

Job Title: Music Specialist (Teacher)
Grade: Preschool and Elementary
Co-Teachers: All Preschool and Elementary

Position Parameters:

School Year: 2021-2022

Hours: 30- 35 hours per week

About Us

Ventana School is a small independent school in Silicon Valley. We serve students from 2 years old to 5th grade. We believe that all children are capable learners; our role as educators is to create an environment where they flourish. We give children a strong academic foundation by engaging them in authentic learning experiences. We provide daily opportunities for our students to express their creativity, engage their curiosity, and connect with others.

Specialist Teacher Overview

Ventana's collaborative model necessitates that specialist teachers contribute fully and equally to the development of our Reggio-inspired curriculum. In collaboration with classroom teachers, specialists will create lessons, provocations, and invitations that further students' project-based inquiry. All Ventana specialist teachers attend to the social/emotional needs of a diverse school-age population and will collaborate and communicate effectively with colleagues, students, parents, and administrators. Teacher performance will be evaluated using a *Descriptors of Practice Rubric* that includes Planning and Preparation, Classroom Environment, and Instructional Approach.

Specialist teachers are expected to maintain a democratic, creative environment in which meaningful learning and personal growth are fostered through a variety of active learning experiences.

General SPECIALIST Duties

- Arrive on time each morning and have daily lessons/materials prepared
- Engage in collaboration with preschool and elementary teaching teams (via in-person meetings and email) about curriculum integration.
- Develop integrated long and short term lesson plans around specialist areas of expertise that fit the year's theme and/or connect to classroom project work.
- Maintain classroom management by implementing strategies that draw on children's strengths and participation
- Facilitate a democratic community of learners through conflict resolution strategies, and a view of the child as 'competent' in both solving problems and contributing to solutions
- Create and maintain a classroom environment that fosters active student participation in the learning process
- Attend elementary and/or preschool faculty meetings and actively contribute to the school's professional learning community

Specific MUSIC SPECIALIST Duties include but are not limited to:

- Lead whole group and or small group instruction in specialist area of expertise
- Keep a planning calendar detailing ongoing or upcoming art activities for every class; organize work time around these plans
- Provide two 45 minute Music sessions each week for each of the 6 elementary classes
- Provide one 30-40-minute Music session each week for each of the preschool classes
- Provide two 30 minute assembly sessions each week for “Wondering Time” with our school chaplain
- Provide daily 30-minute lunch recess coverage
- Create weekly blog posts for both preschool and elementary. Cycle through all classes on a weekly rotation. Blog posts should follow published guidelines for Ventana documentation. Documentation will include photos, student work, transcripts of dialogue, videos, and other artifacts.
- Facilitate student music performances throughout the school year.
- As appropriate, provide one 30 – 60-minute music/performance project integration session as requested (as available) for each of the 6 elementary classes
- Work with faculty to schedule and produce (December) Holiday program
- Work with faculty to schedule and produce (May) Spring program