

Southshire Community School
Job Description: Teacher, Grades 4-8

About Southshire Community School:

Southshire Community School is a Vermont-approved, progressive, family-oriented elementary school (K-8) which focuses on the individual as a learner.

With an emphasis on teaching the importance of leadership, personal responsibility and good citizenship, Southshire strives to help children become individuals who possess academic and critical thinking skills, a love of learning and a strong interest in becoming creative, contributing members of our community.

The Southshire culture is firmly rooted in the spirit of creating and sustaining a healthy, nurturing community. Children learn, explore and share their individual interests in a safe, nurturing environment and are encouraged to respect each other's thoughts, opinions and interests. Families and teachers play a key role in supporting the community through numerous all-school events and lending their vision, skills, and voice to foster a healthy school life that enriches the education of the children.

Visit www.southshire.org for more information or call [802-442-4601](tel:802-442-4601).

About the role of Teacher:

The individual in this full-time, permanent position understands and promotes the Southshire Community School's mission, vision, objectives, and policies both within and outside the immediate school community.

Southshire has a strong philosophical commitment to classroom community. Working together, teachers are expected to develop, implement, and evaluate emergent, thematic curriculum for a specific group of children while interacting with all students and teaching workshops designed to support the skill development or interests of the larger classroom community.

This full-time position reports to the Head of the School.

Requirements of Position:

Must uphold the child-centered approach that supports the individual needs of the children.

Must feel confident in developing and implementing a creative curriculum.

Must have strong verbal and written communication skills.

Experience in independent/progressive education preferred.

Must possess a deep understanding of academic and emotional child development.

Must have experience creating and implementing thematic emergent curriculum units.

A flexible, open approach is essential to the individual's success as is a creative spirit and ability to think out-of-the-box.

While this individual will work closely with the Head of the School and other teaching staff, they will need to think and act independently to create learning experiences that support the needs of individual students.

Must be willing to partner with parents and caregivers to support the needs of the students and school community during the school day and as needed outside of school hours.

Responsibilities of this position:

- Maintaining an on-going dialogue with other teachers and coordinating curriculum integration and implementation including participation in weekly staff planning meetings.
- Creating and implementing thematic curriculum units that emerge from and develop the interests and skills of students.
- Providing instruction in reading, writing, math, and science appropriate to individual student skill levels and approach to learning.
- Leading productive class discussions to better understand the interests of students at different age levels.
- Actively observing students' activities, play, and work products so as to gain insight into student development and learning progress.
- Creating thoughtful displays of student work and refreshing them regularly.
- Using various assessment tools/strategies such as observations, children's work samples, continuums of development, portfolios, etc. to help make instructional decisions for individual students.
- Administrative responsibilities include:
 - maintaining weekly records;
 - preparing extensive narrative parent reports twice a year;
 - conferencing with parents on a scheduled basis or as requested;
 - meeting weekly with Head of School to review records, group themes, curriculum, and other matters;

- participating in weekly staff development activities including weekly review of children, review of issues, etc.
- Establishing a positive relationship with parents of the students and maintaining regular communication that supports an understanding of the school's program, develops positive relationships within the school community, and protects the privacy and confidentiality of each student and family in the school community.
- Participating in school events including all-school meetings, open houses, annual plays, end of year events, etc.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications for the Position:

Candidate must have a bachelor's in education or related field and a minimum of 5 years teaching experience with grades 4-8.

Candidate must be able to pass a criminal background check.

Southshire Community School provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, Southshire Community School complies with applicable state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training.