Opportunity Profile

DCCS.ORG

for the position of **HEAD OF THE LOWER SCHOOL**

Lower school students are invited each day to engage in learning that is situated within God's Story. Learning is joyful and transformative as students apply their learning in the world as image bearers of Christ participating in kingdom work.

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Our School

In 1949, a small group of parents gathered together with the shared conviction that God wanted to raise up a school where children and young people would be educated in "the fear of the Lord." Throughout the year, these visionary parents gathered weekly to pray for God's direction and seek His provision in making Christcentered education the key to knowledge. In September 1950, Delaware County Christian School (DC) officially opened its doors to 58 students in grades K-5 in a local church basement. Today, over 900 students and 160 faculty and staff call DC their school.

Since its inception, Delaware County Christian School has been committed to providing students with quality education from a Christian perspective in order to keep with its mission of educating students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action. DC's promise is to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ. 2 campuses spread across 41 acres 98% of graduates pursue further study at collegiate level 10:1 student to faculty ratio 56% of faculty hold advanced degrees



The Delaware County Christian School community represents a wonderfully diverse tapestry of racial, ethnic, and worship traditions.

STUDENTS FROM 13 COUNTRIES And From 36 School Districts

Over **150** churches represented in our community







PA

Our Community

Delaware County Christian School is situated on two campuses in the western suburbs of Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania. The Lower Campus in Devon, PA houses our Early Childhood Center and Lower School (grades PK2-5), and the Upper Campus houses our Middle and Upper Schools (grades 6-12). Located only fifteen miles from center city, Philadelphia, the school's community combines the benefits of bucolic historical towns and the excitement of living on the threshold of one of the most vibrant and exciting cities in the United States with its plethora of cultural, artistic, and athletic attractions. DC's location is ideal for interstate and rail travel up and down the northeastern coast of the United States, and the Philadelphia airport provides easy access to the rest of the country and beyond.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

• Developmentally appropriate academic programs consisting of rigorous academics, interdisciplinary teaching, and project-based and experiential learning activities engage students in deeper learning.

Lower School

We recognize the building blocks to spiritual formation and the foundation of a biblical worldview begin in the elementary years. Students in first through fifth grades participate in a Christcentered education designed to help them grow in all areas of life: academically, spiritually, physically, and socially. Nurturing faculty guide students to observe God's character and handiwork as they think deeply about their learning and how it is situated in God's Story.

Students are encouraged to grow as learners by developing habits of learning that include: curious thinking, gracious communicating, joy-filled collaborating, and courageous designing.

Teaching TRANSFORMATION

Teaching for Transformation (TfT) is a framework for integrating Christian faith and learning. DC uses this model to help teachers and students better understand how we each play an integral role in God's story. We invite each other to see God's story and then to live that story out in our lives each day.

Teachers use throughlines to connect a unit's learning outcomes to God's story. The nine throughlines are: God Worshipers, Truth Discerners, Beauty Engagers, Order Discoverers, Justice Seekers, Servant Workers, Creation Stewards, Community Builders, and Image Reflectors. Teachers are challenged not simply to tell the students about the throughlines but to provide opportunities to "live" the chosen throughlines. Students are provided opportunities to engage in "real work that meets real needs for real people," and are encouraged to engage with the question: what does God call us to "be?"

- Differentiated instruction challenges students at every level of ability to achieve their personal best.
- The Honor Code encourages students to love God and love others, building a strong class and school community.
- Environmental stewardship of dedicated outdoor spaces includes vegetable and butterfly gardens, bluebird trails, and bird gardens.
- The 24-acre campus is Certified by the National Wildlife Federation and includes a running stream, koi pond, hardwood forest, meadows, and fields suitable for student exploration.
- A school-age playground, gymnasium, chapel, learning commons, and athletic fields provide areas for students to engage in enriching activities.
- Special classes enrich student learning including: HIVE (Hub of Innovation and Exploration), Spanish, music, physical education, library/technology, and art.
- Opportunities abound for students to extend their learning or pursue their area of interests, including: art and Spanish enrichment, maker space classes, band, instrumental lessons, and after-school clubs.
- Grade-level field trips extend learning. Trips include visits to community partners, nature centers, museums, and historical sites throughout our region.
- Service learning opportunities are scheduled throughout the year as students are taught to meet real needs for real people embedded throughout the school day.
- <u>Student Support Services</u> are available to meet various learning needs.

