



# **TVT Community Day School**

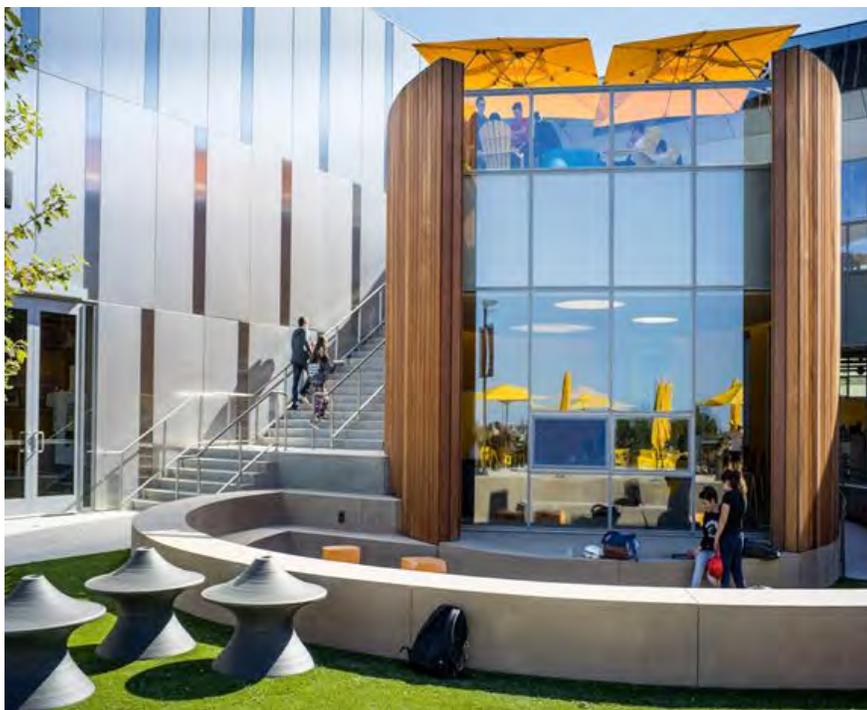
## **Upper and Middle School Head Position Statement**

**Irvine, California**  
**July 1, 2022**



## THE CAMPUS

In a part of California where homes and buildings tend to be cheek-by-jowl, the TVT campus strikes one as vast, with expansive playing fields, bright buildings and plantings everywhere to be seen, a carpool lane so long that it could never bother anyone in the neighborhood; everything about the campus says, "This is a special place." And indeed it is. Modern buildings suggest a modern approach to teaching and learning. The latest in technology and equipment comes as no surprise but the touches of do, some whimsy, others poignant: two lengthy steel slides connect the Middle and Lower Schools to speed students on their way from one to the other; a beautiful "Garden of Hope" of ceramic flowers made by elementary children and their grandparents honors the children lost in the Holocaust.



TVT's palette is bright and cheerful. Dozens of Adirondack chairs in soft shades of orange, yellow, and green are scattered around the campus for student use. Inviting nooks and planters invite students to sit and chat or study quietly. In a part of the world where rain is infrequent, the flower beds are filled with succulents and drought-resistant vegetation. The outdoor ambiance encourages a casual but respectful environment that is mirrored inside the buildings. There one finds spacious classrooms and specialist facilities that include an Ideation Lab, Design Studio, wood shop, a fabrication lab that's equipped beyond the imagination, a film lab, photography studio, art rooms, a kiln, and a black box theater. The halls are lined with lock-less lockers, called "lubbies," and there are climbing walls, a two-court gym, regulation soccer fields, and even a kosher learning kitchen!

## MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FACULTY

The 40-some MS and US faculty tend to teach at multiple grade levels; only six are uniquely attached to the Middle School. The normal teaching load is five classes with two preps. A heterogeneous student body enables the curriculum to include AP classes as well as opportunities for students with learning differences. Differentiated instruction is the norm and a goal of the faculty is “to make sure the C-student who is pedaling as hard as possible is honored as much as the National Merit Scholar.” Not surprisingly, in a school with such an academic spread, the college counseling staff works hard to find the best fit for its students. In Middle and Upper Schools there is a rotating block schedule that includes a Town Hall on Wednesday when TVT is able to put into practice its commitment to student participation and giving students voice. The overriding ethos among the faculty is to “honor our students while they’re here and make them feel valuable and good about who they are and what they do.”

