



**CLASSIFIED**  
**Job Classification Description**  
Equal Employment Opportunity

MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PERSONNEL COMMISSION  
APPROVED MOTION NO. 40-2021/22  
DOCUMENT NO. 14-2021/22  
DATED 04/20/2021

**PIANO ACCOMPANIST**

**DEPARTMENT/SITE:** Visual and Performing Arts  
or School Site

**SALARY SCHEDULE:** Classified Bargaining Unit  
**SALARY RANGE:** 32  
**WORK YEAR:** 10 Months (193 Days)

**REPORTS TO:** Director of Visual and Performing  
Arts or site designee

**FLSA:** Non-Exempt

**PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

Under the general direction of the Director of Visual and Performing Arts or site designee, the Piano Accompanist provides support to the instructional program with specific responsibilities for providing accompaniment for rehearsals and performances; assists with classroom clerical tasks; and serves as an instructional resource for students and teachers in the area of choral music. The incumbents in this classification provide the school community with specialized musical instructional support which directly supports student learning and achievement.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

The Piano Accompanist is the second-level classification in support of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and school site choral groups, supporting choral music groups, vocal sections, and soloists during rehearsals, at performances and competitions.

The Paraprofessional Aide (Music) is the first-level classification in support of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and school site choral groups, assisting the choir teacher in training, rehearsing, and preparation for performances.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND TASKS:**

*The following alphabetical list of functions, duties, and tasks is typical for this classification. Incumbents may not perform all of the listed duties and/or may be required to perform other closely related or department-specific functions, duties, and tasks from those set forth below to address business needs and changing business practices.*

- Accompanies choral groups during rehearsals, at concerts, special events, competitions, and music recitals, travels between school sites.
- Analyzes assigned music prior to rehearsal and performances (e.g., correct tempos, challenging transitions, dynamics) to ensure efficient use of rehearsal time.
- Assists the choir teacher by providing warm-up exercises and working with small groups to learn music parts.
- Exhibits professional and stage etiquette to serve as a model of professionalism at musical productions.
- Prepares and maintains binders of current music accompaniment for each designated work site.
- Prepares for piano accompaniment outside of rehearsal time; comes prepared to rehearsals and classes to accompany musical selections.
- Provides piano accompaniment for choirs, vocal performances, soloists, and other musical productions;

sight reads accompaniments in rehearsals, improvises and transposes music to other keys to fit the vocal range of individual students.

- Rehearses with large choral groups, vocal sections, and soloists; plays full and sectional accompaniment; provides high-level musical instruction assistance in diction, rhythms and memorization of parts.
- Responds to inquiries and requests for information from students, faculty and staff regarding concerts, recitals, or other events.
- Travels and participates in out-of-town music performance events, and competitions; assists teachers with student supervision while traveling to performances and competitions.
- Performs other related duties as assigned for ensuring the efficient and effective functioning of the work unit and the District, including various mandatory District trainings.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

*(At time of application)*

### **Knowledge of:**

- Advanced piano skills and working knowledge of the methods and techniques of piano accompaniment
- Musical concepts and procedures in providing accompaniment for rehearsals
- Established audition standards, voice ranges, musical theory and notation, and key transpositions.
- Principles of child development, instructional processes
- General purposes and goals of public education
- Techniques used in directing and motivating students
- Basic recordkeeping techniques
- Safety practices and procedures

### **Skills and Abilities to:**

- Play piano proficiently and sight-read music
- Provide piano accompaniment to large groups of choral singers, vocal sections and soloists
- Transport oneself from site to site during school day or school week
- Follow the choir teacher's tempo and dynamics
- Travel and participate in out-of-town music performance events, and competitions
- Assist in planning and prioritizing learning activities to support the educational needs of students
- Perform basic clerical functions
- Use English in both written and verbal form, use correct grammar, punctuation and spelling
- Display interpersonal skills using tact, patience and courtesy with students, administration, and staff
- Understand and carry out oral and written instructions
- Maintain the confidentiality of student records
- Assume responsibilities involved in supervising and working independently with students
- Develop and maintain collegial relationships with staff
- Meet schedules and deadlines
- Read/interpret/apply rules, regulations, policies
- Rapidly learn methods and materials used in a variety of instructional situations
- Maintain safe environment for students
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with staff, students and the public

## **RESPONSIBILITY:**

Responsibilities include working under direct supervision using standardized procedures; providing information and/or advising others; and operating within a defined budget. Utilization of some resources from other work units

is often required to perform the job's functions. There is a continual opportunity to have some impact on the organization's services.

**JOB QUALIFICATIONS / REQUIREMENTS:**

*(At time of application and in addition to the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities listed above.)*

**EDUCATION REQUIRED:**

High School diploma or equivalent.

College-level training in piano and music theory is desirable.

**EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:**

Three years of experience in playing piano and/or keyboard accompaniment, including experience in reading music.

**LICENSE(S) REQUIRED:**

- Valid, current California Driver's License to drive between District/school sites.

**CERTIFICATIONS AND TESTING REQUIRED:**

- Pass the District's applicable proficiency exam and/or audition for the job class with a satisfactory score
- After offer of employment, obtain:
  - Criminal Justice and FBI Fingerprint Clearance
  - Negative TB test result plus periodic post-employment retest as required (currently every four years)
  - Pre-employment physical exam B through District's provider

**WORK ENVIRONMENT / PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

*(Must be performed with or without reasonable accommodations)*

- Work is primarily indoors and requires sitting for extended periods
- Lift objects such as boxes containing documents weighing up to 25 lbs.
- Physical abilities include fine finger dexterity, stooping/crouching, reaching/handling, bending at the waist, kneeling, crawling, reaching, handling or crouching to assist students and to retrieve and store materials
- Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a piano and/or keyboard and maintain paper files and documents
- Hearing and speaking to exchange information
- Visual acuity to see/read music accompaniment and documents