

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

A Partnership between Germantown Academy and Project H.O.M.E.

Contact Information

Name: Community Partnership School (CPS)
Contact: K. Linn Vaughters, Director of Enrollment
Address: 1936 N. Judson St., Philadelphia, PA 19121
Phone Number: (215) 235-0461
Email Address: l.vaughters@communitypartnershipschool.org
Website: www.communitypartnershipschool.org

Organization Overview

Community Partnership School was founded in 2006 by Germantown Academy, the nation's oldest non-sectarian day school in the U.S., and Project H.O.M.E., the fastest growing social service non-profit in Philadelphia, to address achievement gap concerns in North Philadelphia and, by extension, the city. CPS is a private, independent school serving 85 students in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth.

Located in an under-resourced neighborhood in North Philadelphia, CPS offers low-wealth, low-income families a high-quality, affordable elementary school alternative for their children. The need for quality school alternatives in Philadelphia, specifically in the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood in which our school is located, is enormous. 66% of adults in our zip code area do not have a high school diploma and 96% lack a bachelor's degree. The average SAT verbal score for students attending neighborhood high schools is 300 points (out of 800). Additionally, just two years ago, more than 75% of the students in our neighborhood who actually graduated from high school failed some portion of the annual standardized test administered state-wide that spring. Now its sixth year of operation, CPS launched its first class of fifth grade graduates in June 2011. Members of the class of 2011 were accepted into 6th grade classrooms at some of Philadelphia's most prestigious and rigorous middle schools, including: Greene Street Friends School, Hope Partnership for Education, Independence Charter School, KIPP Charter School, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy, Springside School, Young Scholars Charter School, and William Penn Charter School (PC).

Position Detail

Title: Enrollment & Placement Associate

Responsibilities

Coordinate and Maintain Alumni Support Initiatives

Community Partnership School is committed to the lifelong academic, social and emotional growth and success of its students, even after they no longer matriculated at the School. Through our Alumni Support Initiative, CPS seeks to build strong and supportive partnerships with our graduates, their families and their current schools, to help maximize each student's individual potential and to fulfill our mission of successfully preparing urban students for competitive middle and upper schools and colleges.

The Haverford House Fellow will have primary responsibility for managing the school's Alumni Support Initiative. Specific tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Building and maintaining supportive and sustainable relationships between CPS alumni, their families and their current schools, to facilitate a smooth transition to middle school.
 - Coordinating and facilitating monthly visits to alumni middle schools to meet with teachers, advisors and administrators, to review and support each student's academic and social progress.
 - Developing relationships with local high schools and universities to support and maintain on-going monthly tutoring, study skills sessions, to help alumni manage the increased academic expectations in middle and high school.

1936 NORTH JUDSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19121
215-235-0461 • WWW.COMMUNITYPARTNERSHIPSCHOOL.ORG

United Way Donor Choice Southeastern PA #16200

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

A Partnership between Germantown Academy and Project H.O.M.E.

- Matching students with appropriate mentors, to bring another caring, consistent and nurturing adult presence into the lives of our alumni.
- Providing leadership development opportunities for CPS graduates, through the creation of an alumni mentoring network, wherein alumni can draw upon their own experiences in middle and high school to help guide current 5th graders successfully navigate the middle school admission process.
- Assist CPS graduates in accessing the variety of scholarship monies available for middle, high school and college, to ensure that continued access to a high-quality education remains a realistic goal for our families, ideally through the creation of a financial aid resource guide and an accompanying series of related workshops.
- Coordinating a Parent Ambassador program to help match CPS alumni caregivers with a mentor of their own.
 - Parent ambassadors help CPS alumni parents to better navigate the challenges of parenting an increasingly more independent middle or high school student.

Other

As a valuable member of a collaborative school team, the Fellow will have the opportunity to work on additional projects based on his/her interests and experiences. For example, in previous years interns and fellows have taught Spanish lessons to students, served on the school's "No Place for Hate" Committee, and developed and implemented assorted school-wide multicultural/social justice related projects.

In addition to serving on our professional team, a Fellow can expect to collaborate with CPS students, families, volunteers, and occasionally Board members and vendors.

The Fellow will spend the first month on the job in training with the CPS administrative staff prior to Labor Day. In mid-August, the Fellow will participate in all orientation activities scheduled for new staff members, as well as regular pre-school faculty/staff meetings. Just before Labor Day, students return and the regular school-year, as well as the Fellow's regular day-to-day tasks, begin in earnest.

Job Qualifications

Students curious about careers in educational/non-profit leadership, teaching, and/or counseling will find this fellowship particularly fulfilling. Additionally, students with sound communication and interpersonal skills will be a good fit. While the Fellow's responsibilities will go beyond only working with children, the Fellow must have a kid-friendly temperament in order to function effectively in this environment. A willingness to work at least one Saturday per month is critical, as alumni events are scheduled for one Saturday each month of the academic year.

Other specifics follow:

- Ability to convey information clearly for varied audiences
- Strong organizational skills with ability to manage multiple priorities and projects simultaneously
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Highly skilled at appropriating web based/electronic tools and applications.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity and social justice
- Optional skills that are a plus: experience with Microsoft Publisher or other desktop publishing software, photography, web/graphic design skills.