



Head of School

Position Overview

The Head of School is a relational, mission-driven leader who nurtures a joyful, inclusive K–8 community. This role blends strategic vision with daily presence—supporting students, guiding teachers, partnering with families, and stewarding a culture where outdoor education and expeditionary learning are core to how children grow.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead a warm, student-centered school culture rooted in curiosity, belonging, and real-world learning
- Ensure high-quality teaching and learning across all grade levels, with a strong emphasis on data driven instruction
- Hire, mentor, and inspire faculty; foster collaboration and professional growth
- Oversee school operations, safety, and resource stewardship, including outdoor learning environments
- Build strong relationships with families and community partners; communicate clearly and consistently
- Collaborate with the board on strategic planning, budgeting, and mission alignment
- Partner with the board and business manager on budgeting, financial planning, and resource allocation
- Oversee daily operations, safety protocols, and campus management—including outdoor spaces used for learning
- Ensure compliance with state regulations, accreditation standards, district charter contract, and reporting requirements
- Build strong, trusting relationships with families through open, consistent communication
- Strengthen partnerships with local organizations, outdoor education providers, and community leaders
- Serve as the primary liaison to both the Juniper Board of Directors and the Durango School District's Board of Directors
- Provide transparent reporting on school performance, finances, and strategic priorities
- Collaborate with the board on long-term planning and mission stewardship

Qualifications

- Master's degree in education, educational leadership, or related field (preferred)
- Leadership experience in an elementary, middle, or K-8 (preferred) school
- Strong understanding of child development and instructional best practices
- Experience coaching, evaluating, and leading adult learners
- Excellent communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills
- Commitment to whole-child development



Salary and Benefits

- \$95,000-\$100,000 yearly
- \$5000 Sign-on/ moving bonus
- Comprehensive Health Benefits
- Retirement benefits through the Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA)

Please apply at The Juniper School's Join Our Team page.

Email our current Head of School, Dr. Philip Werline @ pwerline@tjsturango.com with any questions.