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314 East 10th Street  
Oakland, CA 94606  
(510) 451-5902



MetWest High School

Ericka Huggins Campus  
2629 Harrison Street  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 879-1741

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## MetWest Is Looking for the Right Fit! Science Teacher Job Overview for 2020-2021

### Science Teacher Job Overview

We are looking for a talented full-time science teacher to become a part of our MetWest community! We have an opening for a dynamic Science teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Candidates should be already certificated, or able and willing to become a certificated science teacher. We will be looking for candidates able to inspire, motivate, and develop strong supportive relationships with Oakland high school youth.

### Responsibilities:

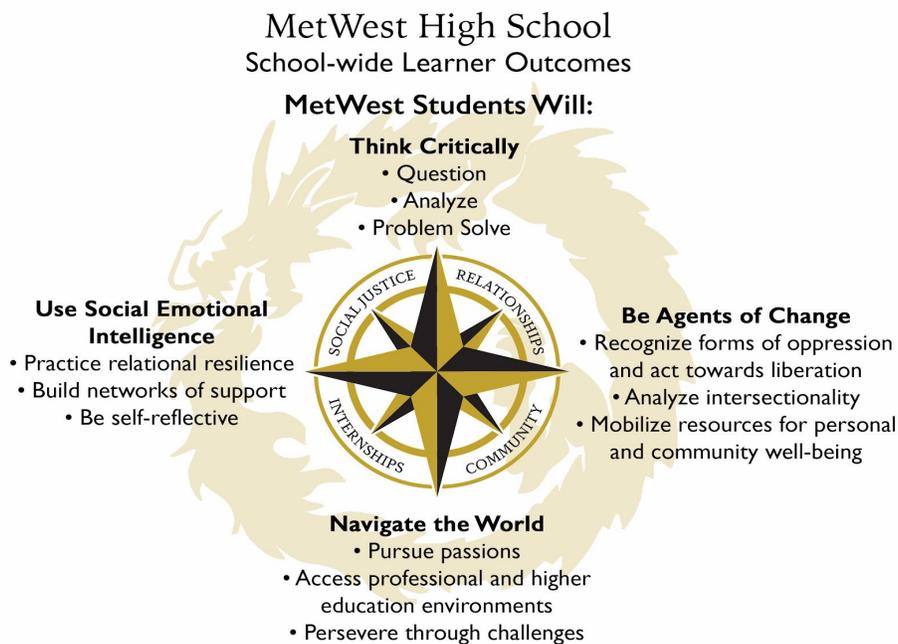
- Teach Integrated Science classes. Provide office hours and tutoring outside of class time. Integrated science classes integrate biology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science.
- Be open to working at either campus, or both in some instances. Both campuses are uniquely MetWest and have their own MetWest campus culture.
- Collaboratively work with the other MetWest science teacher to develop relevant and rigorous curriculum implementing NGSS for Integrated Science classes.
- Build strong and real relationships with students from a growth mindset and leverage those relationships in the teaching of science.
- Provide differentiated instruction to all students. This includes, but is not limited to, effectively creating accommodations for students who have a variety of needs (IEP, full-inclusion, ASIP, ELL, etc).
- Possess a solid understanding of trauma-informed teaching and utilize effective strategies to approach your work with students from a place of healing and instruction.
- Meet weekly with the STEAM team to build our school-wide STEAM program.
- Help plan, prepare, and execute school-wide STEAM events and initiatives (i.e. STEAM Showcase, GLOBE projects, Science Fairs, Field Trips, etc).
- Identify and apply for grants for materials for STEAM classes/projects.
- Support students in finding STEAM-related internships. Regularly engage in student internship experiences in order to make instruction more relevant and to allow students to achieve greater depth of learning and complete more complex projects at internship sites. There may also be the opportunity to lead a STEM-related internship with a student or a small group of students on internship days. Additionally, internship support includes doing coverage of students who are still looking for internships.
- Collaborate with all staff, particularly advisors, in helping to support students to learn and succeed.
- Utilize a fair and clear grading and assessment plan keeping students, families, and staff up to date on grade progress.
- Communicate regularly with parents, staff, and grade level advisors about student progress.
- **MetWest High School Overview**

**MetWest High School** is a small Oakland public high school currently serving 200 students. We have two campuses - the Dolores Huerta campus that houses 160 students, grades 9-12 and we have the Ericka Huggins campus that houses 42 9th graders. In the 2020-2021 school year, we are expanding the Huggins campus by adding another 42 9th graders, so that campus will have 42 new 9th graders and 42 10th graders. We will grow by 42 students for two more consecutive years. By 2022-2023 we will serve a total of 320 students at two different school site locations. In conjunction with their advisors, each student studies core academic skills with a cohort of twenty peers and also seeks out and secures an internship that is based within the student's interests and passions. The internship gives students a deep sense of how their interests play out in the adult world and provides an authentic environment and audience for their work. Our curriculum is designed to teach students the academic skills and habits they need to successfully complete rigorous, complex, real world project work. Our work is rooted in a commitment to social and environmental justice and we equip our students with a framework for understanding local and global issues through an analysis of institutional, interpersonal, and internalized oppression and institutional, community, and personal liberatory action.

MetWest High School is a partnership between the Oakland Unified School District and the Big Picture Learning network based in Providence, RI. For more information on Big Picture Learning, go to: [www.bigpicture.org](http://www.bigpicture.org).

**School-wide Learner Outcomes**

Our School-wide Learner Outcomes guide and frame all our work in our classes, at internships, and as a part of school culture.



