

Center for **Inspired Teaching**

Transforming education through innovative teacher training

Director of Strategic Partnerships Full-time Position based in Washington, DC Available Immediately

For 20 years, Center for Inspired Teaching has been engaging teachers as partners in education reform through our ground breaking, innovative approach to teacher preparation and professional development. We are seeking an experienced, creative manager and social entrepreneur to serve as Director of Strategic Partnerships. Reporting to the Executive Director, the Director of Strategic Partnerships will serve as a member of the executive team, and will lead Inspired Teaching's newest initiative to change the way students learn STEM subjects, social studies, and reading and writing in Washington, DC public schools and beyond.

Who we are:

Center for Inspired Teaching is building a better school experience for students by transforming the role of the teacher from information provider to *Instigator of Thought*. Inspired Teaching has a unique, inquiry-based model of teaching and learning, and a proven, asset-based approach to investing in teachers to deepen and strengthen their practice. We are committed to teacher leadership and elevating teacher voice and engagement as a critical component of curriculum writing, teacher professional development, and advancing the teaching profession.

We teach teachers to inspire young people to become knowledgeable, self-disciplined, and compassionate citizens. Students of Inspired Teachers learn to be independent thinkers who identify and solve complex problems inside and outside of school, and actively strive to make positive change in their communities and in society. We employ a comprehensive approach to changemaking:

- **Shift** the practice of inservice teachers through participant driven professional development and curriculum development in partnership with school districts;
- **Prepare** new teachers to be Instigators of Thought through the DC State approved, residency-based Inspired Teacher Certification Program; and
- **Model** Inspired Teaching in action at the Inspired Teaching Demonstration School (a DC public charter school) and in classrooms of Inspired Teachers across Washington, DC.

Who we want:

The Director of Strategic Partnerships will lead Inspired Teaching's newest program, a comprehensive partnership with the Washington, DC Public Schools, focused on developing a cadre of Teacher Leaders; providing transformative, capacity-building, professional development for teachers district-wide; and creating rigorous CCSS and NGSS-aligned curricula. Our current partnership with DCPS focuses on infusing literacy into social studies and science instruction through Inspired Teaching's inquiry-based, student-centered instructional approach. The Director of Strategic Partnerships will also lead the expansion of program offerings into new content areas and new school districts.

Responsibilities include:

Leading Inspired Teaching's comprehensive professional development and curriculum development partnerships with DCPS

Building on Inspired Teaching's successful CCSS-based multi-year partnerships with DCPS and Baltimore City Public Schools, *Building Literacy in the Social Studies* (BLISS) is an expansion of a current program (currently serving middle school teachers and their students) to the high school level and *Science Curriculum Advancement through Literacy Enhancement* (SCALE) is a new program that will serve K-12 teachers and students, starting with grades 3-8 in the pilot year.

- **Supervising, supporting, and contributing to the ongoing development of the Science Curriculum Advancement through Literacy Enhancement (SCALE) program.** SCALE is a multi-year project in which Inspired Teaching, together with a select group of Teacher Leaders, will create K-12 science/literacy curricular materials and professional development in inquiry-based instruction for DCPS. The Director of Strategic Partnerships will work with associated staff to accomplish the following:
 - Development of a program implementation plan and accompanying training materials
 - Recruitment and selection of the first cohort of third through eighth grade Teacher Leaders who will participate in a summer Institute in 2014
 - Planning for and helping lead the summer Institute (multi-week professional development course for Teacher Leaders)
 - Cultivation of Content Experts to support teachers in development of instructional modules
 - Writing of prototype instructional modules in partnership with Teacher Leaders and Content Experts
 - Collaboration with DCPS to develop and present professional development around Next Generation Science Standards
 - Cultivation of donors to supplement funding for future years of SCALE implementation

