

Volunteer to Teach a World Language at Monkton Central School

Do you love speaking Spanish, French or another World Language?

Do you like being with young children ages 7—12?

Would you enjoy helping children to hear, speak, read and write a World Language?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, then you are a perfect candidate to volunteer for the World Language Program at Monkton Central School.

Monkton Central School is a K-6 elementary school in rural Vermont (located about 15 miles north of Middlebury). Since 2002, there has been a successful program at Monkton Central School where Middlebury students volunteer to teach a World language, mostly French, Spanish, Chinese. The program is a valuable complement to the academic curriculum, and is strongly supported by the teachers, school principal and PTO... and is thoroughly enjoyed by Middlebury and Monkton students.

What is the volunteer opportunity?

Middlebury College student volunteers teach in pairs in elementary classrooms, where you will be responsible for planning and conducting six weekly 50 minute classes in a World Language. Generally, the class size ranges from 18-24 children, and the teacher will remain in the room during the session.

Our volunteers are valued members of the educational team, and have support systems designed to assist and support teaching in class. All volunteers must attend the **required orientation** to the teaching environment. The mentor-liaison meets with volunteers on a regular basis to debrief and brainstorm and to share ideas about teaching activities and approaches. In addition, you can always bring your needs – such as for materials, or help with classroom management or curriculum issues – to the mentor-liaison, the classroom teacher, or the principal.

What kind of volunteer is needed’?

The ideal volunteer candidate is someone who enjoys interacting with children; loves speaking Spanish, French, or Chinese; and would like the opportunity to teach one of those languages in an elementary classroom setting.

What are the logistics and commitments? (dates, days, times)

Pre-teaching Orientation: Monday February 18, 6:30-7:30, Twilight 201

On-site Orientation: typically arrive early on first teaching day, OR we can schedule a different time

Teaching slots: Wednesdays or Thursdays, about 1 hour between 12:30 and 3 PM.

Time commitment: :Arrival time for teaching is 10 minutes ahead of class starting time; also, plan to meet once for a 20 minute after class feedback session with the Mentor-Liaison.

Please be aware that you will become a valued member of the teaching team at Monkton Central School. The students and teachers will come to rely upon you, and look forward to you being with us on the days scheduled. We ask that you make every effort to be at Monkton to teach on these days. We also understand that unforeseen circumstances do occur. This is one of the reasons for the team-teaching approach. If one member of the team cannot make it, the other person will be able to teach the class alone.

In the unusual instance where both volunteers cannot come to teach, please proceed as follows: at least 24 hours in advance, contact both the classroom teacher and Jen Stanley, the Mentor-Liaison. We also ask that you plan to make up the class at the end of the session, working out the dates with Jen and the classroom teacher.

A travel allowance of \$50.00 per person is available at the end of the session. We do also offer reimbursement if you need to borrow a Zip Car to be onsite, and travel reimbursement is available through Middlebury College EIA (details available).

Contact Information

Monkton Central School
PO Box 40
1036 Monkton Road
Monkton, VT, 05469
802-453-2314

Name	Role	Phone number	Email
Cindy Castle	School secretary	802-453-2314	ccastle@anesu.org
Susan Stewart	Principal	802-453-2314 x11	sstewart@anesu.org
Jen Stanley	Mentor-Liaison	802-238-2615	jstanley@wildblue.net

Getting to Monkton:

You will need a car to get to Monkton, and the coordinator will help put students together considering transportation needed. You can also rent a car from Middlebury College and share the ride. Use the \$50 transportation stipend to pay for gas.

Directions to Monkton Central School (from Middlebury) – takes about 30-40 minutes

1. Take Rte 7 north for about 5 miles until you come to New Haven Junction
2. Cross the railroad tracks, and take your next right turn onto Lime Kiln Road. Stay on Lime Kiln Road for the next 4 miles, until the road comes to a "T" with Barnumtown Road
3. Turn right onto Barnumtown road (bearing right when you come to a "Y")
4. In about 3 miles, you will see Monkton Central School on your left.

-OR-

This might take a little longer

1. Take Rte 7 north for about 5 miles until you come to New Haven Junction
2. Turn right onto Route 17, before you cross the railroad tracks
3. Continue about 2 ½ miles to the intersection of Route 116
4. Turn left onto Burpee Road (heading north, at the blinking light)
5. Continue on Burpee Road for about a mile, until you merge with the Monkton-Bristol road.
6. Continue on the Monkton-Bristol road for about 5 ½ miles until you come to a STOP sign at the beginning of the village.
7. Take a sharp left turn to the left. The Monkton pond will be on your right along the road.
8. After about ½ mile, turn right into the Monkton Central school.