



## **FACULTY JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Position/Title:** Outdoor Pre-Primary Co-Teacher  
**Appointment:** School Year 2018/2019  
**Reports To:** Director of the Pre-Primary School

**This is currently a part time position (60% - five mornings) with the possibility of additional hours depending upon student enrollment.**

Laurel School seeks talented faculty who will put our students first and strive to make a difference in their lives. We seek to attract culturally and academically diverse faculty who thrive on being engaged participants in our community. The most successful candidates see opportunities before problems, can laugh at themselves and succeed in a fast paced, forward-thinking educational environment. We are particularly interested in attracting teachers who have lived internationally, who have experience in residential settings, who view themselves as entrepreneurial, flexible, curious and creative. Laurel lives the mission: to inspire each girl to fulfill her promise and to better the world. We continually challenge our community to dream, dare, and do.

### **Position Summary**

Laurel School's Outdoor Pre-Primary program offers a unique teaching experience. Two patient, nature loving co-teachers and twelve adventurous 3 – 5 year-old children spend five mornings a week playing and learning while exploring our 140-acre Butler Campus. Our program fosters an authentic, emergent curriculum which encourages each child's sense of wonder. Our teachers understand how to scaffold learning by observing the children's interests in the natural world, asking higher order thinking questions, and authentically sprinkling meaningful activities into an experiential learning setting. The class utilizes our state of the art yurt when children's lines of inquiry are best met in an indoor space or when the weather requires shelter. A candidate for this position must be able to work collaboratively with others, needs to have excellent written and verbal communication skills and have a passion for working in an outdoor environment regardless of the weather. Our co-teachers equally share in all aspects of the program while they create an exciting and stimulating vision which inspires and motivates all.

### **Duties and responsibilities include:**

- Guide children in exploration and discovery to develop independence, curiosity, persistence, creativity, problem-solving, confidence and resilience
- Work with children individually and in groups
- Continually assess and document each child's growth and development
- Be innovative and able to devise imaginatively varied ways of teaching
- Enjoy working with young children while supporting their physical, social and emotional development through a mix of open-ended creative outdoor play activities.
- Participate as a member of the entire Pre-Primary team and collaborate with colleagues school wide
- Willing and able to attend divisional and all-school meetings, as well as attend night and weekend events as scheduled
- Ensure the health, safety and well-being of students
- Maintain clear communications with families to achieve common goals
- Supervise children during lunch and dismissal as assigned
- Support divisional and school wide initiatives
- Be able to travel between the Butler and Lyman Campuses as needed

- Able to lift 25 -50 lbs. regularly and move safely over uneven terrain

### **Required Qualifications**

The ideal candidate would be an avid outdoor enthusiast who approaches each day with a sense of joy and wonder about the natural world. She or he must have a college degree, preferably in Early Childhood Education, and have 3 – 5 years of Pre-Primary classroom experience. A positive attitude, excellent written and verbal communication skills and demonstrated success in a work setting requiring collaboration, cooperation and collegiality are essential. The candidate must acquire and maintain a State of Ohio issued teaching certificate. The ability to lead one or more co-curricular activity, or to coach a sport, is desirable. Interest in coaching speech or debate is especially welcome at this time. The school welcomes the opportunity to continue to diversify our faculty.

### **Additional Desired Qualifications**

The ideal candidate will have general local naturalist knowledge and training in or willingness to learn Conscious Discipline techniques.

### **Salary**

Laurel offers competitive compensation and a comprehensive benefits package.

### **To Apply**

Please see [www.laurelschool.org](http://www.laurelschool.org) for further information and a job application.

### **Work Environment**

Laurel School is a dynamic, forward-thinking, K-12 girls' school with a co-ed pre-primary division, where every child is well known. As a Facing History and Ourselves School, Laurel is fully committed to equity and inclusion; we actively seek a culturally diverse faculty and staff.

*Laurel teachers are committed to:*

- the study of research on girls' education
- integrating this knowledge into classroom practice
- working with each girl to fulfill her promise
- flexibility and openness to new ideas
- the academic and social development of girls
- involving parents as partners in the educational process
- the creation of a classroom community
- the integration of community-based learning projects at the classroom level and as a part of the whole school community
- equity and inclusion
- multicultural education
- outdoor education and sustainability

Laurel enjoys an outstanding local and national reputation and is home to the Laurel Center for Research on Girls. In a highly competitive school landscape, Laurel is fortunate to be a school of choice in Cleveland. Our emphasis on the whole child and our legacy of excellence in the teaching of girls set us apart. Located in Shaker Heights, OH (15 minutes from downtown Cleveland) with an additional rural campus 17 minutes away, the school has an urban/rural advantage. The work environment is noted for being family-friendly and flexible. The feeling in the school is joyous, collaborative, and innovative. Our curricular philosophy emphasizes community-based, interdisciplinary and experiential learning. Collaboration and reflective practice are key to pedagogy at Laurel. The school is fully committed to a culturally diverse faculty and student body.

*Laurel School is dedicated to providing equal employment opportunities to all personnel and applicants for employment without regard to race; color; religion; sex; national origin; handicap or disability; sexual orientation; or status as a veteran, Vietnam era, or special disabled veteran.*