

Position:

- **K-8 Music teacher .8 FTE**

Description:

Friends School of Minnesota (FSMN) offers a rich K-8 program where in-depth academic studies are supported by peaceful forms of conflict resolution. In the tradition of more than 80 Quaker Friends schools across the United States, Friends School of Minnesota meets children's intellectual, emotional and spiritual needs in an environment that nurtures their social consciousness.

We envision a school community that embodies strength in diversity through the sharing of rich cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds and experiences, and the celebration of varied personal expressions and identities, while recognizing the challenges posed by societal structures of oppression. We envision a student body that is able to work towards and is committed to social justice and equitable change making in the world. We commit to the long-term, collective work of examining school culture, practices, and policies, changing conditions to promote equity, defining diversity and inclusion needs within our school community, and approaching this work with humility and urgency.

FSMN's academic program is guided by the principles of progressive education. We believe that children learn best as active participants, collaborators, and problem-solvers within a community. Teachers incorporate students' questions and emerging ideas into project-oriented, interdisciplinary units that lead to student investigations and demonstrations of understanding.

There are currently 150 students and 21 faculty. All students except kindergarten experience mixed-age classroom environments, providing students with broad social and academic opportunities, and allowing cooperative learning to flourish. Lower School class sizes range from 16-19 students, and middle school classes are approximately 18-22 students.

At each grade level, the arts are seen as an integral part of our progressive educational approach. Children demonstrate what they are learning through performance, play, song, movement and all aspects of creative expression through our arts curriculum. This plays a part in their engagement with themes they are studying in the classroom.

Music at FSMN is taught two times per week for 45 minute periods for a total of 18, 45 min. sections per week. Because music groups are multi-grade (K, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{5}{6}$, $\frac{7}{8}$) There are just 10 preps per week.

The music teacher also works with classroom teachers to integrate music across the curriculum. Performances happen throughout the year, including our Friends Gathering for Racial Justice in April.

Please also see [our website](#) for more information about our school, philosophy, and curriculum.

Qualifications:

- B.A. degree in music education or related field
- Deep knowledge and experience in music education
- Experience collaborating with colleagues and creating and leading musical performances
- Deep understanding of and commitment to progressive education and Quaker values
- Understanding and appreciation of the cognitive, social and emotional developmental stages and needs of K-8th grade age students
- Experience with and commitment to collaborating with colleagues
- Experience in ongoing assessment of student progress using a variety of different means
- Strong communication and organizational skills

Preferred:

- Music teaching certification
- K-8 education experience
- Advanced degree in education
- Experience teaching in mixed-age, mixed-ability classroom setting
- Experience with conflict resolution and mediation

Compensation:

- \$32 - 42,000 depending on qualifications and experience, with pro-rated benefits
- There are also opportunities to teach before/after school music lessons

Physical Requirements and Work Environment:

- Generally works in standard office conditions and climate
- May work in varied extreme outside weather conditions
- Works in an active environment dealing with a wide variety of challenges, deadlines and a varied and diverse array of contacts
- May work at a desk and computer for extended periods of time
- Be able to occasionally lift up to 30 lbs

To apply:

- Submit the following by email to joem@fsmn.org by May 29, 2022:
 - Cover letter
 - Resume
 - A one page statement of your educational philosophy
 - 3 references with current phone number and email address