PIANO ACCOMPANIST

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the direction of the vocal music teacher, the piano accompanist is responsible for accompanying school choirs during rehearsals and concerts, coaching students, teaching pitch and rhythm, and providing accompaniment for school choirs during rehearsals and concerts.

ESSENTIAL TASKS
(These are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.)

- Accompany the choir during practices, rehearsal, and performances.
- Assist the music teacher in the leading of section rehearsals and concerts.
- Assist the music teacher in the coaching of individuals and small ensembles.
- Follow the soloist or conductor in performing a musical score.
- Lead section rehearsals by playing parts, identifying student mistakes and problem areas, correcting mistakes and providing the correct pitches and rhythms.
- Encourage students and reinforce good vocal techniques; provide students with suggestions regarding the interpretation of music.
- Recognize and resolve intonation problems.
- Monitor appropriate use and care of equipment, materials and facilities.
- Maintain appropriate records and follow required procedures and practices.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Must have a knowledge of common vocal music rehearsal practices, proper diction, and an understanding of foreign languages in relation to musical pieces. Must have advanced knowledge of music theory, musical terms, signs, and abbreviations. Must have the skills necessary to accompany choirs, soloists and small ensembles, as well as, be proficient in vocal techniques and vocal coaching. Must possess advanced piano skills and the ability to assist students in learning vocal music interpretation. Must have the ability to sight-read and prepare complex musical scores for performances; ability to follow oral and written instructions; ability to establish and maintain interpersonal relationships using tact, patience and courtesy; and must have the ability to work cooperatively with others.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Any combination equivalent to: graduation from high school supplemented by private or college-level training in piano, music theory and at least two years of experience as an accompanist. A comparable amount of training and experience may be substituted for the minimum qualifications.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Must be able to sit at the piano for long periods of time, occasionally stand, and navigate stairs, etc. Must be able to set-up the work space, chairs, piano bench and push or pull a piano. Requires some repetitive twisting/pressure involving wrists/hands, use of arms, hands and shoulders. Must be able to see small details and be exposed to loud noise (e.g. children, music.) Must be able to give students direction in a clear speaking voice hear normal voice conversations. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential tasks.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid driver’s license
Travel throughout the Division may be required