### PARAPROFESSIONAL VACANCY CIRCULAR

**School Name:** Virtual Innovators Academy

District: 08

School Site: 916 Eagle Ave, Bronx, NY 10456 and/or 131 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Send Cover Letter, Resume and Portfolio to: info@virtualacademynyc.org

# POSITIONS

Paraprofessional

## **DESCRIPTION**

Virtual Innovators Academy is a fully virtual high school. Our mission is to provide NYC high school students with rigorous, personalized, state of the art instruction within an interdisciplinary, project-based approach so that they can positively impact their communities.

We will ensure a productive, diverse community of learners willing to take suitable risks, learn from their mistakes, and support one another as we examine social problems, peak social awareness, develop social conscience and work toward personal and communal growth. Learning outcomes are drawn from the 4C's of 21<sup>st</sup> century learning: communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity to create online learning environments for students, their peers, instructors and guest experts to collaborate on compelling, challenge-based projects in key content areas.

A 2 day summer planning the last week of August will offer an essential opportunity 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:

- After school and/or Saturday tutoring, enrichment, sports, arts, and family programs
- 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 includes 80 minute blocks and meets the needs of English Language learners and students requiring special education services
- Supporting students in the classroom
- Contributing to student observation and documentation files

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- Collaborating with individual teachers and teacher teams to provide targeted, small group and one-on-one instructional support to students
- Working with teachers to implement an integrated curriculum and student-centered environment
- 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, writing, 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