Aspengrove School – Appointment of the Head of School – Advert

Founded in 2003, Aspengrove is an independent, non-denominational, co-ed, university-prep day school with an inquiry based, holistic educational program including academics, arts, athletics, outdoor education and community service. An International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, Aspengrove offers the full continuum of Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes from Junior Kindergarten for 3 year olds to Grade 12. The lush 40 acre campus is located in the municipality of Lantzville, just north of Nanaimo, British Columbia. The School strives to offer a transformative education that goes beyond teaching facts, and encourages students to become active participants in their journey of learning.

Aspengrove aims to challenge and inspire its community to act with purpose as compassionate, knowledgeable, and principled global citizens. Our school’s name is derived from the aspen tree - a resilient tree whose saplings grow apart from the parent tree, while still receiving nourishment through its extensive root structure. Like the aspen, we are committed to providing our children with the roots to thrive through a strong, nurturing environment. Supporting them in their growth and development, we aim to provide them with community awareness, respect for their environment and other people, and a lifelong love of learning. And, like the aspen, we are committed to taking this journey as a community.

The Board of Governors is now seeking an inspirational educational leader who will bring integrity and a dynamic and creative style with an authentic commitment to Aspengrove’s mission and vision. The appointed candidate will possess a track record of successful educational leadership experience and be an excellent communicator able to articulate Aspengrove’s distinctive identity. They will possess a strong understanding of the business elements of leading an independent school, particularly the importance of admissions, fundraising and financial sustainability to a school’s long-term success. They will also have a strong personal resonance with, and commitment to the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). Demonstrable experience growing enrollment, fundraising and profile-raising will be considered assets.

An authentic leader with outstanding emotional intelligence, our next Head of School will place an emphasis on integrity and bring a leadership style that engages our community and balances consultation with decisive action. Aspengrove’s faculty and staff have a shared understanding of and commitment to the clear purpose of our vision, mission and values. As a group they are collaborative, innovative and resilient and look for opportunities to be creative, regardless of the role they play in the school's programming or operations. Aside from these attributes, there are two motivating qualities they bring to the school: students are at the centre of their work and they support each other to be their very best selves each and every day. An understanding of the IB with the skills and expertise to lead and grow Aspengrove will be desirable.

Aspengrove is partnering with the executive search firm Perrett Laver. Candidates should submit a CV (including comprehensive details of key achievements and responsibilities) along with a covering letter which fully addresses the competencies outlined in the role description and person specification. To download the appointment details, which includes a full position description and selection criteria and information on how to apply, please visit https://candidates.perrettlaver.com/vacancies, quoting reference 6182. The closing date for applications is Thursday, December 1, 2022.

Aspengrove School acknowledges with respect the Snaw-Naw-As and Snuneymuxw nations on whose traditional and ancestral territories our community works, lives, learns, and plays.

At Aspengrove School, we embrace the diversity of our international learning community with a commitment to open dialogue, risk-taking and challenging injustice and inequality. We understand that in order for students to be confident, empowered and responsible, we must provide safe learning spaces where understanding is fostered through open dialogue, trust is built through mutual respect, and risk-taking is valued among all members of our school community. We seek to acknowledge and understand power, privilege, and inequity,
and accept our responsibility to help create a more just world. We are committed to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice where community members respect and accept one another.

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