**College and Career Prep through ‘Real World’ Learning:** While MetWest is focused in part on students pursuing their passions in the workplace, it is not a vocational school. Rather than training students to follow a particular career path, the internship structure is designed to foster students’ intellectual development through first-hand experience and to develop habits of initiative-taking in their education. Our students spend

two days a week working with a mentor at an internship of their choosing, that is grounded in their interests and passions, learning professional expectations, communicating effectively with adults from different backgrounds, and producing real world work. In addition to their integrated coursework at MetWest and their individualized, internship-based projects, many of our students take courses at our local community college. We expect all of our students to continue their education after high school, and internships, projects, and community college experiences are important opportunities for them to envision possible paths for their lives after MetWest.

### **Our Educational Philosophy**

**We learn best in the context of being known well.** Real relationships between adults and young people are crucial to their academic development. To this end, each Advisor works with a core group of about 20 students for 2-4 years and maintains regular contact with their families.

**We learn best when we are pursuing our own passions and interests.** We design and teach curriculum that is related to students' experience and that helps them understand the world they are living in. Whether that means investigating the different environmental impacts local freeways have on surrounding neighborhoods or analyzing the novel *Poet X* to learn about culture and identity, we work to connect curricula to students' lives and experiences.

**We learn most deeply when we connect “mind” work and “hand” work.** High schools in this country have traditionally separated mind learning and hand learning, yet we know that in order to learn things deeply, we need to study and experience them. Our students take this powerful opportunity when they study health and the causes of premature birth while interning at Highland Hospital or when they study Government while interning with a member of City Council.

**We work harder when our work has real meaning and value to others.** Two days a week, students are doing real world work that supports their internship site. Multiple times a year, our students demonstrate their learning through formal public exhibitions. They answer questions and receive feedback from a panel of peers, teachers, parents, mentors, and community members.

### **Your Weekly Schedule**

**As an Advisor, you will teach Advisory class to your 20-22 students.** Unlike “advisory” in most schools, Advisory at MetWest is an integrated academic class with an academic focus, where students earn core content and Internship credit. Advisors work in grade level teams. Advisory is intentionally designed to ensure students learn school-wide key skills, build community, and practice habits of work required for academic and professional success. Our approach to high quality lesson planning includes the expectation that every class is oriented towards clearly defined, explicitly stated learning targets and standards and builds in skills to regularly assess mastery. Most units taught in advisory are focused on literacy, research and critical thinking skills. Additionally, at times, advisors may teach skills from other academic disciplines..

**After the Academic Advisory Class, the rest of day is spent teaching small groups or coaching students individually.** You are a *teacher*, a *project manager*, an *academic counselor* and an *emotional and social support person* for your advisees. You will conduct regular meetings and phone conferences with your students' family members regarding their progress. You will coordinate academic and internship opportunities for students inside and outside of school for the school year and the summer. This means reviewing transcripts and advising students on their selection of classes in order to ensure graduation and college requirements are met, teaching them to engage with the community college system and supporting them in

taking advantage of concurrent enrollment, and working with them to network throughout the Bay Area for workplace and academic opportunities.

**Advisors spend two days a week spent visiting students' internship sites all over the Bay Area,** meeting with students and mentors to plan, troubleshoot, reflect on and evaluate self-designed internship projects and day-to-day internship work. You will coach students through the search process, from creating professional resumes, to making phone inquiries, to conducting informational interviews. You will develop, support, and monitor in-depth, multi-disciplinary projects with students and internship mentors.

### **Supportive professional community**

**The staff of MetWest work together weekly** to create curriculum, reflect on our teaching and our students' learning, evaluate our results, and plan for school-wide improvement. In teams, we plan and implement multi-disciplinary social justice curriculum. We build capacity as we share best practices and teaching dilemmas in a creative, collaborative, supportive environment. We do this as a whole staff as well as in specific teams (grade-level, STEAM team, Resource team, and with your advisory team). Your advisor team is comprised of you and your co-advisors, who teach the other students in that grade level. As an advisor team, you will plan and align curriculum, assessment, and class structures and norms so that students at the grade level are having a shared experience.

**Summer work prepares us for an excellent school year.** This happens through doing home visits to students, student orientations, and additional days of professional development which includes integration of new staff into our professional learning community, collaborative curriculum planning time, and whole-school focus work (based on our year-long school-wide focus). Once the school year begins, the entire school community takes an overnight retreat during the first quarter of the school year.

**There are many opportunities to take leadership.** Our school has been built by a staff of leaders who come with a desire to innovate. Together, we take responsibility for the continuous improvement of our school program.

### **How do I apply?**

Please send the following to the MetWest Hiring Committee. Candidates should possess a current California Single Subject (High School) teaching credential in science.

1. A resume *with references*
2. A cover letter that describes:
  - a. Why you would be a good fit at MetWest
  - b. How you have supported improved student achievement for underrepresented students
  - c. Ways you have participated in a professional learning community
  - d. Your beliefs about the role of education in social justice
  - e. What you are passionate about and what you do to explore those passions
3. Three letters of recommendation (one from a recent supervisor, one from someone who knows your teaching well, and one from a student or student's parent)

We are engaged in a fast-paced process so if there will be a delay in receiving your recommendation letters, please send in your resume and cover letter as soon as possible, with recommendation letters coming later. **You can email your candidacy materials to Michelle Deiro, Principal, at [michelle.deiro@ousd.org](mailto:michelle.deiro@ousd.org).**

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MetWest prepares young adults to recognize and take advantage of all resources to further their personal well-being and the well-being of their communities. Our graduates will have the skills, habits, knowledge, and networks to overcome obstacles to their success, access four-year colleges, engage in fulfilling work, and contribute positively to our world.