

Job Title: Chaplain

Department: Student Services

Reports to: Assistant Headmaster for Co-Curricular Programs

FLSA Status: Exempt

Last Updated: January 2014

Summary:

An all boys, all boarding college-preparatory school for 185 boys, Blue Ridge School has a 751-acre campus lying along the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains 20 miles from Charlottesville, Virginia. The Blue Ridge School campus itself is removed from distractions, allowing students to focus on academics, further develop character, build self-esteem, and progress toward a successful life of service.

Blue Ridge School is innovative in its approach to educating young men, offering a tailored learning system based on real-world, hands-on activities through which key concepts and study skills are embedded. Students are taught to identify personal learning styles. With an average class size of 9 students, faculty members use this learning style investigation to individualize classroom material and challenge students to reach beyond self-determined limits and fulfill untapped potential.

Serving as Chaplain is the primary component of a full-time, 10-month position; additional duties and responsibilities are outlined below. The Chaplain leads and organizes religious services for the community, including Convocation, Baccalaureate, graduation, Christmas and Easter ceremonies and regular services during the week. At present, we hold three services each week that are mandatory for students. We intend to continue to mandate attendance for weekday services while allowing more flexibility on Sundays. Providing pastoral counseling, the Chaplain promotes school-wide involvement in personal spiritual development, intentionally including students and staff with a diverse array of beliefs. The primary Chapel messages are grounded in Judeo-Christian principles, while placing the greatest emphasis on making time and space in one's life for spiritual reflection and development.

Qualifications:

- An ordained Episcopal priest preferred; one with extensive experience working with youth in a counseling, ministerial, or educational setting.
- Committed to the development of the whole student – his spiritual maturation as well as his intellectual, physical, and emotional growth.
- Respect other religions and cultures that are present in our diverse community.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills; strong interpersonal skills.
- Willing to live in on-campus residence, depending on housing availability.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assists in the spiritual development of all students regardless of their religious affiliation;
- Organizes routine programs of worship including regular chapel services and special ceremonies;
- Contributes to the development, and oversees implementation, of School's spiritual curriculum;
- Provides pastoral counseling to staff and students;
- Arranges for students of various faiths to worship in the method of their choosing on a regular basis;
- Annually assigns leadership roles to qualified students (ie: Sacristan & Verger) and oversees the fulfillment of these roles;

- Coordinates services with organist, Director of Performing Arts, and others within community;
- Teaches 3 full-year classes or handles additional administrative responsibilities as determined by the Headmaster;
- Serves on weekday and weekend duty teams;
- Participates in two co-curricular activities such as athletics, clubs or student organizations;
- Serves as Advisor to assigned group of students.

Supervisory Responsibilities:

- n/a

Certificates, Licenses, Registrations:

- Ordained Episcopal priest preferred
- Professional development seminar or conference at least once every two years ongoing

Physical Demands and Working Conditions:

The usual and customary methods of performing the job's functions require the following physical demands: occasional lifting, carrying, pushing, and/or pulling; some climbing and balancing; frequent stooping, kneeling, crouching, and/or crawling; and significant fine finger dexterity. Generally the job requires 20% sitting, 10% walking, and 70% standing. The job is performed under minimal temperature variations and under conditions with some exposure to risk of injury and/or illness.