

Why work at The Lighthouse School?

Because we offer both our students and Teachers a unique experience in public education! The Lighthouse School is one of the oldest public charter schools in the state of Oregon. 2021/2022 celebrated our 20-year anniversary.

- At the Lighthouse School we provide new employees with a Teacher Mentor for their first year!
- We do not expect teachers to spend their own money on classroom supplies. Instead, we furnish all of the daily essential supplies for each student (glue, pencils, erasers, paper, Kleenex, etc).
- Additionally, we provide the materials needed in each grade level (PreK – 8) and specialties (Music, Art, Spanish, Horticulture, Handwork and PE) for teachers to conduct their lessons.
- With a personal daily shopper, teachers never need worry that they won't have what they need or that they will have to use their own funds to purchase job related materials.
- At TLS, our field trips are educationally based and centered around the themes of each grade. Each grade has 2-3 traditional field trips per year that are fully planned on behalf of the class. Teachers need not spend their prep time on field trip planning because everything is done in advance for them! All field trips are fully funded or require a minimal fee from parents.
- Our school uses curriculum that has been handpicked by Lighthouse parents and researched by our Literacy Coordinator, Math Specialist and Curriculum Coordinator. We were the first school in Coos, Curry and Western Douglas counties to use the LTTRS program to train our teachers. TLS began their implementation in 2017! This year other schools across Oregon are just now being introduced to this program that supports common core reading and literacy!
- Although a curriculum guide is provided in each grade, teachers have the autonomy to construct their own activities to accomplish and meet state standards with project base lessons.
- “Because children learn in different ways, we teach in different ways!” TLS uses a holistic approach to teaching that incorporates the whole child; “Head, Heart and Hands”. For example; a geometry lesson might include a text book work study to first teach the algebraic concept (Head). The next portion of the lesson would use butcher paper to create a duffle bag (Hands). With the final lesson being to modify the paper pattern into a fabric pattern to build and sew a usable duffle bag (Heart).
- Don’t know how to sew? Don’t worry our specialty teachers are here to help. Unlike most traditional schools we still offer, handwork class (sewing, knitting, embroidery, felt work and the like), cooking class, art, music, PE, and Spanish, along with electives for grades 6-8 such as games of logic, DIY, archery, gardening, song writing, poetry, Spanish dance and conservation club to name a few.
- Specialty teachers not only help the students, but they are here to help Grade Level teachers as well. Specialty classes run 30-45 minutes in all nine grades, K-8 and provide prep periods for Main Lesson Teachers.
- At TLS we provide teachers with a minimum of 225 minutes of prep time each week on top of a 30-minute unpaid duty free lunch. Most of our Teachers average around 300-500 minutes of prep time a week!
- We also book out roving subs for the entire year, so that we have coverage for staff absences. This not only ensures that classes are covered but it also allows students the comfortability when a sub is needed that it is a familiar face that they have seen around campus all year!
- Like a true community all of our employees partake in duty coverage, whether it be bus, recess, breakfast or lunch duty. Teachers get to know different grade students by being active in the daily schedule with other grades.
- Each year we have book buddies where the older grades (5-8) partner with the lower grades (K-3) to make reading buddies. There’s nothing more special than to see an 8th grader reading to a Kindergartner and vice versa.
- This is just one of the many traditions here at TLS. Each year we have our annual Winter Celebration, where each class celebrates a December tradition from a foreign country and each class gets to partake in the different festivities through the last day of December before the winter break! We also have our annual talent show, where students get to showcase their talents either in person or virtually. Fall and Spring Festival are just another of our traditions where students learn to perform in front of a large audience. Our promotion ceremonies include a Kindergarten transition into 1st grade and an 8th grade ceremony that includes having alumni students come speak on what High School is all about.

Our vision is to teach to the whole child; Head, Heart and Hands!