



## Position Announcement: Dean of Student Life

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The Storm King School is an 8th-12th grade, co-educational, college preparatory boarding/day school of 180 students. Our students come from throughout the US and 23 countries. We are located in the spectacular Hudson Highlands, overlooking the Hudson River and surrounded by 6,000 acres of green space made up of Black Rock Forest and Storm King State Park.

We are seeking a dynamic, experienced Dean of Student Life to join our leadership team. The Dean of Student Life will set the vision, direction, tone, and structures for residential and day students' experiences outside of the classroom, focused on students' wellness, mental health, personal growth, community engagement, socio-emotional development, and safety. The Dean of Students will report directly to the Associate Head of School, serve as a member of the School's senior leadership team, and will meet frequently with the Head of School. The Dean of Students will oversee the Associate Dean of Students, School Counselor, and residential life team, and will work closely with the Dean of Faculty, Associate Head of School, Director of Athletics, and other administrators to ensure a joyful, mission-focused, and supportive environment for our students.

### Primary Responsibilities:

- Oversee all student life and experiences for boarding and day students, focused on students' wellness, mental health, personal growth, community engagement, socio-emotional development, and safety.
- In partnership with the Associate Dean of Student Life, lead, empower, train, and support faculty in their residential life roles, including dorm parents, Deans on Duty, and off-campus faculty.
- Proactively create systems, events, and communications that reflect the School's mission and values, support faculty, and promote a community spirit among students.
- In partnership with the Admissions Office, plan, facilitate, and support affirmative and comprehensive onboarding and orientation processes for new students, and closely communicate around student enrollment and retention.
- Work in close partnership with the Dean of Faculty, Associate Dean of Student Life, and Associate Head of School to ensure close communication and collaboration between academics and student life.
- Facilitate and lead regular student support meetings with interdepartmental teams to proactively address students' needs and crisis management as appropriate. Work in partnership with the Associate Head of School and Student Health Services in overseeing on-and off-campus health leaves and other needed support.
- Build authentic relationships with individual students, student leaders, and student groups that encourage cohesiveness, agency, voice, equity, and an inclusive culture while also maintaining healthy professional boundaries.
- Provide oversight for weekend and evening campus coverages, attend all Formal Dinners, All School Meetings, and other significant student events.
- Collaborate with the Director of Communications to develop a communication plan sharing the vision for the student life program with families and relevant stakeholders, serving as the key administrative contact about School values, expectations, policies, and the student life experience at The Storm King School.
- Lead and oversee school disciplinary processes, including structuring and facilitating disciplinary meetings, and managing disciplinary decisions and subsequent communication to families and students.



- Partner with the Dean of Faculty and Head of School regarding the faculty housing process and assignment of faculty duties
- In collaboration with the CFOO, oversee and manage the Student Life budget
- Lead and oversee school disciplinary processes, including facilitating disciplinary meetings, and managing disciplinary decisions and subsequent communication to families and students.
- With the Head of School, ensure compliance with legal requirements of government regulations and agencies, and maintain the educational standards established by the state and by those agencies that examine and accredit the school.
- Promote an inclusive and positive working environment, team collaboration, and shared accountability across the community environment in support of students.

**Qualifications:** In addition to the qualities and skills noted above, the ideal candidate will have demonstrated:

- Genuine enjoyment of and effectiveness in working with adolescents and their families.
- Substantial administrative leadership experience, including responsibility for strategic planning, program development, management, and budgetmaking. Preferred: Experience as a school leader in a boarding school environment.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Effectiveness in managing complex tasks and programs, solving problems, prioritizing among competing demands for time and attention, and driving projects to completion with a collaborative spirit.
- Excellent cultural competency and experience working in an internationally diverse community of colleagues, students, and parents.
- Ability to engage in self-evaluation with regard to leadership, performance and professional growth, and a sense of humor, warmth, and a willingness to bring joy to the work.
- Experience as a school leader in a role associated with student life, preferably in a boarding school environment.
- Preferred: teach one class, and/or coach one season of a sport.
- Bachelor's degree required; Master's preferred.
- New York State Driver's License required; can be acquired shortly after being hired.
- Successful completion of background check

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary range \$80,000-90,000 depending on experience. The position includes on-campus housing, and a full range of benefits are included.

**How to Apply:** Please send a cover letter and resume to: **Lisa Shambaugh, Head of School**, via email at [employment@sks.org](mailto:employment@sks.org).

**Website:** [www.sks.org](http://www.sks.org)

*The Storm King School is committed to equal employment opportunity. We will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment on any legally-recognized basis ["protected class"] including, but not limited to: veteran status, uniform service member status, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information or any other protected class under federal, state, or local law.*