



Gardner School is looking for dedicated and creative educators to join our staff. As a leader in progressive education in Clark County, Gardner School is a place where creativity, connection, curiosity, and courage are celebrated, and where learning is ongoing for students and staff.

### **What makes Gardner a unique place to work?**

- A legacy going back to 1995, when we were founded on the tenets of progressive education, with a focus on Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences.
- Our values as a school influence all decisions we make, and our team strives to make the work environment productive, collaborative, and kind.
- Teachers create engaging, integrated learning opportunities connecting students with art, science, movement, language, music, and nature. Class sizes are small at Gardner, under 18 students, so teachers get to focus on building strong relationships and meeting student needs.
- Our teachers are known for being collaborative and collegial, and pursue professional development to grow in skills and knowledge. A growth mindset is valued at Gardner.
- Our small administrative team is passionate about the work we do at Gardner, and our teachers are supported through collaborative conversations focused on professional growth and student success. We are committed to creating a workplace that is inclusive, diverse, equitable, and sustainable for teachers.
- Our curriculum approach allows teachers to tailor learning opportunities to the needs of their students. Following our core standards and best practices, teachers can utilize innovative approaches to ignite curiosity and deepen student learning.
- We have two campuses- the Country Friends Campus in Hockinson, serving children 18 months through Pre-K and school-age care, and our main campus, serving children 3 years through 6th grade, situated on 5 acres near WSU-Vancouver. Our wetlands and school garden provide opportunities for teachers to use the natural world in their lesson design.

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

Gardner School is seeking a dynamic and highly skilled classroom teacher to join our community as the school's next Early Childhood Lead Teacher in our Mazama Pre-K classroom. The early childhood classroom is the foundational experience for Gardner students, so the school experience for these students is the basis for a love of learning that will carry them forward in their future at Gardner.

The Mazama Lead Teacher would create an environment where young students grow in their understanding of self, others, and their environment, while establishing habits and practices to help them succeed in school. A strong candidate would be skilled in creating a play-based curriculum using open-ended materials and prompts, focusing on the three thematic units throughout the year. The

Mazama Lead Teacher would work closely with families to monitor and assess student growth and to communicate progress.

In addition to the qualifications listed below, the ideal candidate will be highly effective in using progressive educational strategies such as inquiry-, project-, and place-based, interdisciplinary, and experiential learning. Confidence using multiple intelligence concepts and vocabulary is preferred. The ideal teacher can differentiate and individualize instruction in ways that maximize student engagement and achievement while meeting the needs of a diverse student body. This teacher can expertly guide students through long-range thematic learning experiences and culminating projects and presentations.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Teach classes as assigned, providing effective and professional classroom instruction, assessment, and management
- Observe and document children's work and words and create anecdotal records to correspond with each section of our developmental continuum
- Design and implement curriculum and instruction consistent with Gardner's mission, values, and pedagogy
- Collaborate with colleagues on curriculum development and on enhancing instructional practices and strategies
- Establish effective communications and relationships with students and parents
- Help to maintain school policies, regulations, and expectations
- Develop and maintain professional, collaborative, and collegial relationships with faculty and staff, as well as with community partners
- Support the work of the Head of School and administrative/leadership team
- Exhibit a growth mindset about teaching practices and work toward professional goals and development
- Participate in non-classroom activities, including community events, curriculum nights, field trips, and student trips
- Provide effective supervision of students to promote a safe and healthy environment and school experience
- Timely and professional completion of required reports and forms
- Fulfill other responsibilities as assigned respective to faculty member's status as a Gardner community member

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Earned Associate's Degree or higher in Early Childhood education or a related field from an accredited institution; advanced degree in education or related field preferred
- Demonstrated completion of DCYF (DEL) certification
- Excellent verbal, written, and digital communication skills; ability to effectively communicate and work with administrators, faculty, staff, parents, and students
- Proficiency with computers, Google Drive, and word processing, database, and other classroom technologies

- Demonstrated ability to create an effective learning environment and interact effectively with people from different cultures and experiences

### **SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Faculty members are at all times responsible for the supervision of students in their care during classes and for students generally at all times when on campus or off campus during school activities.

### **WORKING CONDITIONS:**

This is a 10-month faculty position that follows an academic year. There are some required commitments outside of regular school hours, including evening and weekend commitments. Teachers are expected to travel with students on various experiential activities throughout the year. For EC students, this includes working with parents to meet at other locations, as our EC program requires each student be escorted by a parent or guardian for all off site field trips.

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

Physical requirements are consistent with light physical duties required of teachers generally combined with more strenuous physical duties consistent with play- based experiential learning and student trips off campus.

### **COMPENSATION & BENEFITS:**

Salary: \$31,000 - \$38,000 (10 months paid over 12)

Position Classification: Exempt Teacher

Hours: Full Time (7:30am - 3:30pm strongly preferred)

Benefits: Some part time and all full time positions qualify for Medical and Dental with employer contribution up to 100% (dependent on schedule), retirement plan (up to 3% employer match), and paid time off.

*It is the policy of Gardner School to maintain a working environment free of all forms of unlawful discrimination. Gardner School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, religion and national or ethnic origin, age, or disability in the administration of educational policies, employment practices or any other school-administered policies or practices.*