

# Head of School Opportunity

06 | 01 | 2019



## Position Available July 2020

The Grove School (Grove) is a free public charter Montessori learning community for children ages 12-18 (grades 7-12). Teachers support adolescents in building their academic and social skills to be capable, productive, and fulfilled adults who contribute to their community.

The school was founded in 1999 as a charter school and enjoys financial stability, high staff retention, and strong enrollment. Grove recently successfully completed its five-year charter renewal with the school district and holds a six-year accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Grove is one of approximately 20 Montessori middle and high schools in the United States. It includes a working farm to fulfill Maria Montessori's vision of adolescents engaging in project-based learning, applied studies, and practical work.



The Grove School seeks a Head of School to start July 1, 2020.

The Grove School is looking for a Head of School to lead a collaborative community driven to inspire the best educational outcomes for our students.

The Grove School has an international reputation as a leader in Montessori education. This is an ideal opportunity for a motivated leader.

## The Grove School Head of School Opportunity

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The culture at Grove is welcoming, and staff members enjoy a supportive work environment. Most of our talented faculty have completed the AMI Adolescent Orientation, in addition to holding their California teaching credentials.

Grove is located in Redlands, a city of 70,000 with a rich history and an active local community. The city offers a strong economy and good employment opportunities thanks to diverse local employers, such as several medical centers, the University of Redlands, and GIS software developer Esri. Just 60 miles east of Los Angeles and 45 miles west of Palm Springs, Redlands is close to all Southern California has to offer, while retaining its small-town charm.

Grove shares its high school campus with Montessori in Redlands, a private school with a worldwide reputation for excellence. Together the schools serve students from 18 months through 18 years. The synergy between the two schools allows for the child to develop and grow through all stages of Montessori education.

### Strategic Priorities

The next leader of Grove will build on the legacy of founding Head of School Gena Engelfried and current Head of School Ben Moudry. Together they have made Grove a successful school and a model for Montessori adolescent education. The incoming Head of School, with the support of the Grove Governing Board, faculty, and staff, will address several specific near-term priorities:

- **Serve as an instructional leader and mentor** to sustain the principles of Montessori adolescent education while supporting and measuring student academic progress based on established standards.
- **Foster the success of all students** by developing, advocating, and sustaining an academically rigorous, positive, and safe school climate for all constituents.
- **Ensure the retention of highly-qualified faculty and staff** while continuing to grow and improve school operations.
- **Continue the growth of the high school program** and increase retention of high school students.
- **Oversee expansion of facilities and services** to meet growing enrollment and provide greater academic and occupational opportunities for the students.

- **Serve as an ambassador for Grove** to the broader community of Redlands and the Inland Empire region, as well as within the global Montessori community.
- **Strengthen the fund development program** to support long-term growth and sustainability.

### Desired Characteristics

Our next Head of School will combine vision with academic expertise, administrative experience, and the interpersonal savvy to maintain our high-quality educational programs and fully engage with our community. Desired qualities include:

- A passion for Montessori education and service to adolescents. Teaching experience required. Montessori training preferred.
- Strong leadership skills with demonstrated capacity for collaboration and creativity.
- Administrative experience required; prior Head of School or Assistant Head experience is preferred. Holding or eligible to hold the California Administrators Credential is preferred.
- Outstanding communication skills; adept at engaging with all members of our community.
- High emotional intelligence: approachable, open, and compassionate.
- A commitment to social justice, inclusivity, and diversity.
- Experience building consensus and a reputation for consistency and fairness.
- Prior experience at a charter school is preferred.

**For application information, visit:**

[thegroveschool.org/head-of-school-search](https://thegroveschool.org/head-of-school-search)

