

PARAPROFESSIONAL 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

Paraprofessional

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 paraprofessionals to participate in activities like:

- In-house school committees and/or special programs

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

UFT Paraprofessionals hired after 2004 must have a Level 1 NYSED Teaching Assistant Certificate.

UFT Paraprofessionals hired before 2004 currently on DOE payroll are eligible for this position.

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:

- Working within a non-traditional school schedule and organization structure that meets the needs of English Language learners and students requiring special education services
- Working with teachers to implement an integrated curriculum and student-centered environment

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- Supporting students in the classroom
- Contributing to student observation and documentation files
- Collaborating with individual teachers and teacher teams to provide targeted, small group and one-on-one instructional support to students
- Collaborating with teachers to create a learning environment where students' emotional and social needs are met through conflict resolution, peer mediation, collaborative learning, team building activities, etc.
- Seeking professional growth experiences, and contributing to the professional growth of colleagues

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Willingness to carry out the above duties and responsibilities
- Ability to assist teachers in implementing reading and writing strategies in daily lessons
- Ability to assist teachers in implementing mathematical and scientific strategies in daily lessons
- Ability to assist teachers in implementing study skills and organizational strategies in daily lessons
- Ability to work with classroom teachers to implement collaborative learning activities
- Strong student management skills
- Ability to professionally and effectively communicate orally and in writing with colleagues and students
- Ability to work in teams and collaborate and support school wide initiatives to support student engagement and learning
- Commitment to continuous professional growth (i.e. professional development, formal education, outside reading)
- Experience or willingness to learn how to support the use of technology in the classroom to improve student learning
- Ability to assist teachers in all independent, partner, group and whole class projects, work and activities
- Excellent attendance, punctuality and organizational skills

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.

WORK SCHEDULE & SALARY

As per Collective Bargaining Agreement