

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Founding Director, Coastal Montessori Charter School

Date Posted: September 19, 2011, for 30 days; opened after that date until filled

Posted By: Coastal Montessori Charter School Board of Directors

Location: Pawleys Island, South Carolina

Background:

A grass roots group whose goal it is to provide authentic Montessori education to all families a public option has obtained approval from the South Carolina Department of Education and the Georgetown County School District to open a Montessori Charter School in August 2012. The idea of chartering a Montessori school arose from parents of children in both private and public schools, teachers, administrators, and community leaders in partnership with public Montessori and South Carolina Charter School experts, as well as the Georgetown County School District.

Coastal Montessori Charter School Mission

The mission of Coastal Montessori Charter School is to produce highly-educated, self-directed, socially-responsible citizens who work collaboratively, respectfully, and peacefully as individual yet interdependent learners in a diverse and nurturing environment. Through the unique combination of empirically validated Montessori principles, localized charter governance, and open access, Coastal Montessori Charter School further aims to provide Georgetown County School District with an academically excellent, financially accountable public school choice.

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The CMCS Planning Committee is seeking a dedicated, high-energy leader with an entrepreneurial spirit to serve as founding Director of the Coastal Montessori Charter School. The Director is expected to create an environment that fosters the success of all students by facilitating the development, communication, implementation, and evaluation of a shared vision of excellence in teaching and learning which is firmly grounded in Montessori philosophy. Every aspect of the school -- such as the physical space, the school's governance, interaction within the school community and with members of the broader community -- will be informed and guided by Montessori principles. Therefore, it is vital that the school's leader understands and articulates the essence of Montessori education.

The Director will report to the CMCS Board of Directors. This person will play a key role in all aspects of ensuring a successful launch of CMSC, including (but not limited to), the planning of the school, hiring of all faculty, and development of the school's policies and procedures. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated the ability to inspire, lead and motivate a team to work together towards academic and financial success, and be someone seeking new challenges in creating and running an exemplary school for the children, teachers, and families of the community.

Coastal Montessori Charter School

School Start-Up Responsibilities

- Understand and share the Board's vision for CMCS and be able to galvanize the community in support of the school.
- Recruit and develop highest quality instructional and support staff, providing professional development consistent with teachers' instructional goals and students' learning needs.
- Establish a safe and positive school climate, maintaining staff harmony and being an advocate for the children.
- Build a strong partnership with parents and the community by communicating regularly and effectively.
- Lead the effective and efficient implementation of the educational and instructional programs in compliance with the Montessori philosophy, the school's charter, and any applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
- Manage the school's resources responsibly, including the development, implementation, and monitoring of both revenues and expenses, to assure the school remains on track fiscally, in a timely fashion, in order to recommend and take corrective action when necessary
- Drive a culture of excellence.
- Ensure content alignment with state standards.
- Perform all other functions that are reasonable and necessary, including those outlined in the more specific job description for this position, to accomplish the goals of a Founding Director for CMCS.

Qualifications

- Master's degree preferred
- Experience as a principal or headmaster preferred
- Educational expertise, including but not limited to knowledge of both Montessori curriculum and SC State Standards, instructional techniques, student learning styles, and student assessments
- At least ten years of teaching experience in public and/or Montessori school
- Leadership experience successfully motivating staff and resources towards a shared goal
- Human Resources experience, especially staff management, including but not limited to the hiring, evaluation, and development of teaching faculty
- Experience working with teachers, parents, and community organizations, as well as strong partnership-building skills
- Administrative skills, including organizational, operational, and fiscal experience
- Excellent oral, written and interpersonal skills
- Strong computer skills

Please send resume and salary requirements to:

CMCS Director Search Committee
Coastal Montessori Charter School
PO Box 3754
Pawleys Island, SC 29585