



JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 171

Preparing The Next Generation To Thrive



Vacancy Announcement: 2026 – 2027 School Year

Date: January 26, 2026

Position: Occupational Therapist

Location: Joint School District 171

Joint School District 171 is seeking a dedicated and compassionate Occupational Therapist to join our Special Education team. Located in the heart of the Clearwater Valley, we offer world-class outdoor recreation in your backyard, all with a low cost of living and a tight-knit community feel.

Why JSD 171?

- Work-Life Balance: Enjoy the 4-day school week.
- Impact: Be the "resident expert" in a small, supportive team where your voice is heard.
- Financial Perks: Qualify for Federal Student Loan Forgiveness (up to \$17,500) and competitive rural school salary schedule.
- Competitive Benefits: We offer a comprehensive benefits package including health insurance, PERSI retirement, and professional development support.

Job Summary

The Occupational Therapist at Joint School District 171 serves as a vital member of the special education team, dedicated to enhancing students' functional independence and participation in the educational environment. In this role, you will evaluate and support students (K-12) with diverse physical, sensory, and cognitive challenges, ensuring they have the tools and adaptations necessary to access their curriculum. The OT will collaborate with educators and families to integrate therapeutic strategies directly into the classroom, fostering an inclusive culture where every student can achieve their personal best.

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct formal and informal assessments to determine students' needs in areas such as fine motor skills, sensory processing, and activities of daily living (ADLs).
- Collaborate with teachers, parents, and specialists to create Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) with measurable, student-centered goals.
- Provide individual and group therapy sessions to help students overcome barriers to learning.
- Work closely with classroom teachers to implement environmental modifications and assistive technology.
- Maintain accurate records of student progress, treatment plans, and Medicaid billing where applicable.

Qualifications

- Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from an accredited program.
- Valid Idaho Department of Education Occupational Therapist License (or eligibility to obtain one).
- NBCOT Certification.
- Strong communication, a collaborative spirit, and a genuine love for working with children of all ages (K-12).
- Maintain confidentiality of staff and students
- Applicant must be able to pass a criminal background check and drug screening.

Salary

Contingent based on education and experience.

2025-2026 Certified Salary Schedule: <https://orofinojsd171.schoolinsites.com/salaryschedules>

This position qualifies for a \$5,000 annual stipend.

Benefits

Employee medical, vision, and dental insurance coverage paid 100% by the district. Family benefits paid at 80% coverage. \$20,000 employee life insurance and \$2,000 dependent life insurance paid by the district. Eligible for PERSI retirement.

Closing Date: Open until filled

Start Date: August 2026

Schedule: Four-day school week with periodic Friday work days. 174 contract days per year.

Direct Inquiries: Cody Weddle, Special Education Director: 208-476-5593 or weddlec@jsd171.org

Applications Available:

<https://orofinojsd171.schoolinsites.com/employmentopportunities>

Select Occupational Therapist Application

email HR@jsd171.org

Central Office- 1145 Riverside Ave. Orofino, ID 83544

Return application materials to Human Resources: HR@jsd171.org

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