



## **Exciting Opportunity: Head of School at Morrison School, Bristol, Virginia, August 1 Start date**

Morrison School, an independent, co-educational day school for students PreK-12 with learning differences, is seeking a dynamic and innovative leader for the position of **Head of School**.

Our mission is to **equip and empower students who learn differently** to reach their maximum potential. Founded in 1977 by Dr. Sharon Morrison and her husband Arthur, the school has long been a beacon for transformative education. As we continue to build on the foundation laid by our founders, we seek a leader who can advance our vision and uphold the values that make Morrison a premier school in the field of learning differences.

The Head of School will guide the academic, administrative, and operational functions of Morrison School, working alongside a talented team of educators and staff. The ideal candidate will have a deep commitment to inclusivity and a passion for supporting students who learn in unique ways. They will also bring a forward-thinking approach to leadership and school growth while fostering a culture of collaboration and support. **Applicants must have endorsement in Special Education or Administration with Administrative experience.**

Morrison School offers a warm, close-knit environment that nurtures both students and staff alike. Located in **Bristol, Virginia/Tennessee**, a historic town known for its sense of community, appealing climate, and low cost of living.

As we continue to fulfill our mission—**transforming students' lives through education**—we are excited to find a new Head of School to lead us into the future. At The Morrison School, we believe **great minds don't think alike**, and we invite a visionary leader to join us in this important journey.

Morrison inspires students to be academically proficient, self-confident, and demonstrate good citizenship. In 2017 the board of directors hired a successor to Dr. Morrison, Jami Verderosa, who further strengthened the organization by focusing on expanding the donor base, improving employee benefits, and enhancing the physical facilities.

With a 6:1 student-to-staff ratio, the needs of each student are quickly identified and addressed through a diagnostic approach by teachers and administration. The flexibility of this small setting allows for fast implementation of changes, ensuring that each student receives the necessary attention and modifications for success. The nurturing environment, paired with the dedication of faculty and staff, contributes to the overall success of both the students and their families.

Morrison School is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Specialized Education Facilities and the Virginia Council for Private Education. Morrison is licensed by the Virginia Department of Education.

The ideal candidate for the next Head of School:

- A passionate advocate for leading a diverse community in a complex PreK-12 school.
- Knowledge of special education or experience serving students with learning differences.
- Minimum of 3-5 years of leadership in an educational setting including principal, head of school, division head, director of development, or senior administrator in a public or private school.
- A master's degree or higher in Special Education or Educational Leadership and Administration.
- Experience in working with boards and senior management teams to include oversight of fundraising, development, and donor stewardship activities.
- Demonstrated experience in strategic planning, curriculum development, academic program oversight and budget management.
- A dedicated leader who values the special ability of a small school which educates students with special needs to reach their full potential.

Life in Bristol, Virginia/Tennessee:

Historic Bristol is a twin city that straddles the Virginia/Tennessee state line and runs the length of State Street in the historic downtown. At the head of the street hangs an illuminated sign proudly stating: **A Good Place to Live**. Morrison serves Bristol VA-TN, Kingsport, Johnson City, Abingdon and surrounding areas. King University, in Bristol, Tennessee, is a vibrant institution with close ties to Morrison. Qualifying high school students from Morrison may take courses at either King University or Highlands Community College in Bristol, Virginia. It is not unusual for families to move to the area to benefit from Morrison's individualized program and to escape the stress of big city life. It is an easy drive to Asheville, North Carolina and Knoxville, Tennessee and is adjacent to Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Applications are reviewed as they are received and are accepted until March 15, 2025

Application materials should be emailed to: Dr. Jane R. Snider at [jane@heads-upconsultants.com](mailto:jane@heads-upconsultants.com); and should include the following: (1) a cover letter explaining the candidate's interest in and qualifications for this position; (2) a current resume, including phone numbers and e-mail address (3) a personal statement of the applicant's educational philosophy; and (4) the names, email addresses, and telephone numbers of five references in one PDF document. All materials, inquiries, and nominations will be held in strict confidence at this time. For more information about Morrison School please visit: [www.morrisonsschool.org](http://www.morrisonsschool.org)

*Morrison School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, or age.*