
The position of Traveling Instrumental Music Teacher concerns itself with instruction on the instruments of the band and orchestra in the elementary and junior high segments.

The instrumental music program in the Sacramento City schools begins in the fourth grade. In the elementary segment, the program includes instrumental lessons, bands, and orchestras. In the junior high segment, the program includes bands, orchestras, stage bands, and possible guitar. Extra curricular extensions frequently include dance band or other small ensembles, involvement in conducting and assisting roles in city-wide programs such as the All City bands and orchestras, and in fine arts festivals.

QUALIFICATIONS

The minimum training requirement for this position shall be a bachelor's degree with a major in music. Minimum certification requirements shall be one of the following: (1) Special Secondary in Music; (2) the Standard Teaching Credential with a Specialization in Elementary Teaching; (3) the General Elementary Credential and the General Junior High Credential or the General Elementary Credential and the General Secondary Credential; (4) Standard Elementary Credential with a major in music showing on the credential or Standard Secondary Credential with a major in music showing on the credential.

An additional requirement will be a high degree of musicianship, a lively interest in music, a desire to share that interest with young people, the desire and ability to imbue youngsters with high standards of taste and performance, and extensive experience on one or more instruments and in orchestras or bands during high school or college.

Additional requirements include good health, emotional maturity, good judgment, and agreeable voice quality. Preferential consideration will be given for instrumental music experience beyond school limits in the form of private study or participation in a performing band or orchestra, along with other basic district requirements.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A Traveling Instrumental Music Teacher may be assigned to the elementary segment only, or to a combination of elementary and junior high school. In extremely rare cases, a combination of junior high and senior high assignment is implemented.

On the elementary level, the instructor is assigned to teach the band instruments or the orchestra instruments, or both. He/she is expected to develop a band or an orchestra, or both. He/she will be expected to prepare instrumental groups for a small number of school programs. In the junior high segment, the instructor may be assigned to teach bands and orchestras, or both. He/she will be expected to prepare groups for several school programs, and participate in All City Band and All City Orchestra activities.

The Traveling Instrumental Music Teacher is administratively responsible to the principals of the schools to which he/she is assigned. The element of responsibility to more than one principal is a factor which is not present in most teacher assignments. It does not in itself constitute a problem, but indicates the need for a degree of adaptability and flexibility on the part of the Traveling Instrumental Music Teacher. In addition to working closely with principals, the Traveling Instrumental Music Teacher must work with other music teachers, classroom teachers, and with the head teacher of music. The latter serves in an advisory capacity on such matters as instructional techniques and materials, organization of classes and allocation of equipment, and is responsible for budget and procurement of supplies and equipment.

