

Job Announcement, Wildflower Open Classroom School Director

The Director of Wildflower Open Classroom will lead the ongoing development and implementation of the school program and will serve as the instructional leader of the school. The director is responsible for powerfully articulating and championing Wildflower's educational vision, motivating others to follow that vision, and strategically implementing the school's mission and program through effective management. Serving as founding director of Wildflower Open Classroom School will provide a rare opportunity to direct the creation of a school that strives to create self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners.

About Wildflower Open Classroom School:

The Wildflower Open Classroom (WOC) envisions an integrated thematic learning environment in which our community strives to create self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners passionately committed to the celebration of diversity, stewardship of the earth, positive interpersonal relationships, appreciation of the arts, and academic excellence. WOC seeks to create a supportive student-centered learning environment that provides a standards-based curriculum where students can work both independently and cooperatively with others. We seek to educate the "whole child" by addressing the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical needs of our students. The mission of WOC is to enable students to flourish through the use of innovative curriculum and instruction that empowers them to reach their innate intellectual, creative, and leadership potentials.

Key Characteristics:

- Teacher, parents and child each play a vital role in the learning environment.
- A small school where every child is seen as an individual accommodating social, emotional, creative and physical growth.
- Students collaborate, create and receive direct instruction as a whole class, in small groups, and as individuals.
- Integrative Thematic Curriculum and project-based instruction are used to teach state standards in all academic areas.
- Parents assist in classroom so students have more individualized attention.
- Small class sizes
- Multi-aged classrooms

Major Duties and Responsibilities of Director:

- Providing instructional leadership of Wildflower Open Classroom School by clearly articulating the mission and vision as well as expectations of students and staff; guiding and overseeing the continued development of Wildflower Open Classroom School's academic program;
- Coordinating the work of the school wide leadership team in support of school and organization priorities; and long-term strategic planning.

- Work with Wildflower Open Classroom Board of Directors to design and implement annual work plan.
- Managing efforts to shape Wildflower Open Classroom School's desired culture, focusing on ensuring the success of diverse learners and building a supportive and caring culture, including working closely with parents as partners in the learning process;
- Building a positive and supportive faculty culture at the school, including attracting and selecting high-performing staff, leading high-quality professional development opportunities, developing a collaborative team culture, managing and evaluating performance;
- Managing daily operations to ensure a safe, clean, and smoothly-running facility; managing all resources at the school, including maintaining budget targets and priorities;
- Working collaboratively with community partners to establish and carry out priorities and shared initiatives including the recruiting of students, development of service learning, community-based learning opportunities, etc.;
- Developing positive relationships with local organizations, schools and CUSD staff, groups, etc.
- The Director shall report directly to the Board of Directors.

Qualifications:

- Comprehensive educational vision that is consistent with the Open Classroom's mission and educational program
- Understanding of the "Open Classroom" philosophy and pedagogical approach
- Passion for educating K-8 students
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work effectively and build consensus with students, teachers, parents, community members, and Board of Directors
- Knowledge of school management and teacher evaluation
- Strong, demonstrable leadership skills in educational and administrative areas
- Knowledge of curriculum development and program design
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent education and/or experience
- Five plus years experience in program or school administration preferred
- Experience in serving similar student populations preferred.
- Leadership and management abilities

To Apply:

Please email (or preferably upload to the Wildflower job announcement at <http://jobs.publiccharters.org/> will have the exact link after uploaded) a cover letter addressing your interest in Wildflower's unique mission and desire to shape the development of a new school, as well as information about your previous experience and personal qualifications. Please also send a detailed resume and three letters of recommendation. We will begin assessing candidates immediately and will schedule interviews for the end of February 2011.

Contact information:

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