McLean School
Potomac, Maryland

Director of Athletics, Coaching, and Mentoring
July 2022
mcleanschool.org

McLean School, in Potomac, Maryland, announces a search for a Director of Athletics, Coaching, and Mentoring. As a core part of the School’s holistic approach to student development, McLean School maintains an exemplary Athletic Program that is at once competitive and inclusive, and that enables growth in athletic ability, character, and integrity. The Director will inspire students and coaches to participate and to grow through the School’s Athletics, Coaching and Mentoring Program, yielding life skills for those new to sports and accomplished athletes alike, while also fielding competitive teams. The Director will serve as an exemplar of sportsmanship and commitment, modeling McLean’s Core Values in all that they do and help enhance school spirit throughout the K-12 program.

This is a new position for the right leader to help define. They will oversee all aspects of the Athletics, Coaching, and Mentoring Program and provide leadership to all coaches by providing support, professional development, and resources for them to effectively do their jobs. The Director will report directly to the Head of School, and serve on the School Administrative Team.
This position is an outgrowth of McLean’s Abilities Model®, which recognizes that the very things that may challenge students in the classroom are often the flip side of tremendous strengths. The School sees athletics and physical education, and the benefits of physical fitness and stress reduction that result from regular exercise, as keys to well-being, while also exposing students to competition, team work, strategy, resilience, and sportsmanship. A student's passion for athletics often becomes the key to unlocking learning in other areas, and tight coordination of athletic and academic programming can enhance student motivation and ownership of learning.

The Director will be assisted by an Assistant Director of Athletics, Coaching & Mentoring, and will provide administrative direction and oversight for all departmental staff. The Director will hire and supervise full- and part-time coaches, provide evaluations of performance and offer suggestions for improvement, observe teams and coaches during practices and games, and implement a standard of conduct for coaches, parents, and athletes.

The Director will work strategically throughout all aspects of the School. This includes promoting McLean School to prospective families in conjunction with the Admission Office, developing and organizing a Parents Athletic Club in concert with the Development Office, representing McLean School at league, county, and state meetings, and working closely with the Middle and Upper School Division Heads to address issues affecting students.
Duties and Responsibilities Include the Following:

• Expand and strengthen McLean’s Athletic Program to reach additional Upper and Middle School students, providing, when appropriate, adding or retiring sports offerings.
• Promote inspired coaching and mentoring in athletics with a view to holistic-academic, social-emotional, and physical development of student athletes.
• Strengthen School culture by reinforcing linkages between the academic and athletic programs.
• Apply successful classroom learning approaches from teachers and Coordinators of Learning Services to athletics, and share approaches from athletics with classroom teachers.
• Raise McLean’s profile as a school adept at serving athletes who have learning challenges, so as to attract and benefit more student-athletes in the future.
• Expand the Junior Varsity and Middle School Athletic Programs to further develop skills and to deepen mentoring relationships with our coaches.

McLean School is an equal opportunity employer and makes all employment decisions, including those related to recruitment, hiring, training, retention, and promotion on the basis of an individual’s ability and job-related qualifications and without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, age, national origin, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other classification proscribed and protected under applicable federal, state, or local law.

THE SCHOOL

Changing the lives of students and families, McLean School provides a comprehensive and academically rigorous full-scope college preparatory school program for bright, college-bound students, including those with dyslexia, anxiety, and ADHD. For over 65 years, the school has helped students realize their full potential with a curriculum that is traditional without being rigid, challenging without being intimidating, and designed with the real world in mind.

McLean recognizes that all children are natural learners, but that they learn in different ways. The School’s Abilities Model® is a more complete way to understand how a student’s mind works. This approach recognizes each child for their strengths, providing support in areas of need and fostering resilience, transforming how students view themselves and their futures.
McLean focuses on what a child can do, not what they can’t—all within a college preparatory program that incorporates challenging academics, championship sports teams, visual and performing arts, robotics, service learning, and more.

Reaching all corners of the McLean experience, the school’s commitment to diversity and equity is an extension of its mission to make education accessible, stimulating, and meaningful to a broad range of learners. McLean embraces diversity and values the integrity of all individuals. This recognition enriches the community and encourages students to be better leaders and more responsible citizens.

**THE LOCATION**

Potomac, Maryland, is a suburban community located about 14 miles northwest of Washington, DC. With tree-lined streets and lush lawns, the area is quiet and relaxing for its residents, especially those looking to escape the hustle and bustle of Washington DC. Although primarily a residential area, there are still many shopping and dining options. Potomac is also very close to many natural parks and preserves, including Great Falls along the Potomac River, Scotts Run Nature Preserve, and Cabin John Park.

Of course, Potomac also offers convenient access to the DC area. As the nation’s capital and the sixth-largest metropolitan area in the country, DC is a diverse city with vast cultural resources. An extensive public transportation system connects the city’s many neighborhoods. While many associate the city primarily with politics and government, DC also boasts incredible access to history, including the many landmarks on and around the National Mall, the Library of Congress, and the myriad of offerings of the Smithsonian Institutions, with its 19 museums, all free and open to the public. DC is similarly rich in the performing arts, home to the Kennedy Center, National Opera and Ballet, and the Folger Shakespeare Library and Theater.
TO APPLY

Please send résumé/CV, letter of intent, list of five references with contact information (references will not be contacted until the candidate is notified), and statement of philosophy of education and leadership to Robin Speller (rspeller@mcleanschool.org).