The Opportunity

HEAD OF THE LOWER SCHOOL, DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Note: This full-time position will begin July, 1 2025 (with training beginning in June, 2025)

The Head of the Lower School provides vision, leadership, and direction to the Lower School. This position provides supervision in administering academic programs and initiatives, supports and empowers faculty, and fosters a school culture of academic excellence, spiritual formation, and flourishing lower school community in keeping with Delaware County Christian School's mission. This position also leads all administrative functions of the Lower School. This position reports directly to the Assistant Head of School and participates on the Executive Team, Leadership Team, and Academic Team.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Personal commitment to Jesus Christ and solid understanding of the Word of God
- Understanding of and alignment with DC's philosophy of Christian Education
- Master's Degree in education or related field
- Five years or more experience in teaching at the Lower School level and five years of Administrative Leadership experience in a school setting including oversight of daily operations and management of faculty and staff.

SKILLS REQUIRED:

- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Strong critical thinking skills and a solutions-oriented mindset
- Strong interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence with a demonstrated commitment to servant leadership
- Strategic leader able to cast vision for and implement strategic initiatives
- Ability and ease with public speaking
- Ability to make Christ-centered decisions with a mission focus while maintaining a collaborative environment
- Ability to manage multiple constituencies with diplomacy and positivity







CLICK TO LEARN MORE about DC and what we believe Please check the school's website - **www.dccs.org** - regarding personal faith alignment. If you believe that we are a best-fit school for you to develop personally, professionally, and spiritually, please complete the Staff Application to apply. Please direct any questions to our Interim Director of Human Resources, Lori Chung at Ichung@dccs.org.







DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide leadership for the academic program to plan, and implement, with division faculty, a comprehensive educational program designed to provide an exemplary and innovative educational program that meets the needs of all learners
- Monitor student achievement data to inform school-wide instructional efforts
- Support the Director of Student Support Services and gifted instruction for the division
- Foster, in conjunction with the faculty, a spiritual formation program designed to augment and amplify the spiritual development efforts of the home and church
- Plan, implement, and coordinate in conjunction with faculty/staff, a comprehensive and consistent program of student conduct, including procedures for student discipline
- In conjunction with the Director of Operations, establish, implement, and review safety procedures and crisis management for the protection of the students and faculty/staff in case of a campus emergency
- Plan, implement, and supervise, in conjunction with faculty/staff, an appropriate student activity and co-curricular program
- Monitor and manage, in conjunction with the guidance department, a guidance and counseling program
- Implement the DC Framework for Teaching and Banding system for the continuous process improvement for teacher supervision, evaluation, and development
- In conjunction with the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, oversee the induction program for new faculty in the division
- Monitor and manage, in conjunction with the Assistant Head of School, Director of Curriculum, Academic Team, and faculty, a consistent and effective process of curriculum review and evaluation
- Participate as an active member of the executive team, academic team, leadership team, and enrollment and retention committees
- Ensure ongoing effective communication between home and school through general meetings, written communication, and personal contacts
- Work collaboratively with the Parent Volunteer Organization and promote parent involvement where appropriate
- In conjunction with the Assistant Head of School and the Director of Finance, develop and provide oversight of the annual budget for the division

CLICK TO APPLY

dccs.org/about/employment-opportunities

Questions regarding this position? Please contact Lori Chung, Interim Director of Human Resources, at lchung@dccs.org.

