

JOB DESCRIPTION: HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY TEACHER

ABOUT BART CHARTER SCHOOL

Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School (“BART”) is a nationally recognized, award-winning, college-preparatory, public middle and high school located in Adams, Massachusetts. As the only charter school in Berkshire County, it is consistently ranked among the top schools in Massachusetts for student academic achievement and growth.

Committed to its mission to prepare its students for college and a lifetime of learning, BART is a community of 363 curious and creative students, devoted and innovative teachers and staff members, and families dedicated to the success of their children. The student body is richly diverse, each member with an important personal story. The School is built around a makerspace, and its academic program comprises an intense academic core curriculum enriched by ample elective courses in the arts and technology as well as opportunities for students to pursue independent creative and scholarly projects. Before they graduate, BART students must pass courses on college campuses, take and pass collegiate-skills courses each year, complete an internship within the region, and participate in a rigorous program of mock interviews, portfolio presentations, and annual science fairs.

The success enjoyed by BART’s students and the School as a whole results from a school culture characterized by the pursuit of excellence and

- conviction that each student can succeed in college, regardless of background or previous school performance;
- belief that more time for learning, through BART’s longer school day and longer school year, will improve learning;
- an emphasis on effort and reflection as keys to students’ growth; and
- a strong, intimate community with supports in place for all members to reach, to take intellectual chances, and to achieve remarkable things.

POSITION SUMMARY

We seek a high school chemistry teacher who can teach upper level chemistry classes, including relevant laboratory exercises and explorations, as well as some 9th grade life science classes. This individual will be passionate about educating *all* students to succeed in college and will want to contribute to a dynamic school environment that has a strong record of academic success.

BART teachers must be skillful educators, and:

- Welcome the challenge of being a teacher in an organization committed to excellence;
- Believe that data-driven instruction is a powerful way to educate students;

- Recognize that objective assessments of student performance are important tools that must be used in concert with deep, analytical thinking assignments to assess student understanding;
- Excel in facilitating mixed-ability learning environments;
- Demonstrate depth of content knowledge and pedagogical skills in their field;
- Model themselves as continuous learners to students, parents, peers and supervisors;
- Collaborate effectively with others on curriculum, instruction and assessment; and
- Believe in creating a consistent environment throughout the school for discipline, classroom management and classroom routines.

EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Daily and Weekly Expectations:

- Instruction: teach 3-5 classes daily in a rotating schedule (depending on subject area; class lengths may vary).
- Planning & Development (approximately 1/2 hour planning for every hour teaching): plan lessons and instruction; assess student work; collaborate with team teachers on curriculum and assessment; participate in reflective practice and professional development.
- Advisory: serve as the advisor for approximately 12-15 students; participate in community meetings, facilitate advisory circles and other advisory activities.
- Supported Study / Silent Reading: depending on teaching load, be available to help students with organization and homework in a supported study or facilitate a silent reading period.
- Discipline / Classroom Management: follow the school's prescribed discipline, classroom management and classroom routines to ensure a consistent environment across the school for all students.
- Online Gradebook: maintain an up-to-date online gradebook with information on class syllabus, homework, unit plans, etc. to facilitate communication with students and their families.
- Daily Team Meetings: at the start of each work day, participate in regularly scheduled grade level and discipline-based team meetings to identify students who may be struggling, improve school culture, work as a cross-disciplinary team to integrate curriculum, and build / improve curriculum across grade levels.
- Student Meetings: attend IEP, 504, and other family meetings as needed.
- Additional Coverage and Other Duties (as needed): monitor breakfast, lunch, hallways, and the student support classroom; provide substitute coverage for other teachers.

Annual Expectations:

- Teacher Residency (August): participate in training and professional development; refine curriculum scope and sequence; participate in preparing school-wide annual goals.
- Instruction (late August – June): school year runs from late August until the middle of June, following the local district's holiday schedule.

- Professional Development Days (monthly): participate in full and half-day professional development activities.
- Observation (30-60 minutes/month): observe and/or participate in other teachers' classes to learn and share new ideas.
- Best Practices Sharing: support the School in developing best practices and sharing them with the broader education community.
- Proctor MCAS, PSAT, AP, and Other Exams: follow all instructions to maintain the integrity of accountability exams.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Commitment to the success of all children.
- Demonstrated success in collaborative teaching, managing a mixed-ability classroom, and facilitating performance-based learning.
- BA required, MA preferred; teachers must be highly qualified by passing the MTEL test for the subject(s) that they teach and, where appropriate, hold the SEI Endorsement.
- Preferably have at least two years of classroom teaching experience or equivalent.
- A team player with a growth mindset and a sense of humor.

Preference will be given to applicants with demonstrated experience and expertise in implementing multi-tiered systems of academic and/or behavioral support.

Those who wish to be considered for this position should submit by email a résumé, cover letter, and three recent letters of reference to employment@bartcharter.org, addressed to BART's Executive Director, Dr. James White, and specifying the position for which they are applying. Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

BART Charter Public School is an equal opportunity employer. BART does not discriminate in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its services, programs or activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, homelessness, or age.

For more information about BART and its programs, visit www.bartcharter.org.