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Teaching at Little River Community School

Little River Community School, founded in 1999, is a K-12 democratic school with 35 students located at Birdsfoot Farm in Canton, New York. We have an anticipated opening for a full-time teacher to work with us in our Youngers program. We will have about eight to ten students in grades K-2 in the Youngers room.

We are looking for a teacher with at least several years of experience working with children and an interest in democratic education. In addition to teaching basic academic and social skills to the Youngers, the teacher may be asked to share special interests like art, music, other languages, or computer science with students in the Middles or Olders rooms. It is important to be comfortable with all ages, K-12, though this position is primarily working with the Youngers. Teacher certification is not required.

Our ideal candidate would plan to stay with the school for several years or longer. Qualities we are looking for include: a passion for working with children, flexibility, patience, ability to think on your feet, long-term interest in teaching, problem-solving abilities, strong communication skills, reliability, behavior management skills, a sense of humor, confidence, and self-motivation.

Little River provides a unique environment where students are trusted and seen as inherently self-motivated to learn about their world. Our teachers facilitate and support the students' quest for knowledge and understanding. Little River has multi-age classrooms where students learn together in cooperation and are grouped by their abilities and interests. Little River provides strong academic classes in a small group setting. Some academic and special classes may have all the Youngers, and others only three or four. The teacher needs to generate excitement and interest with the students. Special emphasis is put on problem-solving skills and hands-on experiences.

All of the students and teachers come together several times a week in a morning meeting, facilitated by the students, for discussion, to make plans, and solve problems. Youngers have two breaks each day for unstructured play. Many of those sessions are

spent outside. Each student has an individualized curriculum developed by the student, teachers, and parents.

The teacher's salary is \$30,000 a year (first year) with benefits including free tuition for a teacher's child, a small health fund, and a supportive environment with a lot of academic freedom. There may be housing options at Birdsfoot Farm.

The deadline for applications is April 5th. After that, applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Visit us on the web at www.littleriverschool.org for more information about the school, job description and application.