

# FOUNDING MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR SEARCH

## JACKSON HOLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Jackson, Wyoming

[jhcommunityschool.org](http://jhcommunityschool.org)

Start Date: August 2025



**Carney  
Sandoe**  
& ASSOCIATES

[CARNEYSANDOE.COM](http://CARNEYSANDOE.COM)

# Mission Statement

Jackson Hole Community School prepares students to succeed in college and life, through challenging academics and excellence in teaching, in a community founded on personal relationships, student initiative, and integrity.

# Student Statement

Community School students arrive curious about the world, develop skills and confidence in an engaging community, and graduate empowered to make meaningful contributions.

## At a Glance



Established  
2004



Enrollment  
115 (grades 9-12)



Total faculty  
21



Student-teacher ratio  
6:1



Students of color  
7%



Financial aid awarded  
\$740,000



Faculty with advanced degrees  
72%



Campus size  
**Two buildings**  
on .5 acres in  
a business park

Faculty of color: 2

Students receiving financial aid: 30%

Endowment: \$1.2M

Annual operating budget: \$3.4M



## Overview

Jackson Hole Community School (JHCS) is an independent high school in Jackson, WY, that will expand its program with the addition of a middle school (grades 6-8) in the fall of 2026. As the school begins its third decade, the inaugural Middle School Director will join JHCS at an exciting time: enrollment has never been higher, the academic and experiential programs are thriving, and teaching character has remained a hallmark of the school since its inception.

This leader will uphold JHCS' excellence while serving as the middle school's "chief storyteller." Responsibilities will include hiring faculty, developing innovative curriculum, and engaging in community outreach to potential middle school families. A community member aptly noted, "The Middle School Director needs to be passionate and joyful about working with middle schoolers, while fostering a love of learning through challenging academics, experiential learning, community building, and wellness."

The ideal candidate for the Middle School Director at JHCS will embody a unique blend of qualities that include a kind and thoughtful demeanor, high intellectual standards, and strong communication skills. This individual should resonate with the school's values, be relatable to the community, and possess a deep love for the various activities available in the unique Jackson Hole landscape. Additionally, they should have a solid understanding of middle school pedagogy, experience in faculty recruitment, and capability of leading a new faculty with purpose and guidance.

## Opportunities and Challenges

The first Director of the Middle School will face several opportunities and challenges. They will need to differentiate Jackson Hole Community School's (JHCS) programming and ensure a critical mass of students per class. They must leverage Jackson's rich arts scene and lifestyle approach in order to enhance the school's offerings.



JHCS' excellent faculty are the lifeblood of the school. In addition to recruiting, hiring, and retaining mission-aligned faculty and staff, the Middle School Director will play a critical role in developing and supporting teachers, recognizing their strengths and skills, and ensuring their continuous growth. Additionally, the Middle School Director will work to establish the middle school as a destination and further strengthen the school's marketing and enrollment management efforts to ensure a sustainable future.

## Qualifications and Personal Attributes

- Experience developing an innovative and successful middle school curriculum and an understanding of existing research and best practices, and what constitutes standards of excellence in programming
- A passion and a sense of joy working with middle school-aged children
- Ability to balance autonomy and accountability
- Practice of being an active, visible, engaged, and joyful member of the school community
- Ability to communicate with all constituencies thoroughly, systematically, and with clarity
- Versatility and a business acumen; budget management on a daily and long-term strategic basis
- Entrepreneurial risk taker able to meet the day-to-day demands and opportunities of a start up
- A track record of building a diverse and inclusive organization
- Significant and successful classroom teaching experience and demonstrated success as an effective instructional leader and manager
- Wisdom from lived experience and a willingness to listen
- Thorough and demonstrated understanding of and love for working in education with great energy, warmth, and humor
- Able to manage a range of personalities with strong EQ and emotional bandwidth
- Comfort with ambiguity and a sense of humor
- Ability to speak conversational Spanish is a plus

# Learn More

Click on the links below to learn more about Jackson Hole Community School.

[School Profile](#)

[Portrait of a Graduate](#)

[School Website](#)

[About Jackson, Wyoming](#)



## To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

### **Lisa Parsons**

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