



**Position:** Elementary Lead Teacher  
**Start Date:** August 2019  
**Salary:** Competitive  
**Benefits:** Health, Dental, Vision, Life, Retirement, PTO

**Who we are:**

The Discovery School, entering its 30th year of operation in 2020, is a private, not-for-profit K-8 Independent School located in Jacksonville Beach, FL. Through a progressive framework combining principles from Montessori and International Baccalaureate, we aim to provide creative, open-ended learning spaces where our internationally-minded, inquisitive, and principled inquirers are encouraged to discover, nurture, and achieve their own goals on their way to becoming the leaders of tomorrow.

**Who we are looking for:**

Discovery seeks a dynamic, creative, and dedicated Elementary Teacher with a strong passion for learning, a growth mindset, and a commitment to innovation in education. In order to encourage this mindset, our culture is about having the freedom and latitude to discover your passions and thrive. The Elementary Lead teacher should have a deep love of and respect for our students and believe that Discovery School students are:

- Explorers pursuing their passions
- Spirited and reflective risk-takers
- Peacemakers
- Resourceful and persevering innovators
- Leaders who inspire others to discover and act on what is possible
- Responsible, courageous world citizens

**Summary of Position:**

The Discovery School Elementary Lead Teacher understands and promotes the school's mission, vision, core values, and policies both within and outside the immediate school community. The elementary teacher is responsible for providing an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB-PYP) that supports the individual needs of the children in accordance with the school's mission and vision.

The Teacher is responsible for interpreting and implementing all classroom-based assessments as indicated in the School's curriculum guide. The Lead Teacher is also accountable for regularly evaluating the program to ensure the social, emotional and academic needs of children are met according to the Florida Council of Independent Schools, IB-PYP and state licensing standards. The Lead Teacher is professionally responsible for implementing best practice based on current research in the field of education.

This job requires the employee to spend the majority of working hours with young children. This will include, but is not limited to, standing, bending at the waist, kneeling, sitting on the floor and lifting.

**Normal Hours:**

- Monday thru Friday that school is in session 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
- Other hours as required and deemed necessary by the Head of School

### **Planning, Preparation, Instruction, Communication:**

- The teacher creates instruction that supports the development of the cognitive, emotional, social, physical and spiritual growth of the child.
- The teacher uses the School Curriculum, IB standards and current research-based best instructional practices to develop integrated units of instruction that meet both the group and individual needs of students.
- The teacher is responsible for maintaining an ongoing dialogue with specialty teachers and coordinating curriculum integration and implementation with these teachers.
- The teacher works with students of various abilities assigned to the classroom, including those with learning differences as diagnosed. The teacher may be required to participate in child study team meetings, training, and planning cooperatives to fully meet each child's needs.
- The teacher uses various assessment tools/strategies such as observations, children's work samples, continuums of development, DIBELS, MAP, portfolios, etc. to help make instructional decisions for individual students.
- The teacher is responsible for preparing an environment that meets the sensitive period/plane of development of the children he/she works with.
- The teacher is responsible for preparing a peaceful environment in which the furnishings and materials are complete and correspond to the needs of the group; for maintaining a clean, orderly, and attractive environment, including the care and maintenance of plants, animals, classroom materials and equipment; for communicating needs for the classroom in accordance with school policy, i.e., maintaining inventory of classroom materials and any additional materials needed.
- The teacher creates an environment that demonstrates rapport with, respect and kindness for, all students as well as between students. The teacher models and teaches conflict resolution and problem solving strategies in the classroom. The teacher promotes an understanding and appreciation of all cultures.
- The teacher should promptly report discipline concerns beyond typical classroom strategies to the Elementary Program Coordinator and/or Head of School. A meeting with parents should be arranged.
- The teacher is responsible for the safety of the children left in his/her charge, within the classrooms and on the playground, until dismissed to a responsible adult. The teacher is responsible for the appropriate treatment and well-being of all children, based on respect and consistent with the teachings of Montessori. No child should ever be left unsupervised either inside or outside the classroom, except when directed by the teacher.
- The teacher is responsible for complete understanding and implementation of School Emergency Operations Plan and must follow School-wide security protocols as directed.
- The teacher is responsible for communication that supports an understanding of the school's program, develops positive relationships within the school community, and protects the privacy and confidentiality of each student and family in the school community.
- The teacher establishes a positive relationship with parents of the students and maintains regular communication with parents with regard to their child's specific needs. The teacher provides for parent and/or student led conferences (2x annually), meetings and communication throughout the school year in accordance with school policy. The teacher responds to parent concerns in a timely manner.
- The teacher communicates to parents and others in the school community about the classroom and curriculum. The teacher executes on PREP (Parent Education and Retention Program) and is imbued with Discovery's Be Our Guest attitude.

### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor degree, Masters degree in education a bonus but not required.
- At least 3 years of teaching experience.

- Experience with IB and/or progressive learning approaches.
- Comfortable with integration of technology as a tool enabling learning.
- Experience with (or willingness to learn and leverage) the AltSchool software platform.
- Deep capability to engage in differentiated instruction strategies for reading and writing.
- Able to make connections across disciplines, respond to students' ideas and inquiry by adapting lesson plans.
- Exceptionally strong spoken and written communication and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills to engage in a collaborative community.
- Adept and Fearless in teaching mathematics with Singapore Math experience.
- Strong english language & literature skills, scaffolding reading / writing related work, and providing evaluation of works to students.
- Adept at communicating Discovery's story to various constituencies.
- Is committed to Discovery's Characteristics of Professional Excellence
  - Model the Portrait of the Graduate
  - Passionately pursue their own professional growth and development
  - Unabashedly hold children at the center of all decisions and actions
  - Cultivate an inclusive and vibrant learning community
  - Discover and act on what is possible

**To Apply:**

Please submit cover letter and resume, a document outlining your personal statement of educational philosophy and highlighting learning experiences you've run with students in the past, and salary expectations to: [info@thediscoveryschool.org](mailto:info@thediscoveryschool.org).

**Equal Opportunity Employer**

The Discovery School is committed to maintaining a work and learning environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, ancestry, place of birth, age, veteran status, political affiliation, or disability as defined and required by state and federal laws.