



SYNAPSE SCHOOL POSITION OVERVIEW: LOWER SCHOOL MATH SPECIALIST

The Synapse School in Menlo Park, CA, an innovative TK-8 independent school located in the heart of Silicon Valley, dedicated to rethinking and reimagining education, seeks a **LOWER SCHOOL MATH SPECIALIST**.

Synapse educates a community of change makers by combining social-emotional learning, leading-edge academics, and the practice of innovation. We have an unwavering belief in the capacity of children, and our teachers work alongside our students to unlock their powers of curiosity, discovery, and creativity. Synapse's program provides a deep and unique range of integrated academic, social, and creative experiences to help children use their hearts and hands to unleash their passion for learning. Synapse draws students from around the San Francisco Bay Area.

SETTING AND LOCATION

South of San Francisco, Synapse School resides in the city of Menlo Park. Because of Synapse's unique and exciting location, our school is influenced by the dynamic cultural, intellectual and ethnic diversity that permeates the region. Stanford University is minutes away, and provides an unparalleled intellectual community in neighboring Palo Alto. Synapse is a close neighbor to several high-tech and high profile companies. We are conveniently located between freeways 101 and 280 and along Caltrain, a commuter railway system that services thousands of people each day from San Jose to San Francisco.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Synapse's math program is committed to providing students with a rich and positive experience that fosters a sense of joy and confidence about the art of mathematics. Our math program values exploring multiple strategies to model and solve authentic problems, investigating both real-world and pure mathematical contexts and is often project-based and integrated across disciplines.

Synapse is looking for a dynamic Lower School Math Specialist who is passionate about exploring mathematics with TK-4 students, excited by the opportunity to innovate, and knowledgeable about cutting edge mathematics pedagogy and curriculum development.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

- Own, manage, and lead the development of project and problem-based, mixed-aged and mixed-ability math classes TK-4, as well as Bridges math curriculum K-4
- Articulate our math program and goals internally and externally; meet with parents as needed
- Collaborate with and coach teachers to develop and document problem- and project-based, differentiated, and integrated theme-based curriculum in a mixed-age environment; assist teachers in assessing students and designing curriculum guided by assessment results; provide enriching challenges to small groups of students
- Own and/or facilitate math-related program enhancements (e.g. After School Programs, math competitions throughout the school year, community math circle events, parent education, Math Mornings for parents and students, etc.)
- Strengthen partnerships with local organizations and math professionals; present at professional conferences
- Attend faculty, division, and other meetings as needed
- Hold individual parent-teacher conferences and join classroom teachers for conferences as needed

AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD POSSESS THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of three years of teaching experience, preferably in independent schools; minimum of one year of experience in math leadership.
- Advanced degree, preferably in mathematics or a mathematical science
- Experience with Bridges math curriculum, and in differentiating mathematics instruction

- Experience designing and implementing project-based, problem-based curriculum, as well as explicit skill development; experience leveraging tools such as manipulatives, visual models, and technology to help move student understanding from the concrete to the abstract
- Active in mathematics education professional learning communities such as NCTM, NCSM, and CMC
- Demonstrated commitment to equity and inclusion in mathematics education
- Passionate about sharing the art and beauty of mathematics with students through rich low-floor-high-ceiling tasks and investigations
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

SALARY RANGE AND BENEFITS

\$90,000 - 120,000/year

Synapse offers a generous benefits package including health, dental, and retirement, as well as additional lifestyle perks. Housing stipends available to those who qualify.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should email a cover letter of interest, three names of references with contact information and a résumé to Katie Morgan, Head of Lower School, katiem@synapseschool.org. This position is open until filled.

Synapse School does not discriminate in employment opportunities or practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability and familial affiliation or any other characteristic protected by law. All applicants must be currently authorized to work in the United States.