

SOCIAL WORKER VACANCY CIRCULAR

School Name: Jamaica Children's School

District: 28

School Site: 109-20 UNION HALL STREET, QUEENS, NY 11433

Send Cover Letter and Resume to: JamaicaChildrensSchool@gmail.com

POSITIONS

Social Worker

DESCRIPTION

At Jamaica Children's School, we provide a safe and nurturing environment where every child is given the space, opportunity, and support they need to discover their passions and achieve challenging academic and social goals. Our highly engaging curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, joyful exploration, and self-reflection. Guided by our core values of empathy, grit, inquiry, creativity, and voice, our students graduate with the confidence, knowledge, and skills necessary to become lifelong learners and leaders in their community.

Our community of learners will consist of dedicated, motivated, creative, and highly qualified educators and staff who are committed to working as a collaborative team to ensure our students are reaching their full academic and personal potential. Our long-term vision is to extend learning beyond the walls of the classroom through family and community partnerships.

We are looking for educators with a commitment to creating an environment in which every child feels significant and valued. We seek teachers who believe in maintaining the highest expectations for every child's academic and personal growth and who are also committed to their own professional growth.

An 8-10-day summer planning institute will offer an essential opportunity for staff to be involved in developing the school's culture and instructional program. Because we believe that all staff members play an important role in the education of our students, the school will offer opportunities for social workers to support and participate in activities such as:

- After-school and/or Saturday tutoring programs, enrichment, sports, arts, and family programs
- In-house school committees and/or special programs
- Daytime professional development such as inquiry work and collaborative conversation among staff members
- Book Study Clubs (professional texts) all year long

Advance notice of dates will be supplied, and those who participate will be compensated according to the terms of the UFT contract. Staff participation in these activities is voluntary, although strongly encouraged, as they are very important to the development of the school.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Licensed certified Social Worker in New York City schools with satisfactory ratings and attendance.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Because roles in small schools are varied and complex, serious consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate in their resume and cover letter experience and/or willingness to commit to the school's mission and core beliefs and to become involved in these essential aspects:

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- Practicing counseling to facilitate professional growth and collaboration that supports overall learning environment for students
- Participating in regular faculty development, reflective practice, professional organizations, peer coaching and Critical Friends Group work
- Counseling students, individually and in groups, regarding discipline, social and emotional development, substance abuse, conflict mediation, and making appropriate referrals
- Maintaining regular and open communication with parents
- Developing and maintaining partnerships with participating educational institutions, industry partners, and community-based organizations to support school initiatives including job shadowing, internships, and other academic opportunities
- Having an open door policy for all members of the school community
- Providing strategies and work with teachers to promote social and emotional competence in the classroom
- Providing support to teachers to assess and address students' social and emotional needs
- Developing and supporting experiential half-day curriculum to support student growth
- Participating in community outreach events that foster healthy family involvement
- Working collaboratively with staff and families to address attendance issues and help improve students' attendance
- Working collaboratively with staff to ensure services are most effectively organized for students

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Success in forming successful partnerships with community-based organizations and other organizations that offer social and emotional supports to students
- Knowledge of or ability to make referrals for students in need of additional services or alternative placements
- Evidence of successful counseling strategies with regard to discipline, social and emotional development, substance abuse, and conflict mediation
- Clinical experience addressing contemporary issues that affect youth living in high poverty communities
- Ability to provide strategies to staff in promoting social and emotional competence throughout the school
- Evidence of success with students who exhibit academic, social, and/or emotional struggles, English Language Learners, students with special needs, and their families
- Ability to intervene in crisis situations with verbal de-escalation techniques
- Evidence of success leading workshops and discussions with/for parents
- Strong leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills
- Ability to effectively communicate orally and writing with colleagues, parents, students, and the community
- Commitment to continuous professional growth (e.g. professional development, formal education, professional literature)
- Ability and/or willingness to learn to use Microsoft PowerPoint and Excel

In addition to the cover letter, resume, and interview, applicants must present three references including, if possible, one from a current supervisor. Other references might include a colleague with whom the applicant has collaborated, and/or a professional organization or staff development representative.

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WORK SCHEDULE & SALARY

As per Collective Bargaining Agreement