

Westland School

Since 1949

Head Teacher Job Description

Founded in 1949, Westland School is a small K-6 school serving approximately 130 students. Westland School is committed to democracy and progressive education with an integrated social studies curriculum including specialist classes in science, woodworking, gardening, printing, and creative movement. We believe in a learning environment that is cooperative, child-centered, and community-based, and that the most effective learning takes place within a diverse school community. Westland's core mission is rooted in equity, inclusivity, and a social justice anti-bias curriculum. Westland is located in Los Angeles on a two-acre nature-rich campus that inspires learning and honors childhood, a sense of community, and deepening cross-curricular ties.

Responsibilities include:

- Teach all core academic subjects and collaborate with specialists on social studies integration.
- Provide a warm and supportive social and emotional environment for children
- Work collaboratively with a full-time associate teacher and other faculty, specialists, and staff in a small, close-knit, creatively energetic environment
- Share in supervision outside of the classroom
- Assess student progress through writing narrative conference reports and facilitating bi-annual parent-teacher conferences
- Maintain positive and effective relationships with and provide timely communication to parents
- Actively engage with colleagues, and participate in weekly staff meetings and committees
- Support the life of the school, its events, traditions, and group responsibilities

Skills, Knowledge and Abilities

- Knowledge and understanding of child development, progressive philosophy, and practice
- Demonstrated knowledge of and grounding in equity, inclusion, diversity practice, and a commitment to anti-bias education
- Thoughtful and reflective communication skills
- Self-motivated and committed to the common good
- Ability to provide for several levels of student ability and learning styles
- Ability to create thematically integrated curriculum
- Embodies life long-learning through active and ongoing growth and professional development

Qualifications and Compensation

- A minimum of three years of elementary teaching experience, preferably in a progressive school
- Knowledge and understanding of progressive teaching methods
- Credential or Masters in elementary education or related preferred
- Salary is dependent upon personal qualifications and experience
- Benefits are competitive and include medical, dental, and disability insurance, an annual FSA contribution, life insurance, TIAA-CREF retirement plan after 2 years of employment, tuition remission for one child (50%), and medical insurance for dependents after 3 years of employment, along with other community perks

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