GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: CURRICULUM SPECIALIST SOCIAL STUDIES K-8

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SERVICES

GENERAL STATEMENT OF JOB

Under general supervision, the employee performs a variety of administrative tasks in coordinating the successful implementation of Social Studies programs in the Guilford County school system. Employee is responsible for ensuring that instruction is aligned with the North Carolina Standard Course of Study, interpreting changes to the curriculum, and informing teachers and principals of the implications of those changes. Employee assists teachers with developing strategies and techniques for assessing and addressing the deficiencies of their students. Employee also assists teachers with selecting textbooks, materials, and tools to aid instruction. Employee assists administrators with evaluating the effectiveness of social studies programs in the school system and develops strategies for implementation and improvement. Employee reports to the K-8 Curriculum Officer.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Assists K through 8 teachers with improving techniques for social studies instruction and improving overall student achievement; provides instructional strategies and various tools to aid in the instructional process; observes teachers and provides feedback and/or demonstration lessons.

Assists with the overall evaluation of Social Studies programs in the system and develops strategies for implementation and increasing achievement.

Coordinates and provides a variety of district-wide professional development opportunities.

Ensures teachers and principals are familiar with any changes to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study regarding social studies curriculum.

Designs new course offerings and guidelines for student placement.

Designs curriculum to support the implementation of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

Creates and updates curriculum support documents.

Develops and models mastery lesson and unit plans.

Helps teachers link best practices and materials to standards.
Curriculum Specialist – Social Studies K-8

Updates GEMS website for teacher use.

Assists the school system with the selection of appropriate textbooks, teacher guides and other instructional materials and equipment.

Keeps parents, administrators, teachers and community citizens informed about social studies and citizenship educational program in the school system, community and nation.

Works with state, community, civic, business and university groups to address educational issues.

Participates in regularly scheduled staff, district, regional, and school level meetings as required.

Plans, schedules, and conducts content and/or grade level meetings.

Creates and/or contributes to the development of common assessments.

Helps schools analyze data and identify appropriate re-teaching methods and strategies.

Fields and responds to daily email and phone inquiries.

Engages in vertical articulation of K-12 curriculum goals and objectives.

Oversees, manages, and facilitates at district-wide student curricular events.

Writes and implements grants.

Assists with budget development.

Develops and supports district-wide Strategic Plan initiatives.

Collaborates with other content area curriculum specialists.

Provides support to teachers in their classrooms through coaching, modeling, and mentoring.

Meets regularly with Curriculum Facilitators and principals to monitor and support school and teacher needs.

Provides monthly training and support for curriculum facilitators and principals.

ADDITIONAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Serves as a consultant to college and university teacher education programs.
Perform other related work as required.

MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Bachelor’s degree (Master's degree preferred) in a social studies discipline with extensive course work in education; 5 to 7 years of teaching experience with program coordination experience; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Must be certified to teach in the State of North Carolina. Must possess a valid North Carolina Driver's License.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OR STANDARDS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Physical Requirements: Must be physically able to operate a variety of equipment including computers, overhead projectors, typewriters, copiers, facsimile machines, calculators, protractors, compasses, etc. Must be physically able to operate a motor vehicle. Must be able to exert up to 10 pounds of force occasionally, and/or a negligible amount of force constantly to lift, carry, push, and pull or otherwise move objects, including the human body. Light work usually requires walking or standing to a significant degree.

Data Conception: Requires the ability to compare and/or judge the readily observable, functional, structural or composite characteristics (whether similar or divergent from obvious standards) of data, people or things.

Interpersonal Communication: Requires the ability to speak and/or signal people to convey or exchange information. Includes giving instructions, assignments or directions to subordinates or assistants.

Language Ability: Requires the ability to read a variety of correspondence, reports, forms, applications, purchase orders, test results, etc. Requires the ability to prepare correspondence, reports, presentations, newspaper articles, requisitions, forms, evaluations, budgets, etc., using prescribed formats and conforming to all rules of punctuation, grammar, diction, and style. Requires the ability to speak before groups of people with poise, voice control and confidence.
Intelligence: Requires the ability to apply principles of logical or scientific thinking to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions; to interpret an extensive variety of technical instructions in mathematical or diagrammatic form; and to deal with several abstract and concrete variables.

Verbal Aptitude: Requires the ability to record and deliver information, to explain procedures, to follow oral and written instructions. Must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in standard English.

Form/Spatial Aptitude: Requires the ability to inspect items for proper length, width and shape.

Motor Coordination: Requires the ability to coordinate hands and eyes rapidly and accurately in using office equipment.

Manual Dexterity: Requires the ability to handle a variety of items such as office equipment and hand tools. Must have minimal levels of eye/hand/foot coordination.

Color Discrimination: Does not require the ability to differentiate between colors and shades of color.

Interpersonal Temperament: Requires the ability to deal with people beyond giving and receiving instructions. Must be adaptable to performing under stress and when confronted with emergency situations.

Physical Communication: Requires the ability to talk and hear: (Talking: expressing or exchanging ideas by means of spoken words. Hearing: perceiving nature of sounds by ear.) Must be able to communicate via telephone.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Thorough knowledge of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study as it applies to social studies.

Considerable knowledge of the current literature, trends, and developments in the field of social studies instruction.

Considerable knowledge of the principles of supervision, organization and administration.

General knowledge of the County and School Board policies, procedures and standards regarding social studies.

General knowledge of the organization and communication channels of the school system.

General knowledge of the ethical guidelines applicable to the position as outlined by professional organizations and/or federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.
General knowledge of the grant application and administration process.

Skill in counseling, coaching and developing staff.

Ability to review and evaluate testing results and to develop a plan of action based on conclusions.

Ability to select appropriate and effective reading textbooks and other materials.

Ability to develop innovative and effective social studies instructional materials.

Ability to use common office machines and popular computer-driven word processing, spreadsheet and file maintenance programs.

Ability to maintain complete and accurate records and statistics and to develop meaningful reports from that information.

Ability to develop meaningful annual budgets.

Ability to effectively express ideas orally and in writing.

Ability to make effective oral presentations before large groups of people.

Ability to exercise considerable tact and courtesy in frequent contact with the public.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships as necessitated by work assignments.

**DISCLAIMER**

The preceding job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees within this classification. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications required of employees to this job.