



Ethical Culture Fieldston School

Principal of Fieldston Upper
July 1, 2022

The Ethical Culture Fieldston School (ECFS) invites applications, nominations, and inquiries as it embarks upon a search for a permanent Principal of Fieldston Upper, which encompasses 600 students in grades 9-12 at the School's Riverdale campus in the Bronx, for the 2022-23 school year. The successful candidate will demonstrate a deep commitment to the founding principles of ethical learning, academic excellence, [progressive education](#), [equity and inclusion](#), and experience with elevating student voice and empowering students.

Who We Are

The Ethical Culture Fieldston School offers a world-class progressive education for 1,700 Pre-K–12th grade students at two historic campuses in Manhattan and the Bronx. Founded in 1878 as The Workingman's School by humanitarian Felix Adler, ECFS remains committed to his vision for ethical learning, academic excellence, and progressive education. The core of the educational program is the study and practice of ethics, where students explore and think critically about what they are learning in order to question and evaluate their own actions, choices, and decisions, as well as those of other individuals and communities. Progressive education at ECFS focuses on the whole child, ensuring that education is responsive, relevant, experiential, and playful. ECFS inspires a diverse and joyful community of passionate learners, critical thinkers, and ethical individuals who aim to make the world more humane and just.

Fieldston Upper exemplifies the best of progressive education and serves students who are highly engaged in both the School and the world around them. Classes emphasize intellectual curiosity, academic excellence, ethics, and community involvement. Fieldston Upper fosters skills, coursework, and values that prepare students for higher education while simultaneously providing space and support for them to engage in community service, which is at the core of the ECFS mission. Fieldston Upper features a [robust arts program](#), [extensive co-curricular activities](#), and a [dynamic athletics program](#). The foundation students receive at ECFS prepares them to enter the world today and to see the world as it might be.

Who You Are

The Principal will be a collaborative leader who fosters trust and promotes transparency, overseeing all day-to-day aspects of the division serving grades 9-12. They will work in a highly relational, visible, and authentic way with students, faculty, staff, and families to support their experience in and beyond the classroom. The Principal will embrace and communicate a vision established by the founder for progressive pedagogy, ethical learning, and academic excellence, and demonstrate strong communication skills with the ability to listen, reflect, and respond. They will have experience leading diversity, equity, and inclusion work within communities and bring imagination and expansive thinking to their work.

About the Position

The Principal has overall responsibility for managing the Upper division and reports to the Head of School. Among the Principal's direct reports are the Assistant Principal for Academic Life, the Assistant Principal for Student Life, four Form Deans, the Academic Department Chairs, and the Director of College Counseling. To manage the dozens of

crossover faculty and staff, as well as ongoing curricular alignment initiatives, the Principal of Fieldston Upper also works closely with the Principal of Fieldston Middle School. Along with their team, the Principal will work collaboratively with faculty to ensure that students, faculty, staff, and families, experience and embrace the breadth, depth, and possibilities of Fieldston Upper.

Qualities and Qualifications

The most successful candidates will:

- Embrace the values of progressive and ethical education.
- Demonstrate empathetic and courageous leadership with a track record of bringing diverse constituents together around a common vision.
- Demonstrate excellent communication, writing, and presentation skills with all Fieldston Upper community members: students, families, faculty, and staff.
- Encourage and demonstrate deep, responsive listening and open, proactive communication.
- Demonstrate experience with and commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in all areas of school life.
- Display curiosity and an unabashed love of learning with a sense of joy about this work.
- Demonstrate collaboration and transparency; communicate with authenticity in decisions and decision-making processes.
- Possess a systems-thinking approach that is action-oriented while maintaining a long-term vision.
- Demonstrate understanding of leading, supporting, and developing a rapport with unionized faculty and staff.

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Evaluation of candidate materials will begin immediately and continue until a permanent Principal of Fieldston Upper is named. The start date for this opportunity is July 1, 2022. Inquiries, nominations, and letters of interest with a résumé may be sent in confidence to:



Nishant Mehta, Managing Director and K-12 &
Independent Schools Practice Leader
Sherry Coleman, Managing Director
Lisa Solinsky, Senior Associate
ECFSUSPrincipal@storbecksearch.com

For more information, please visit ECFS at www.ecfs.org.

ECFS is an equal opportunity employer. Our goal is to be a diverse community of professionals that broadly reflects the people of the metropolitan New York City area, our students, and families. We aim to align our hiring process with our mission and institutional goals. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion or religious practices, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, citizenship status, national origin, age, ability status, military status, unemployment status or any other category protected by applicable local, state, or federal laws. ECFS takes affirmative action in support of its policy to employ and advance all qualified candidates.