

Peninsula School

An exciting full-time teaching opportunity is available at Peninsula School, a leader in N-8 progressive education with a focus on fostering intellectual curiosity, social and emotional learning and social justice in a manner that is interactive and responsive to student interests.

[Peninsula School](#) is rich in history and blessed with a wooded, 6-acre campus. Enrollment is strong, the school has no debt, owns its land and buildings and has a long record of excellent financial management including healthy endowments.

The school is in an exciting time as it approaches its centennial in 2025. Many new staff have been bringing with them a fresh perspective on implementing the school's values, and a new strategic plan is being published this spring.

Job Title: Seventh Grade Head Classroom Teacher

Upper School Program (5th-8th)

The Upper School consists of largely self-contained fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes, each with about 21 students. Each class has a Head Classroom Teacher and one Assistant or Associate Teacher who have primary responsibility of teaching Literacy, Social Studies, and math to their grade. The Upper School teaching team has two additional head teachers without specific classroom assignments - the "Swing" Teacher works cooperatively with the classroom teachers and teaches his/her own units within each grade level, and the Upper School Science Teacher.

The members of the Upper School staff work closely together, sequencing curriculum, coordinating calendars and often co-teaching. Five of the six head teachers share the responsibility of the math program for the four grades. Twice-yearly camping trips are an essential part of the Upper School program. As a group, the Upper School teachers take responsibility for the well being of all the students in the Upper School. The Upper School program teachers are provided autonomy and flexibility in their classrooms to enable them to best serve the needs and interests of their students.

Upper School Head Classroom Teacher - General Responsibilities

- Support and promote Peninsula School's mission and values
- Provide a flexible, progressive program for adolescents using instructional methods and materials that are responsive and appropriate to the intellectual, social and emotional needs of students and that fosters their positive learning and personal growth
- Maintain a cooperative classroom environment that encourages problem solving, creativity, critical thinking, and intellectual curiosity
- Create and maintain a welcoming, safe, equitable and respectful learning environment that honors and values the learning and cultural diversity of the student population

- Remain current on educational research, topics and progressive practices relevant to adolescent education
- Participate in and contribute to the school's process of continual reflection and evolution of its program

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

- Recognize and address the unique needs and varied learning styles of all children, ensuring each child's progress in all areas
- Develop and implement teaching units that critically examine multiple cultures and social justice
- Implement a math curriculum that aligns with the program scope and sequence
- Develop a literacy program that helps students learn to write clearly, to think both rationally and intuitively, to read and retrieve information and to explore their place in the world
- Build class community by fostering students' social/emotional learning
- Organize and lead a camping trip in the fall and in the spring
- Clearly articulate program and developmental goals to parents
- Monitor and document student learning
- Clearly communicate student learning to students and parents
- Maintain open lines of communication with parents
- Work collaboratively and constructively with colleagues
- Provide a model for positive leadership
- Provide guidance and oversight to teaching assistants and teaching associates
- Examine and evaluate classroom program and teaching regularly and adjust as needed

Other Responsibilities

- Meet with parents for conferences formally 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 and contribute positively at staff meetings, inservice meetings, and other meetings and school events as applicable
- Participate in school committees as needed

Qualifications and Requirements

B.A. required. Passionate about working with 9-14 year old students. Experience in negotiating pre-teen issues and skilled in building a close rapport with adolescents. Ability to work with a diverse population. Embracing progressive education ideals. Caring, flexible, creative, organized, good judgment, sense of humor. Current first aid, CPR, and/or lifeguard certification(s) a plus.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job. Reasonable

accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, ability to adjust focus, and sound hearing. The ability to speak clearly and coherently is required. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit; use hands, talk and hear. The employee is frequently required to reach with hands and arms. On occasion, the employee is required to stand, walk, stoop, kneel, or crouch. Employee is required to operate a computer and office productivity machinery, communicate across a variety of media, and work in close proximity to others. The role may also require the employee to work in inclement weather during special activities and camping trips.

To Apply

Peninsula School is an equal opportunity employer 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. (<http://www.peninsulaschool.org/equity-and-inclusion/>)

We encourage people of under-represented groups to apply.

Please fill out an employment application

<https://www.peninsulaschool.org/s/PS-Application-for-Employment-2018-V02.pdf>

and send it with a cover letter and resumé, in MS word or PDF format, to

HR@peninsulaschool.org or fax to (650) 325-1313.