CLASS TITLE: HEAVY GROUNDS EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
FORMER TITLE: HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of Director - Grounds & Transportation, operate a variety of heavy equipment involved in grounds maintenance activities; perform related maintenance, construction and repair duties as assigned; trim, clean and maintain planted and unplanted areas of the campus.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
Operate a variety of heavy equipment involved in grounds maintenance activities such as trucks, street sweepers, heavy-duty hydraulic packing trash trucks, tractors, loaders, backhoe, mowers and a variety of turf and landscape equipment; perform various turf maintenance practices on lawns and athletic fields.

Fill, level, roll, smooth, and prepare ground for planting; haul materials and distribute where needed.

Operate street sweeper and clean parking lot.

Perform minor preventative maintenance work and minor repairs on grounds equipment; check fluids, adjust, lubricate, perform safety inspections; defer regular maintenance and repairs to the mechanics.

Calibrate and operate equipment for proper application of seed, fertilizer or chemicals; spray landscaped areas with pesticides as assigned; record application information on proper forms.

Plant, prune, cultivate, fertilize, nurture, transplant, weed, and rake lawns, flower beds, trees, bushes, and shrubbery as assigned.

On athletic fields, level as necessary, drag, line and prepare for events.

OTHER DUTIES:
Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:
Operation and maintenance of heavy equipment used in grounds maintenance such as trucks, street sweepers, heavy-duty hydraulic packing trash trucks, tractors, loaders, backhoe, mowers and a variety of mechanized turf and landscape equipment.
Materials, large complex tools, and procedures used in grounds maintenance.

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District policies and procedures.
General safety precautions related to the operation and routine maintenance of heavy grounds equipment.
Methods, equipment and materials used in general maintenance work.
Proper lifting techniques.
Oral and written communication skills.
Legal and defensive driving practices.
Basic record-keeping techniques.

ABILITY TO:
Operate a variety of heavy equipment involved in grounds maintenance activities.
Perform related maintenance, landscape installation and renovation duties as assigned.
Maintain heavy grounds equipment in a safe and operative condition.
Service assigned equipment.
Observe legal and defensive driving practices.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Work cooperatively with others.
Maintain routine records related to work performed.
Observe health and safety regulations.
Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
Work independently with little direction.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:
Any combination equivalent to: 1 to 2 years experience at a skilled level in the operation of large turf and landscape equipment.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:
Valid California Driver’s License.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:
Outdoor work environment.
Seasonal heat and cold or adverse weather conditions.
Exposure to fumes, dust, odors, oil/grease, gases.
Driving a vehicle to conduct work.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate grounds maintenance equipment.
Sitting and riding equipment for extended periods of time.
Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching.
Walking or standing for extended periods of time.
Lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling heavy objects weighing 50 lbs or more as assigned by position.
Heavy physical labor.
Seeing to operate ground equipment.
Climbing in and out of grounds equipment.

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HAZARDS:
Exposure to chemicals used in pest control and weed abatement.
Working around and with machinery having moving parts.