



**Job Title:** Middle School Science Department Chair (Supplemental Position)

**Supervisor:** School Principal

**Terms of Employment:** This is a supplemental assignment in addition to regular duties and is compensated according to the district supplement schedule. The position is a yearly appointment made at the discretion of the principal and is not guaranteed from year to year.

**Job Summary:**

- Serves as a teacher leader responsible for strengthening science instruction, ensuring coherence across the science curriculum, and facilitating Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) focused on vocabulary/literacy, scientific inquiry, building knowledge, critical thinking and real-world application.
- Ensures curriculum alignment to state and district expectations while advancing schoolwide priorities, including #RiseWithReading, academic rigor, and driving academic achievement and student growth.
- Provides department leadership through positive and productive collaboration aligned to the principal's vision and school priority goals, builds teacher capacity in science instruction through mentoring, modeling, and professional collaboration, supports data-informed decision-making, and fosters a culture of continuous improvement and shared accountability for student outcomes.

**Essential Duties**

**Instructional Leadership & PLC Facilitation**

1. Lead science PLCs focused on strengthening instruction in vocabulary, scientific inquiry, analysis and application of content knowledge that promotes hands-on learning, lab experiences, and real world application.
2. Facilitate collaborative planning around curriculum pacing, common assessments and rigorous instructional strategies for engagement.
3. Lead monthly school-based department meetings to advance instructional priorities and department goals.
4. Attend monthly district lead teacher meetings and ensure clear communication and implementation of district initiatives.
5. Ensure curriculum alignment to state standards and district expectations, including vertical and horizontal alignment across grade levels to support rigorous learning tasks.

**Content Expertise & Instructional Support**

1. Serve as the science content expert and instructional resource for the department.
2. Support implementation of high-quality instructional frameworks and best practices.
3. Model effective instructional strategies, including vocabulary, scientific inquiry and discourse, application of content knowledge, hands-on learning, lab experiences, and real world application.
4. Identify instructional gaps and support targeted improvements.
5. Provide coaching, modeling, and feedback to new and developing teachers.

### **Data-Informed Improvement**

1. Support and lead teachers in analyzing student data (Common formative assessments, Lexile, and SC Ready-6th) to inform instruction and intervention strategies.
2. Monitor progress toward school goals in literacy and achievement goals related to science and adjust supports.
3. Promote consistent grading and assessment practices.

### **Collaboration & Communication**

1. Provide department leadership that fosters a collaborative culture focused on continuous improvement and high expectations.
2. Serve as a liaison between school administration and the science department, ensuring clear two-way communication.
3. Collaborate with instructional coaches, MTSS leads, counselors, teachers, and staff to support literacy across content areas for improved student outcomes.
4. Provide orientation and ongoing support for new and current department staff.

### **School Operations and Resource Management**

1. Assist with supervision duties as assigned by the principal.
2. Support a safe, orderly, and focused learning environment.
3. Serve as the department's Chemical Hygiene Officer, ensuring compliance with safety regulations, chemical storage, handling, and disposal procedures.
4. Maintain inventory of science kits, laboratory equipment, and instructional resources.
5. Monitor and manage the department budget, aligning expenditures to instructional priorities, safety, and school goals.
6. Model professionalism and adherence to district policies, procedures, and safety expectations.

### **Expectations**

1. Maintain full classroom teaching responsibilities while fulfilling supplemental leadership duties.
2. Participate in required meetings, including monthly district lead teacher meetings and school-based department meetings.
3. Collaborate closely with administration to align science department work with school improvement goals.
4. Uphold district policies, school procedures, and professional standards.
5. Perform additional related duties as assigned by the principal in support of instructional improvement and student outcomes.

## **Minimum Qualifications (Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Required)**

1. Valid South Carolina teaching certification.
2. Minimum of three years of successful classroom teaching experience (preferred).
3. Demonstrated instructional expertise, particularly in literacy and/or core content areas.
4. Strong facilitation, communication, and organizational skills.
5. Ability to lead adult learning and build capacity among peers.

## **Physical Requirements**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand and reach with hands and arms; walk; sit; stoop or kneel; crouch or crawl.

Additional physical requirements include the following:

- Physically capable of frequently lifting or moving up to 40 pounds
- Specific vision requirements include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to focus
- Ability to sit and stand for extended periods of time
- Manual dexterity for the purpose of using a telephone and data entry
- Read a computer screen and printed material with or without vision aids
- Hear and understand speech at normal levels and on the telephone
- Speak in audible tones so that others may understand clearly in person and on the telephone

## **Work Environment**

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Supplement Amount: \$2,000.00

***This job description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by this employee. The employee will be required to follow any other instructions and to perform any other related duties as assigned by the appropriate administrator or supervisor. Horry County Schools reserves the right to update, revise or change this job description and related duties at any time without prior notice.***

