non-profit was formed when state and school district funding was being cut. FVCS is based on the historical community education model and philosophy - which advocates processes and programs that utilize the total community environment and local resources. It promotes life long learning and emphasizes that educational, social, cultural and recreational opportunities be afforded to all residents of all ages. The community school serves as a catalytic agent by providing organization and leadership to mobilize local resources for individual and community improvement and enhancement. Based on the widely accepted components of community education, FVCS has adopted specific Goals and Objectives.

In other words, because Girdwood does not have a YMCA, a community center, a Health Club, Sylvan Learning Center and all the various other amenities afforded to those located geographically closer to Anchorage, Four Valleys Community School has largely filled that gap over the years. Four Valleys Community School has been successful in partnering with various local entities to provide space, expertise, and diverse activities for the community. Currently, and through August 2012, a Memorandum of Agreement with the Anchorage School District provides for the use of the Girdwood school building at youth nonprofit rates. We have had a positive relationship with Alyeska Resort as well, and management has been supportive.

Our business and agency partners are instrumental. Our instructor base is largely volunteer oriented, which is notably astounding each and every day. People are willing to give their time and skills in order to make their entire community a better place. We cannot do what we do without them. Four Valleys Community School is truly a community based organization, committed to providing meaningful educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities for local community members.

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*Education, Recreation and Cultural Activities  
for the communities of Indian, Bird, Girdwood & Portage*



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## **Four Valleys Community School, Inc. Program Description and Beneficiaries**

Four Valleys Community School, Inc. (FVCS) offers local residents of four Turnagain Arm communities year round learning opportunities and community enhancing activities. FVCS practices the three basic components of community education, life long learning, community involvement, and efficient use of resources. The FVCS office and main facility at Girdwood School is open beyond the regular school day to provide academic, recreation, health, social service and work-preparation activities for people of all ages.

The majority of our organization's time is allocated to developing, promoting and managing community school classes. We recruit instructors, schedule the facilities, advertise programs, register students and monitor all the classes. A wide spectrum of classes is offered for all ages. Typically, 250 classes are offered yearly in three programs. Scholarships are available for anyone who cannot afford the registration fees. Please see the Fall/Winter 2011 Program attachment.

FVCS works with agencies such as the US Forest Service and the Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation Department, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors and other local non-profits to provide for the needs of our communities.

Interagency cooperation encourages efficient use of local resources. We help support a community health fair each year and bring a veterinarian from Anchorage to offer residents local access to health care for their pets. FVCS also organizes other community events including music concerts, a "Family Dance" event in early spring, a community wide volunteer appreciation barbeque in the spring and an annual "All Sports Swap" in the fall. Some of these gatherings double as fundraisers as well as community service events. FVCS enriches the community by financial support of activities such small theatrical productions (on the school stage), school technology upgrades, recycling efforts within the school

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and a year round recreational program to get local kids engaged in regular exercise to develop a healthy lifestyle.

FVCS encourages volunteerism, promotes civic responsibility and provides leadership and service opportunities to groups and individuals. For example, we collaborate with other organizations like the Turnagain Arm Lions Club, the Girdwood Rotary Club and the Girdwood Volunteer Fire Department to provide items to needy families during the holiday season. Gifts are donated by local residents by taking an ornament off an “Angel Tree” located in the community school office. The ornament is then replaced with an age appropriate gift for a needy child. FVCS supports “The Goldstitchers”, a local quilting group who creates and donates a unique quilt annually to benefit one of the local non-profit organizations.

FVCS recognizes outstanding community service by awarding two individuals with a “Community Service Award” at our annual volunteer barbeque. Together with the Lions Club, Four Valleys awards two post-secondary scholarships of \$750 each to graduating local seniors who have been actively involved in our community and are attending college full time. Six scholar athlete awards are made in the fall to deserving youth who qualify, complete the application and successfully interview with a community based committee.

Our direct program beneficiaries are people of all ages from the communities of Bird Creek, Indian, Girdwood and Portage. Additional participants travel from Anchorage, Eagle River, Homer and other localities to attend some of our events and classes. Annually, FVCS serves over 6,800 participants and attracts more than 700 volunteers.





# Four Valleys Community School

Enriching *community* by providing recreational,  
educational and cultural activities



Four Valleys Community School "FVCS!"  
Wed, 3/30/11

6:15 - 7:15 am	Weights	Gym
8:30 - 9:30 am	Pilates	GCR
9:00 - 5:00 pm	glacierValley Quilters	MCC
3:15 - 7:00 pm	Guitar Lessons	Library
4:15 - 5:15 pm	Wrestling	Gym
5:30 - 6:30 pm	Gymnastics	Gym
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Yoga	Music Rm
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Baseball WarmUps	Gym
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Take Shape for Life	Guid. Clini
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Be Dog's Best Friend	LB Lot
7:30 - 9:00 pm	Volleyball: Gr 6-8	Gym

NEW CLASS  
FUSED GLASS  
MIRRORS \$450  
This Thurs. 7:30 - 9:00 pm



## **Alyeska Snow Classic**

The Alyeska Snow Classic is a new proposed gaming fund raiser for Four Valleys Community School, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Girdwood, Alaska. Winner(s) are determined by the exact guess of the total snow accumulation on the ground at the established Measurement Station on Mount Alyeska in Girdwood, Alaska. The total snow measurement from the ground up is taken by a neutral party on the publicized date and time. The measurement is to the nearest  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch. The winner(s) are to be notified after the measurement is taken. Their names are to be announced at a designated Alyeska Resort event on the annually publicized date and time.

**Tickets:** All tickets are numbered and accounted for. Each ticket has the following information printed on it:

1. Name of the event: Alyeska Snow Classic
2. Date and time of measurement: To be established annually with Alyeska Resort
3. Beneficiary: Four Valleys Community School, Inc.

**Participation:** Tickets are sold by participating Girdwood businesses and the Four Valleys Community School, Inc. (FVCS) staff for \$5 per ticket. Each ticket allows the participant one guess at the total snow accumulation from the ground at a specific day and time. Completed tickets are deposited into a sealed container at the participating businesses and FVCS office. All ticket sales close one month prior to measurement date at the end of the business day. Once the ticket sales are closed, ticket sale monies, unsold tickets and sealed containers with completed tickets are picked up from each business by FVCS monitors. Prior to the measurement, all tickets distributed for sale are accounted for by the FVCS monitors. The FVCS monitors are trained adults responsible for recruiting participating businesses, working with the business' employees on record keeping and procedure, delivering needed materials, re-supplying materials and picking up the guesses with accounting, ticket sale monies and secure container with guesses. All monitors and the measurer will be neutral persons who are unable to participate and win.

**Prize:** One prize is awarded equally to the winner(s) who guess the exact snow accumulation from the ground. The prize money is half the net amount. The net amount is the difference between the ticket sales and the administrative costs to run the Alyeska Snow Classic. The administrative costs include but are not limited to all printed materials, advertising, all supplies to include sealed ticket containers, accounting files for businesses, participating business earnings and staff and monitor payroll associated with this event.

**Winners Announcement:** Winner(s) are to be notified as quickly as possible. This notification process begins with the announcement of the snow accumulation measurement and winners on the specific publicized date at the designated Alyeska Resort event.