TVT is determinedly pluralistic, reflecting the very secular nature of the area’s Jewish community. Twenty-two percent of the students are of another faith and whereas Jewish Studies frequently represent at least half the daily schedule of Jewish day schools, at TVT it’s a quarter of the time. The Board embraced this commitment to pluralism with the arrival of the current Head in 2010, with the result that there is tremendous satisfaction with the school and its ability to attract high-performing Jewish students as well as students from other traditions who come for the academic experience at TVT. Indeed, as a result, Niche has rated TVT the top Jewish day school in America and the Number One independent school in Orange County.





## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Independent schools often speak of the alignment of their curricula and their divisions; at TVT the alignment of the administration is significant as well because the senior leadership team is all-in when it comes to the school's Mission and to working together. Deans, college counselors, the CFO, the Athletic and Admissions Directors, the Head – there is a real sense not only of unity but also of affection and respect. This is a school where people like, respect, and enjoy one another.

It is worth spending a moment on TVT's finances because they are so unusual: here we have a beautiful campus, equipped to the nth degree, with plenty of space and buildings, and a recently completed \$60-Million building and remodeling campaign – all this with **no debt**. While *Independent School* magazine contains an ad each issue highlighting schools that have floated bonds to build buildings and obligate future families to pay off these bonds, TVT has built its campus the old-fashioned way – by raising the money! An Annual Fund currently contributing \$800,000 buttresses the operating budget and helps make possible a competitive salary schedule that ranges from \$58,000 to \$125,000 for full-time teachers. There is a tuition assistance program for teachers in which 25% remission is standard and all faculty children who apply are admitted. (Current tuition levels range from \$25,000 in the Lower School to \$27,000 in Middle and \$32,000 in Upper.) Roughly one-third of families receive Financial Aid, which amounts to around \$2 Million or 16% of the school's operating budget. Moreover, TVT is that rare school that actually funds Plant Renewal and Replacement – to the tune of a million dollars per year. (Talk about good management – wow!)





## THE MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL HEAD

The current MS/US Head, Jill Quigley, will become TVT's next Head of School on July 1, 2022. She is a team-oriented, collaborative leader who is clear about her goals and intentions and decisive in her leadership style. Her preference in her successor is for someone who has already been a division head as her focus will be on managing TVT's growth to 750 or more and the hiring and fundraising it will necessitate. The next MS/US Head can expect to have as direct reports the deans from both divisions, the academic department heads, the director of college counseling, the athletic and admissions directors, and the divisions' counselor. A challenge for the next Division Head will be to incorporate character development, positive psychology, and the school's values into the daily life of the school and make it part of the fabric of every student's experience. As Ms. Quigley puts it, "I want faculty who will get down in the pit of adolescent angst and despair and say, 'I've been here myself; let's work together to get you out.'" She adds, "This is our culture. This is what we do – we take care of our students' well-being." It is, truly, a school where academics are important but character is paramount.

## WHAT NEXT?

TVT is a terrific place. This job is a wonderful opportunity for someone who seeks to be part of a dynamic team in a growth-oriented school whose attentiveness to student well-being is profound. While the preference might be for someone who has already been a division head, that is not a requisite. Similarly, while the preference might be for someone who is Jewish, neither is that a requisite. What is requisite is that the next MS/US Head be team-oriented and student-centered, experienced in an independent school of academic distinction, possessed of a sense of humor and a never-quit work ethic, and the desire to work with a high-functioning team surrounded by enthusiastic students and colleagues in one of the most attractive climates and environments anywhere in the world. We're looking for a self-starter, someone with initiative who's organized and who has the ability to attend to the details of the position without losing sight of the big picture of leading a growing division. Maintaining the relational nature of the divisions as the school grows and requires new processes and procedures will be a challenge but the kind of do-able challenge that should make you want to tackle it and make it happen.

Sound appealing? If so, please contact us. To make formal application, visit the RG175 website (<https://rg175.com/candidate/signup>) and register as a candidate. We will want a cover letter detailing your interest in the position at TVT, a *curriculum vitae*, and a copy of something you've written – it could be a statement of educational philosophy or an article you've written for a school publication, a letter to parents, a speech to the students; what we want is something that gives us some insight into how you express yourself and what makes you tick. We look forward to hearing from you.

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