



Lafayette Preparatory Academy

St. Louis, mo | est. 2013

Music Teacher/Teacher Assistant

Lafayette Preparatory Academy, a charter school, opened in the fall of 2013 initially as a K-2 charter school with 80 students and will grow with its students through 5th grade. Our mission is to prepare students for academic and collegiate success and equip them to enter the world as active, responsible, and involved citizens and leaders. We will utilize an extended day to implement research-proven curriculum focused on math, literacy, critical thinking, and science. As a community school, serving the needs of students from Downtown/Near Southside neighborhoods, LPA will support social and economic growth and sustainability in the city of St. Louis.

Teaching at Lafayette Preparatory Academy:

Lafayette Preparatory Academy seeks passionate educators and relentless over-achievers who have proven to be ambitious self-starters and operate with both a sense of urgency and responsibility. Teaching at Lafayette Preparatory Academy is ideal for an educator with deep passion for instruction and who is eager to participate in rigorous development to perfect his/her craft. In addition to daily grade-level planning time and weekly professional development, teachers will receive regular advice, support, guidance, and feedback from a supportive leader. Teachers will also participate in three to four weeks of professional development and common planning activities prior to students arriving.

Specific Position: This position is responsible for teaching Music Education to K-4 students three to four days a week. In addition to teaching Music, the person will support general education teachers, in the Teacher Assistant role one to two days each week.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

Academic Achievement and student character development

- Plan instruction appropriate to subject and grade level and differentiate to the needs of each individual student.
- Encourage innovation, creativity, and social responsibility.
- Instruct in Music Content and Theory as aligned to state standards.
- Develop and employ multiple assessments effectively.
- Analyze effectiveness of instruction through regular student assessment and reflection on teaching practices.
- Collaborate to develop a set of ambitious year-end goals for each student. Working backwards from these goals, determine benchmarks.
- Use assessment data to drive instruction and decision-making.



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- Create a positive, achievement-oriented and structured learning environment that excites and invests students.
- Motivate students to realize high academic and behavioral standards.
- Build classroom community by working with families to become invested in their children's academic success.
- Exemplify LPA's core values in all interactions with students, families, and colleagues.

Professional learning, development, and growth

- Collaborate with school leaders and teachers to improve instruction and develop school culture.
- Refine instructional knowledge and skills, engage in data analysis, and refine the school's curriculum.
- Utilize data analysis protocol, lesson study protocol, and teaching practices inquiry protocol.
- Attend all professional development, team planning, and data analysis meetings.
- Participate in Institute as both a leader and collaborator.
- Inquire about innovative teaching practices and models.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A passionate belief in LPA's mission, values, and educational model
- Missouri Teaching Certificate
- A bachelor's degree
- Meet HQT requirements
- Current authorization to work in the United States

EXPERIENCE

Experienced teaching candidates must demonstrate a track record of exceptional student performance, while candidates without teaching experience will be evaluated based on past leadership experience, participation in extracurricular programs, academic performance, and commitment to personal and professional growth.



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KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND ATTRIBUTES

- Ability to meet the needs of students learning at widely varied levels
- Ability to employ inquiry-based teaching strategies
- Ability to encourage and develop both divergent and convergent thinking in students
- Ability to develop critical thinking skills in students
- Ability to apply empirical principles and procedures
- Ability to analyze student achievement data and utilize it to drive instruction
- Ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with all stakeholders
- Knowledge of many curricular models
- Bilingual/biliterate preferred
- A strong love for teaching
- A desire to work with a diverse student population
- A willingness to do whatever it takes to ensure that every child succeeds
- Ability to demonstrate loving care for students and their futures yet also a firm personality and belief in a high level of structure.
- A strong commitment to assessment and accountability

REPORTS TO:

Lafayette Preparatory Academy Head of School

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Salary and work year is aligned to the school calendar (requires attendance at Professional Learning Institute); 8 days sick leave; comprehensive benefits package

TO APPLY:

Submit your resume, cover letter, transcripts, a copy of valid teaching certificate, question responses, and three letters of recommendation to Sarah Ranney, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at Sarah.Ranney@lafayetteprep.org In the subject line, write “_____ (your name) PE teaching candidate.”

Submit concise responses to the following questions:

- 1) According to Carol Dweck’s research on achievement and success, one’s mindset towards learning can be changed. Which mindset must be nurtured in students and how does one develop that mindset in students?
- 2) What is most important to the success of students?
- 3) How do race and class affect how young people experience schools? And what role does a teacher play in affecting the experience?
- 4) Is it more important to provide structure or flexibility in the classroom?
- 5) How does one develop an innovative mindset in students?
- 6) What is the most important thing for students to gain in their Music experience?