

Cannon River STEM School

Job Description

Title: School Naturalist/Extended Learning Teacher(1 FTE) **Date Created/Updated:** 4/2/2018

Classification: School Year Instructional Staff

Reports To: Teaching/Learning Coordinator

Purpose

Cannon River STEM School's vision is to become an innovative leader in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in Minnesota while creating a community of students who love to learn. Teachers at CRSS are responsible for bringing the CRSS mission to life, fostering each student's innate curiosity and joy of discovery. Our teachers prepare students to become excellent questioners, scientific thinkers, and responsible citizens, who are able to contribute to the world with confidence and character. Teachers achieve this through student-centered, collaborative and experiential learning, with an emphasis on the environment as an integrating context. Teachers are responsible for organizing and implementing instructional programs to meet and exceed the K-8 standards set by the Cannon River STEM School and State and Federal governments. The School Naturalist/Extended Learning Teacher works with teacher, classes and small groups of students to implement our place-based, project-based and inquiry-based learning within both the traditional school day, and through after-school and summer programming.

Duties and Responsibilities

Job responsibilities can change depending on the needs of the students, and the particular assignment. The primary responsibility of this position is to serve as a school naturalist, to encourage and support classes using the rich campus environment as a context for instruction.

This may include:

- Working to ensure that every grade level is participating in a citizen science project. This means supporting the development and implementation within the curriculum and with the students.
- Working to ensure that every grade level has a project for greening our campus. This means supporting the development and implementation within the curriculum and with the students.
- Providing environmental education opportunities on a regular basis during recess times. This may include leading Project Wild/Learning Tree games, helping students do field inventories in the meadow, supporting science fair project research, etc.
- Planning and implementing afterschool environmental education/adventure programming for students after school two days a week.
- Develop several non-school day "camps" to run during staff development days and/or school breaks
- Provide small group extended learning on environmental/science topics for students exceeding academic expectations.

- Working with and supporting teachers to develop outdoor education activities and lesson plans that address academic standards.
- Researching and acquiring resources to assist teachers in using the outdoor learning environment.
- Overseeing environmental education data collection for Audubon Center for the North Woods.

Supervisory Responsibilities

- None

Required Education, License, Experience and Skills

- Bachelor's degree of related subject from accredited university.
- Valid MN teaching license (K-6/1-6 Elementary Education)
- Degree or significant coursework in environmental education.
- Experience teaching children, both in the formal and non-formal settings.
- Proven experience in the environmental education realm.
- Skill in working with children, especially those with special needs.
- Ability to teach in an outdoor setting and to use the environment as an integrating context for learning.
- Must be self-motivated, self-directed, collaborative and flexible.
- Ability to follow written and verbal instructions.
- Ability to deal with the unexpected in a calm and professional manner.
- Ability to handle sensitive information confidentially.
- Must clear pre-employment background check and substance abuse screening.

Desirable Qualifications

- ASL or Spanish language proficiency.

Physical Requirements

- Must be able to operate a computer, copier, printer, fax machine and phone.
- Must be able to stand, walk, navigate rugged terrain, reach with arms and hands, balance, stoop, sit on the floor and kneel.
- Must be able to be outside in all weather conditions with students and maintain a learning environment.
- Must be able to run in emergency situations.

Benefits

- This is a full-time regular school year position that is eligible for the Cannon River STEM School's benefit program. The benefit program includes health, dental and life insurance, TRA retirement program and PTO.

CRSS does not discriminate against any student based on "race," color, ethnicity, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, religion or creed, status with regard to public assistance, sexual

orientation, disability, intellectual ability, prior measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, or for any other basis that would be unlawful for a public or charter school. This initiative is funded in part with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding. CFDA 84.282A, Charter Schools Program.