



ORGANIZATION	ENVISION SCHOOLS COLORADO
POSITION	SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER (SECONDARY SCHOOL)
LOCATION	DENVER, CO
REPORTS TO	PRINCIPAL

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER (SECONDARY) POSITION DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND

Envision Schools Colorado (ESC) is a fast-growing nonprofit charter management organization (CMO) in Denver, Colorado. Our vision is to expand to a total of six 6-12th grade schools serving over 4,000 students in the Denver metro area by 2020.

Our first school, Envision Leadership Prep, opened in August 2009 in the Park Hill neighborhood of northeast Denver. Our second school will also be located in an area of Denver that has been traditionally underserved. Locations for the remaining four schools remain to be determined but will be in metro Denver districts. Our schools are small, safe, vibrant learning communities, where, even at full enrollment, each school serves about 700 students in grades 6 through 12.

Our mission is to transform the lives of each and every student by preparing them for success in college and in life. Our academic and instructional model is based on a proven, highly successful project-based learning model developed in California, where over 90% of high school graduates have attended two- or four-year colleges. We incorporate a rigorous interdisciplinary approach with integrated arts and technology throughout the curriculum. In this way, we instill the critical thinking, life experience, and creative skills necessary for students to be successful in college and beyond.

What's more, as a CMO we are committed to removing administrative obstacles for principals and teachers so that they can focus intensively on instruction and student learning. To this end, we maintain a central support team to provide comprehensive services to the schools, including professional development, student data assessment, curriculum development, and operational back-office services such as payroll, benefits administration, fundraising, facilities, human resources, and technology.

If this culture and environment sounds like a place where you think you could thrive, please review the following responsibilities and qualifications. We would be delighted to receive your expression of interest.

OPPORTUNITY

- **Are you a highly collaborative, dedicated, passionate teacher who enjoys hands-on project-based learning?**
- **Do you want to work in a student-centered environment of respect and trust with high expectations for all students to prepare for and go to college?**
- **Do you want to be part of a tightly integrated team that cultivates and sustains student success through exemplary teaching and through building a positive, strong professional culture that supports continuous learning for both student and teachers alike?**
- **Do you thrive in a growing, entrepreneurial environment?**
- **Do you enjoy small schools where your voice counts?**

If so, then this is a remarkable opportunity for you. We are currently seeking dynamic individuals with the following qualifications and experience as a **Secondary Special Education Teacher** this fall!

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Demonstrate a clear commitment to adult development and learning, dialogue, collaboration and growth in his/her Professional Practice
- Possess a clear and effective Pedagogy that embodies our instructional model
- Understand and apply effective strategies (e.g. Intervention, differentiation, extension) and best practices (e.g. models, think-alouds, protocols, mini-lessons, multiple drafts, peer critique, reflection, effective group work) to ensure student success
- Implement Project, Problem and/or Inquiry-based instruction aligned with standards and outcome based / performance assessments
- Provide active & rigorous experiences for students
- Plan for various student needs (including use of developmentally appropriate materials)
- Use and integrate arts and technology in classroom and project instruction
- Serves as an Advisor to a small group of students
- Know students well, regularly meet with and follow-up with students, advocate for and represent students' needs with family members and within the school community
- Maintain open and consistent communication about student progress, concerns and achievement with families and the school community

- Hold students accountable to upholding school wide rules and expectations (social and academic)
- Accept responsibility for monitoring students' progress toward graduation
- Mentor and support students' development of the academic and social skills, practices and attitudes necessary to be successful in college and the workplace, emphasizing an increasing proficiency in 21st Century Leadership Skills

TEACHER ENVIRONMENT

Classroom-Related

- Small student-to-teacher ratios
- Classrooms equipped with state-of-the-art-technology and a laptop computer for professional use
- Meet cooperatively with parents on a scheduled basis to share information about students
- Ample planning time to support a collaborative teaching and learning environment
- Teach your subject area course, serve as an advisor to approximately 25 students, and teach one elective course and/or supervise a student club
- Design and implement project-based curriculum around current events, personal backgrounds, historical realities while integrating academic competency with 21st century skills
- Know your students well, develop a strong sense of community in the classroom, and personalize each student's learning experience
- Accountability and support for student performance toward identified standards

School-Related

- Membership in a supportive professional learning community that fosters respect, trust, risk-taking, an openness to learning and the sharing of ideas, and to continuously improving practice
- Collaboration as a member of a team that often includes guest artists and/or experts from the community in the designing of projects, curriculum and student outcomes
- A demanding learning environment that requires staff to be flexible and problem-solvers who manage ambiguity and adversity well
- Dedication to the vision and best practices of Envision Schools Colorado, both in the classroom and as a professional learning community

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will:

- Be a high-energy self-starter and problem solver
- Embrace the mission, vision, and goals of Envision Schools Colorado
- Have knowledge, experience and/or credentials appropriate to this position description
- Be positive, thoughtful, passionate, articulate, motivating, and empowering
- Be able to identify and resolve problems resourcefully
- Have excellent written and verbal communications skills
- Be computer savvy, with proficiency in email, word processing, spreadsheets, etc.

SALARY & BENEFITS

This is a full-time position with highly competitive compensation based on your qualifications and experience. We also provide a broad array of benefits, including health, dental, disability, life/AD&D, and pension/retirement.

HIRING PROCESS

Envision Schools Colorado will accept applications until the position is filled and invite select candidates for interviews. Unfortunately, due to the large number of applications we receive, we are unable to respond directly to all applicants. Hiring is contingent upon successful completion of employment verification and hiring process.

Please submit the following by email to jobs@envisionschoolscolorado.org

- In your email subject line, include this Position Title exactly as it appears above.
- In your cover letter, please address the following questions:
 1. What specifically makes Envision Schools Colorado a good fit for you?
 2. Describe how your previous experience, including examples, relates to this position.
 3. Describe your ideal work environment and culture.
- Resume

Envision Schools Colorado is strongly committed to hiring a diverse, multicultural staff and encourages applications from African-American, Latino and other traditionally under-represented backgrounds.

For more information on Envision Schools Colorado, please visit us at www.envisionschoolscolorado.org