1-18-18 Elementary School Garden Educator, Part-Time, Dolores Mission School, Los Angeles (Boyle Heights), Open Until Filled

Job Title

Elementary School Garden Educator

Agency

Dolores Mission School

Location

170 S Gless Street, Los Angeles 90033 (Boyle Heights)

Pay Rate

Negotiable -- payment is hourly, based upon experience and hours needed at the school.

Overview

Dolores Mission School was founded in 1952 and has been supported by the Jesuit order since 1980. Located in the “flats” of Boyle Heights, which historically has been known as the most impoverished area in Los Angeles, Dolores Mission church and school stand as strong pillars in the community who walk along with the neediest members of our community. Dolores Mission School currently enrolls 250 students in grades transitional kindergarten through eighth grade. Our student population is 97% Latino, about 65% of our students live in monolingual homes and 40% of our students would be classified as English Language Learners. Dolores Mission School validates the challenges of working in an urban community and the necessary work required to create change. The school recognizes that the success of such a school community is deeply rooted in the commitment, contributions and support of each team member. We are seeking a resilient and self-motivated, individual that is committed to working with others to sustain an excellent academic program in an urban environment.

Job Description

The Garden Educator is a part-time position that offers critical support to teachers and students to ensure that a school can maximize the educational potential of the garden. The Garden Educator leads garden science and nutrition education classes, while providing professional development training for teachers in the process. The Garden Educator acts as a resource for teachers as they plan their own cross-curricular lessons in the outdoor classroom, and models skills that teachers need to feel comfortable using the garden to teach science standards.

Responsibilities

• Facilitates garden science classes, incorporating both environmental science and nutrition education as they relate to the garden

• Works closely with classroom teachers to develop lessons that support classroom teaching in a range of curriculum areas, including science, social studies, mathematics, language arts, etc.

• Oversees and coordinates students’ hands-on experiences in the garden - planting, tending, harvesting and cooking

• Builds involvement in and commitment to the school garden within the school community, including teachers, administrators, students, parents and community volunteers

• Builds capacity within the school by co-teaching with classroom teachers, and developing teacher skills in outdoor classroom management techniques

• Maintains the garden, coordinating volunteers to secure all needed supplies

• Facilitate 3-4 garden-based education classes per day, two days each week

• Manage the school garden, plan and prepare for garden work activities, manage planting schedule, ensure availability of tools and other necessary materials

• Maintain open garden time schedule for teachers

• Attend school wide faculty meetings once a quarter or as needed

• Coordinate community garden events to bring students, families, teachers and community members together

• Coordinate school-wide garden events, in which students prepare and serve garden-grown salad for the entire school at lunch

• Attend grade level meetings on a monthly basis for collaborations and core curriculum alignment

• Monitor, document and report on all activities and extent of student and teacher participation

• Attend faculty retreats twice per year

Required Skills and Experience:

• At least 2-3 years of facilitation or teaching experience with youth aged 5-12 (outdoor group management experience preferred)

• Knowledge and skills in small-scale organic food production or home gardening

• Knowledge of or interest in topics including urban gardening, botany, environmental science, health and nutrition, food systems, food access

• Demonstrated ability to work with diverse populations including youth and adults

• Strong oral and written communication skills, including public speaking skills

• Ability to work independently and be flexible

• Computer skills and project management skills

Application Mode

Please email a cover letter, resume and an essay explaining why you would like to work in an urban

setting to mjara@dolores-mission.org

Application Deadline

Open Until Filled

Contact for further information

mjara@dolores-mission.org