

Lead Teacher position at Durango Montessori School 2024/25 School year

Position Summary: We seek a kind professional who is hard-working and compassionate to join us as a full-time elementary or Early childhood teacher. A person who will commit multiple years and foster Durango Montessori's continued growth. Applicants with experience and/or interest in Montessori Philosophy and Methods, experiential learning, and teaching experience will be given priority.

Lead Teachers:

Delight in all aspects of program design and development and skillfully deliver Montessori Elementary Curriculum—if the candidate is not Montessori credentialed, a willingness to complete Montessori training is required.

Is a calm, professional, and effective communicator with students, staff, and parents.

Works professionally with all DMS staff to ensure the continuity of a positive school culture, Montessori curriculum, and timely, effective communication.

Supervise and manage his/her Assistant Teacher, adhering to the Assistant teacher's job description.

Love teaching children and supporting their development.

Engage children in peaceful, effective positive behavior, teaching social-emotional skills to foster emotional intelligence.

Commit to high-quality learning and regularly completes student observations and record keeping for each child.

Reads and abides by the policies and procedures of Durango Montessori School.

Assists in duties beyond the classroom as requested by the Director—attends informational sessions, open houses, conducts conferences, monitors recess and any morning or afternoon duty assigned.

Care about equity, diversity, and social and environmental justice.

Description:

Our non-profit Montessori school is in its 20th year. We put our staff first, providing them with a competitive wage compared to teachers working at the Durango School District., we provide (at a minimum) an annual raise to match the cost of living increase in Durango.

We are a small and thriving school consisting of 2 Early Childhood classrooms, 2 Lower Elementary classrooms, and 1 Upper elementary classroom. We currently have 74 students enrolled, we maintain a 10 student to 1 teacher ratio.

DMS students engage the local community and have access to Colvig Summer Camp, Fort Lewis College, Mesa Verde, Crow Canyon Archeology Center, and many local non-profits with focuses on conservation, sciences, archaeology, and the arts.

The families that makeup Durango Montessori are passionate about living their best lives and supporting their children to thrive. Our parents volunteer 12 hours a school year, they are

involved and supportive. Our community seeks a new elementary teacher who can bring dynamic ideas and positive energy to make things happen for our students.

A connection to the outdoors is vital to the health and well being of children. In the fall, we spend Fridays at the beautiful Colvig Silver camp to connect with the world outside of our classroom walls and engage in hiking, swimming, challenge courses, and archery. The schools goal is to engaging in the outdoors daily for at least an hour, and monthly engage in at least one full day of on an outdoor experiential learning.

Qualifications:

Minimum: Bachelors from an accredited college or university in Education or related discipline applicable to teaching assignment. American Montessori Society or Association Montessori credential; enrolled in a Montessori program; or willingness to enroll in a Montessori program. Pieces of training completed required for the position (first aid, CPR, Early childhood mandatory training)-training time will be provided to complete training as needed with the support of DMS.

Description of Community:

Durango Montessori is housed in the historic Smiley Building in downtown Durango Colorado. Durango is home to many world-class athletes and outdoor families who have searched for and found a community and location that supports their lifestyle. Our Community is small and vibrant with many opportunities for theatre, music, and the arts. The area offers abundant pristine environments for outdoor enthusiasts to hike, ski and snowboard, bike, climb, paddle, and explore. Colorado is known for its natural beauty and as a center for people wanting to make an impact in their community and the world.

Durango Montessori is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to building a diverse workforce and community.

Start Date: Aug 13, 2024

Salary (depending on experience) \$40,000 to \$48,800 (to be paid on a 10 or 12 month cycle)

Benefits:

- Simple IRA with a 2% annual school contribution.
- Health Insurance stipend of \$110/ month for 10 months to put towards a plan you choose independently.
- Classroom spending stipend of \$50/month
- Free tuition for full-time staff's children (a \$9000 value/child)
- Other benefits: monthly Pilates for staff, staff holiday parties, staff breakfasts and lunches.