



La Cañada Unified School District
...a learning community committed to personal growth
and academic excellence

March 3, 2021

CLASSIFIED, CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR/
ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Salary: \$5,508.06 - \$7,030.71 per month, dependent on experience

Application Deadline: 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Brief Description of Position: Under the general direction of the Superintendent, the Communications Coordinator/Assistant to the Superintendent performs a variety of duties to assist with administrative tasks. Plans, develops, and implements strategic communications regarding all aspects of the District's public information plan; initiates, advises upon and coordinates effective media, community, and public relations; maintains editorial and graphics standards; and facilitates a variety of public information and community relations activities, events, projects, inclusive to internal and external communications.

Qualifications:

1. **Required:** Bachelor of Arts or Science degree in communications, education, or a related field. Minimum of three years of experience as an education or communications professional, with extensive writing and speaking experience.
2. **Desired:** Master of Arts or Science degree in such areas as communications, education, or related field. Work experience in education strongly preferred.

Work Calendar: Monday through Friday, 8 hours a day with a 12-month work calendar, at La Cañada Unified School District Office. Occasional irregular or extended hours should be expected. The chosen candidate will start April 5, 2021, provided background checks have cleared. Paid training time during the last week of March 2021 will be required.

Salary & Benefits: Placement in Range 48 of the Confidential, Managerial, Supervisory & Administrative (CMSA) classified salary schedule is dependent on experience and qualifications. The monthly wage range is \$5,508.06 - \$7,030.71 per month, which corresponds to \$31.78 - \$40.56 per hour. This position is eligible to participate in the District's medical benefits plans. Currently the District's maximum contribution to an employee's benefits package is \$15,930 per year.

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Application Procedure:

1. Applicants may apply via our posting on EdJoin (www.edjoin.org/lcusd) **OR** submit a District **classified** application (available to print from the Human Resources page at www.lcusd.net). Either application should be accompanied by a cover letter, a resume with references, and at least three (3) current letters of recommendation. Mailed applications may be addressed and sent to:

Dr. Debra Craddock, Executive Director of Personnel Services
La Cañada Unified School District
4490 Cornishon Avenue
La Cañada, CA 91011

2. After applications have been screened, selected applicants will be invited to take a skills test related to the functions of word processing, spreadsheet building, Google/internet applications, etc. The scheduled date for testing is Friday, March 19, 2021 and is expected to be held on-campus rather than virtually. A passing score is required in order to be considered for an interview.
3. Candidates who pass both the application screening and skills test will be contacted regarding a personal interview. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. It is yet to be determined if the interviews will be conducted virtually or in-person.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES INCLUDE (but are not limited to):

- Prepares agendas for Governing Board meetings and delivers meeting materials, posts agendas, maintains mailing lists, and mails Governing Board agendas according to requirements of The Brown Act.
- Sets up and attends Governing Board meetings, takes notes of Governing Board meeting and business transactions, transcribes minutes for review and editing, maintains official records of the Governing Board minutes, reports and supplies required documentation.
- Serves as Assistant to the Governing Board and Superintendent, fulfilling day-to-day administrative duties for all five Governing Board members.
- Supervises the updating of District Policy and Administrative Regulations books, and maintains necessary records of policy changes.
- Prepares and maintains documentation for the Governing Board and Superintendent, including Conflict of Interest filings, election documentation, official State and County rosters, Governing Board officer and committee liaison appointments.
- Sets and monitors the budget for the Superintendent's office and the Governing Board; prepares purchase orders for all expenditures.
- Implements an effective District-wide strategy to communicate effectively with staff and constituents; establishes and maintains positive relationships with multiple stakeholders.
- Under the direction of and in consultation with the Superintendent, provides information to news media, develops press releases, and arranges interviews for media representatives related to public information.
- As directed, serves as a spokesperson for the District; maintains a professional relationship with newspapers and other media representatives.
- Assists school site and district office administrators in the development of effective communication mechanisms, such as brochures, newsletters, websites, and other forms of written and online materials.
- Seeks out and cultivates news and information resources for the development of positive stories.
- Assists in the formulation and modification of the District's community outreach procedures and practices.
- Develops a social media strategy and actively builds the District's social media presence.
- Identifies and promotes interest groups who are supportive of the District's educational objectives to expand upon the organization's positive reputation.
- Arranges for reproduction of printing and distribution of public relations materials within prescribed timelines.
- Acts as a liaison between site and/or District administrators in gathering and sharing factual information with the media and public-at-large.
- Supports and prepares crisis communications, including maintaining and updating an annual plan of action.
- Produces communications in multiple languages, including employing translation services to ensure District communications are reaching all school stakeholders.
- Serves as a District Liaison to state and local government and other agencies as requested.
- Maintains the Superintendent's calendar, schedules meetings, appointments and conferences, makes travel and hotel arrangements, as requested.
- Receives and screens telephone calls, visitors, and inquiries from the public.
- Coordinates the processing of Public Records Act requests.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS GUIDE

Skills, Knowledge and/or Abilities Required:

- Possesses excellent communication skills, both orally and in writing, for a variety of audiences.
- Establishes and maintain cooperative and tactful working relationships with employees, the public and media.
- Demonstrates tact, and diplomacy; maintains confidentiality of privileged and sensitive information.
- Handles District and/or site communication activities during crisis.
- Writes reports, news releases and related data in a creative, clear and concise manner for broad public appeal as well as specialized audiences.
- Presents a positive image of the District and its operation to the public and complies with the District's customer service standards, as outlined in Board Policy.
- Maintains awareness of current issues and legislation affecting public education.
- Demonstrates understanding of fundamental principles of public relations and organizational marketing techniques.
- Understands administrative and managerial components of school operations.
- Possesses fundamentals of writing, proofreading, composition, story layout, design, and production of mass media communications, both digital and print media, and has the ability to use associated software.
- Demonstrates working knowledge of FERPA and other District security policies and procedures.
- Demonstrates a working familiarity with The Brown Act.
- Understands legal mandates, policies, regulations and guidelines pertaining to the distribution of news and public information as it relates to the field of education.
- Uses with ease and proficiency desktop publishing software, applications, and other communication, media, or publishing platforms.
- Establishes rapport and works effectively with all levels of District personnel, students, parents and the public.
- Designs and implements user-friendly webpages in alignment with District standards.
- Edits and proofs documents for publication in a variety of media outlets.
- Understands and carries out oral and written instructions.
- Uses correct math, grammar, spelling punctuation and composition.
- Demonstrates ability to work and stay calm under pressure, meet deadlines, and establish priorities.

Physical Requirements:

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit, walk, stand, talk and hear. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision and distance vision. Occasionally the individual must meet deadlines with severe time constraints, interacting with the public and peers. Occasionally the position requires the employee to work irregular or extended hours, make decisions which will direct others' responsibilities related to personal and organizational safety and well-being, set work output and timelines of other colleagues, and meet multiple demands simultaneously.

Hiring Policy: All applications will be held in strict confidence and become property of the District. Further inquiry should be addressed to the Human Resources Department at (818) 952-8385. ANY direct contact with any member of the Governing Board with the intent to influence the decision-making process will be considered a breach of professional ethics, and the applicant will be immediately disqualified.