

PENINSULA SCHOOL

Head Classroom Teacher/Lower School

(Full-Time Position)

An exciting opportunity to work in a school community committed to progressive education, diversity, and social justice. Peninsula School, one of the oldest and most progressive day schools in California, is renowned as a place where students love to come to school each day and where academics, the arts, and student's social and emotional development are all equally valued. Founded in 1925, Peninsula has 252 children, 3-14 years of age. Our supportive and welcoming staff invites enthusiastic and dedicated applicants to join our teaching staff in inspiring children to love learning.

Lower School - Head Classroom Teacher Position - Primary (K-4)

Lower School Teaching Team (K-4)

The Lower School is an ungraded primary composed of children from ages 4 to 10. The classroom holds 16-21 students. Each class has a Head Classroom Teacher and one to two Teaching Assistants. In addition, the Lower School teaching team includes one additional head teacher, a literacy specialist, who supports the literacy program across the lower school.

The teachers in the Lower School, while provided autonomy and flexibility in their classroom curriculum to enable them to best serve the needs of their students, work together to sequence curriculum, coordinate calendars and plan events. As a group, the Lower School teachers share responsibility for the well being of all the students in the Lower School.

Head Classroom Teacher - General Responsibilities

The Head Classroom Teacher is responsible for creating and maintaining a classroom environment that, in addition to providing stimulating learning opportunities, nurtures friendship, directness and respectful relationships. The Head Classroom Teacher is responsible for fostering and supporting the individual personal growth of each child, academically, socially, physically and emotionally. The Head Classroom Teacher supports students in exercising independence and making choices within a robust framework of available academic and artistic pursuits, such as science lab, art, library, woodshop, ceramics, weaving, dance and music. In order to do all of this effectively, s/he works in partnership with the students' parents and other teaching staff members for consultation when necessary. Additionally, s/he guides and supports the efforts of the Teaching Assistants with whom s/he works. The Head Classroom Teacher performs her/his duties consistent with the mission, values and core beliefs of Peninsula School.

Head Classroom Teacher - Specific Duties and Responsibilities

- Plan and implement a flexible curriculum favorable to positive learning and personal growth
- Help students to learn to write clearly, to think both rationally and intuitively, to read and retrieve information and to explore their place in the world
- Plan and implement a grade level and developmentally oriented math program
- Motivate each student to develop skills, attitudes and knowledge needed to provide a solid learning foundation and readiness to thrive in the Upper School
- Organize and lead a camping trip in the fall and/or spring
- Meet with parents for conferences at least twice a year and provide additional conferences and communication as required or requested
- Organize and facilitate group parent meetings at least twice a year
- Attend staff meetings, InService meetings, and other meetings as applicable to position

Other Abilities

- Problem solve within a consensus model
- Take initiative, responsibility, and have a friendly respect for children
- Embrace Peninsula School's play based philosophy
- Teach children in a way that fosters creativity, self-esteem, self-expression and awareness, including a strong focus on social-emotional problem solving and conflict resolution
- Create and foster a cooperative learning environment
- Observe and ensure children's progress in all developmental areas
- Recognize and address the unique needs of all children in academic and social/emotional development

Qualifications

Passion for working with children 5-10 years old, skilled in understanding developmental milestones, oriented toward progressive education, experienced in social-emotional teaching as well as academic, and proven to be a flexible and collaborative team member. BA required; teaching credential and/or teaching experience preferred.

Peninsula School is an equal opportunity employee and we actively promote the principles and practices of diversity throughout the school community. We offer competitive compensation and a progressive community dedicated to learning and engaged citizenship. We encourage people of under-represented groups to apply (<http://www.peninsulaschool.org/equity-and-inclusion.html>). Please send cover letter and resume, in MS word or PDF format, to misha.m@peninsulaschool.org or fax to (650) 325-1313 by April 5, 2018.