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[www.kapkaschool.org](http://www.kapkaschool.org)

## **Cooperative Elementary School Seeks 1st Grade Lead Classroom Teacher (1.0 FTE)**

KapKa Cooperative School is seeking a creative, responsive, and collaborative teacher to lead our first grade classroom. The approximate start date is August 26, 2024.

### **Who We Are**

#### Our Mission Statement

Together we empower passionate learners and creative problem solvers, rooted in community, to build a more just and sustainable world.

Founded in 1989, KapKa Cooperative School is a small, cooperative elementary school in Seattle. We are an independent, non-profit, state-approved school and candidate member of the Northwest Association of Independent Schools. Located on the border of the Fremont and Phinney neighborhoods just one block from Woodland Park, we spend a good part of each day engaging with the natural world.

We believe children are curious and capable learners. At KapKa, teachers nurture a child's abilities and passions using experiential, democratic, and anti-racist learning approaches. We believe education happens best in relationship with self and others. We aspire for children to become integral members of the school community, as well as the larger community beyond.

Our program balances intellectual, social, and emotional learning using a progressive and emergent curriculum. We foster creativity, compassion, collaboration, and curiosity, as well as an understanding of, and dedication to, social and ecological justice.

Parents are active participants at KapKa. They support learning inside and outside the classroom. Under the guidance of teachers and staff, they help create space for young learners to take compassionate, self-actualizing and courageous actions that grow the individual and the community.

For more information, visit our website at [www.kapkaschool.org](http://www.kapkaschool.org).

Please see our [Mission and Values Statements](#) to read about how we support children in their learning at KapKa.

## **The Position**

KapKa Cooperative School is seeking a creative, responsive, and collaborative teacher to lead our first grade classroom. Our first grade teacher works with the support of an assistant teacher with a class ranging in size from 12-14 students. At KapKa, the kindergarten and first-grade years are foundational. Learners develop learning attitudes and skills in these years. They internalize what it means to be self-sufficient, authentic, and collaborative. They develop a strong foundation in reading, writing, mathematics, inquiry and problem solving, while gaining social and emotional understanding and skill. Students learn these heart, mind, and spirit practices through relationally focused, engaging lessons and responsive support. While the morning academics and project based learning take place in individual classrooms, the K-1 classes come together in the afternoons for outdoor explorations and specialist classes.

## **Responsibilities Include**

- Harness the love of literacy to develop reading, writing and speaking skills by creating differentiated instruction and self-driven learning experiences consistent with current best practices
- Plan and implement the grade level math program using the school's adopted curriculum and supplemental resources
- Partner with the classroom assistant teacher to create an environment that fosters a sense of belonging and significance, creates a safe space for feelings, appropriate risk-taking, and views mistakes as learning opportunities
- See and celebrate the unique gifts and perspectives of every learner
- Offer consistent opportunities for self-sufficiency, authentic expression and advocacy, and collaborative learning
- Find meaningful ways for learners to engage in the classroom, school, and greater community, inviting student voice and agency as appropriate
- Communicate and collaborate, formally and informally, with parents/guardians via phone, email, conferences about their student's progress and experience and prepare progress reports
- Value and incorporate diverse perspectives in daily interactions and within the curriculum
- Regularly collaborate with other KapKa teachers and staff to plan school events, activities, and experiences
- Provide supervision during scheduled lunch and/or recess periods
- Attend special events, including parent meetings once per month and school-wide celebrations

## **Qualifications**

- Bachelor's Degree
- Washington State Teaching Certification, required
- Masters degree in teaching or related field, preferred
- Experience working with children in the early elementary years

- Enthusiasm for working collaboratively with colleagues
- Strong written, verbal, and interpersonal skills

### **Physical Requirements**

- Can work outside in good and inclement weather
- Able to lift up to 35 pounds
- Can stand and sit for long periods of time
- Able to climb stairs, walk on uneven surfaces, and escort groups of students to and from classes both inside and outside of school buildings

### **Compensation and Benefits**

- Annual Salary Range of \$54,000 - \$78,000, commensurate with qualifications and experience
- Health, Vision, and Dental Insurance Plan
- Paid Time Off
- IRA Contributions
- Tuition Remission
- Professional Development Stipend
- Generous Contracted Planning Hours
- A Collaborative Teaching Model
- Creative Freedom in Curriculum Development and Adaptation
- Small Class Size
- Participation in an Inclusive, Caring, and Justice-oriented Learning Community

### **To Apply**

Please email your cover letter and resume to [resumes@kapkaschool.org](mailto:resumes@kapkaschool.org) with “1st Grade Teaching Position” in the subject line

- A cover letter, outlining interest in and qualifications for this position
- A current resume
- At least 2 professional references (we will inform candidates before contacting references)

KapKa Cooperative School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. We value diversity and are actively seeking candidates who bring underrepresented identities and perspectives and who wish to find a community in which they will be welcomed and valued as their whole selves.