- **Supervising and supporting the work of the Building Literacy in Social Studies (BLISS) program and adapting it to high school teachers.** BLISS is a multi-year project in partnership with DCPS in which Inspired Teaching, together with a select group of Teacher Leaders, is creating CCSS aligned social studies curricular materials and providing professional development for teachers in inquiry-based instruction. For the past three years the program has served grades 6-8. Starting in the spring of 2014 the program will expand to high school. Along with the development of instructional modules, Inspired Teaching creates professional development workshops that Teacher Leaders learn to implement throughout the year. Currently in its final year, BLISS Middle School includes coaching 15 BLISS Teacher Leaders, monitoring and documenting implementation of BLISS instructional modules, gathering data on student performance on BLISS modules, planning and executing monthly professional development sessions for BLISS Teacher Leaders, and jointly planning and executing quarterly professional development days for all DCPS social studies teachers with DCPS leadership. A similar model will be applied to the new BLISS High School program. The Director of Strategic Partnerships, in conjunction with relevant staff, will work to accomplish the following for BLISS High School:
 - Development of a program implementation plan and accompanying training materials

- Recruitment and selection of the first cohort of High School Teacher Leaders who will participate in a summer Institute in 2014
- Planning for and helping lead the summer Institute (multi-week professional development course for Teacher Leaders)
- Cultivation of Content Experts to support teachers in development of instructional modules
- Writing of prototype instructional modules in partnership with Teacher Leaders and Content Experts
- Collaboration with DCPS to develop professional development around instructional modules
- Cultivation of donors to supplement funding for future years of BLISS implementation

Additional Responsibilities:

- The Director of Strategic Partnerships will build her/his team for the SCALE and BLISS programs, including hiring and supervising a Science Education Manager and a Social Studies Education Manager with extensive teaching experience in these content areas, along with other staff, consultants, and interns as the programs continue to grow.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with DCPS central office, teachers, principals, and vested community members.
- Build and maintain relationships with district, foundation, and corporate partners.
- Identify, train, and build strong relationships with professional scientists and historians who will serve as Content Experts for the projects.
- Serve as an Inspired Teaching teacher trainer both for these programs and others within the organization.
- Seek, secure, and implement new district and school-based partnerships.
- Lead fundraising efforts, in partnership with the executive director and development manager/grant writer, in support of the current DCPS partnership and future district partnerships.
- Serve as a member of the executive team helping to guide the direction of the organization.
- Attend and present at local and national panels, hearings, and conferences related to CCSS implementation, inquiry-based instruction, and related topics that can advance the Inspired Teaching mission.

Qualifications:

- An advanced degree in education and/or business management
- A successful track record as a program developer, manager, and team supervisor
- Classroom teaching experience – or – extensive knowledge of the education landscape with particular emphasis on curriculum and instruction and CCSS
- Successful experience in fundraising and communications
- Expertise in science and/or social studies content areas a plus
- Experience working within, or in partnership with, a school system
- Experience writing curriculum
- Desire to be part of an entrepreneurial, impact-driven team
- Commitment to a progressive, inquiry-based approach to instruction; belief that all children, regardless of race, geography, or income level, can thrive in an inquiry-based classroom with a teacher who embraces Inspired Teaching’s [instructional model](#)

- Belief in the power of teachers to drive productive, authentic education reform
- Commitment to Inspired Teaching's core values:
 - Relentlessly impact driven *and* nurturing;
 - Decentralized *and* integrated;
 - Radical creativity *and* structured execution

Salary is competitive and commensurate with professional experience. **Benefits** include health care, retirement plan, and vacation; an excellent working environment; and the ability to have an impact on public education and the lives of children in Washington, DC and nationwide.

Interested applicants should send:

- A cover letter; resume; and 1 to 3 page writing sample
- The names and contact information of 3 professional references

Send applications to:

Center for Inspired Teaching
1436 U St., NW Suite 400
Washington, DC 20009

Email to: info@inspiredteaching.org

Center for Inspired Teaching is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We are committed to a diverse workplace. Persons of color and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.