



The Massachusetts School of  
Science, Creativity and Leadership

### **Elementary Teacher & Curriculum Creator**

Acera: The Massachusetts School of Science, Creativity and Leadership  
Winchester, MA (8 miles north of Boston) 5 Lowell Avenue

We seek to hire a candidate to lead a mixed age elementary school classroom, with an emphasis on developing complex thinking skills for gifted elementary students. We are in the process of finalizing our class lists, and this classroom will either be a grades 2-3 or a 4-5 blended classroom, so the ideal candidate will have comfort and experience with that age band of students.

#### **Summary:**

*Acera is a K-10 school which is open fully in person for the 2021/22 school year. We seek to hire an entrepreneurial, tech savvy, fearless teacher who can partner with specialist teacher(s) and create interdisciplinary, STEAM-rich hands-on learning approaches for high ability students. Elementary students will be at school five days a week.*

*At Acera, students explore and learn at a pace appropriate to each child's unique motivation and potential, not their age. Our culture is not about pressure to achieve; it is about freedom to thrive. We support our students' innate curiosity and love of learning. Through developing EQ, complex and creative thinking skills, and systems awareness, we develop thinkers and innovators who will be able to make positive change in our world. Contact [hiring@aceraschool.org](mailto:hiring@aceraschool.org)*

#### **Overview:**

Acera is looking for an experienced educator with passion, high energy, and a commitment to hands-on, project based learning who can define and lead learning experiences within a classroom setting. We empower and support our teachers to customize learning which is high engagement and filled with a sense of purpose in ways that fit the unique interests, needs and potential of our students.

With individual learning plans and differentiated instruction, Acera, students learn, discover and explore at a pace appropriate to each child's unique motivation and potential, not their age. Our culture is not about pressure to achieve; it is about freedom to thrive. We support our students' innate curiosity and love of learning. Through developing emotional intelligence, complex and creative thinking skills, and systems awareness, we develop thinkers and innovators who will be able to make positive change in our world. Acera teachers are deeply talented and share ideas to support each other as professionals, and have access to our excellent teacher mentors.

**Job Description:** Acera seeks a dynamic, motivated, and dedicated professional to lead an elementary multi-age classroom. We seek a professional who has a deep love of and respect for children, who wants the freedom to invent an exciting and creative classroom. This experienced professional must feel confident designing learning with differentiated instruction strategies which allow for conceptual thinking and access to content which is years ahead of chronological student age, while meeting the fine motor, kinesthetic, sensory and social skill development needs of younger elementary students. Most of our students operate 2 or more grade levels ahead of expectation in one or more academic area and all have qualified for admission to Acera as gifted students. The ideal candidate will be creative, articulate, flexible, collaborative, and have exceptional executive functioning skills. The expectations for this position are:

- Customize curriculum, leveraging essential questions as a springboard for inventing interdisciplinary, project based classroom learning.
- Create and adapt Individualized Learning Plans to drive learning approaches and focus for each student throughout the year
- Adapt classroom focus and strategies to differentiate for each student's needs
- Be fearless about proactively including STEM rich learning, interweaving technology and leading edge scientific ideas, while leveraging curriculum collaborators who can extend and expand classroom dialogue and learning.
- Collaborate and share ideas with other teachers; work as a community to utilize each person's and to continuously improve as we constantly learn and adapt to teaching with social distancing constraints and within the remote learning setting.
- Apply an eclectic blend of learning pedagogy, including teaching for understanding, multi age, thematic and interdisciplinary, experiential, STEM oriented, and fully leveraging technology with laptops in every classroom.
- Use a "teacher as a facilitator" style. This is not a traditional "in charge teacher who dispenses the knowledge" approach. Our teachers serve as facilitators who enable student learning in a way customized for student abilities and interests.



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- Embrace parent partnership educational model; communicate openly, with honesty and compassion. Share teaching philosophy and pedagogical beliefs; educate parents.

The successful candidate will have philosophical alignment with our core values and learning approach, which are outlined on our website: [www.aceraschool.org](http://www.aceraschool.org)

#### Qualifications:

- Bachelor degree.
- Masters degree in education is a bonus but not required.
- At least 3 years of teaching experience.
- Experience with gifted education, special education, progressive learning approaches and/or a goal for understanding orientation (instead of a focus on core knowledge acquisition) is highly preferred.
- Fearlessness in and ideally with a love of science, mathematics, and integration of technology as a contextual tool enabling learning.
- Deep capability to engage in differentiated instruction strategies in reading and writing; students in our elementary classroom read at grade level up through reading multiple years ahead of age expectations; this teacher needs to be able to create individualized learning plans for each students' literacy and emotional/social needs which fit each student.
- Exceptionally strong spoken and written communication and interpersonal skills. Acera's use of narrative report cards and high parent engagement necessitate a teacher who is responsive, who cares about and feels invested in parent partnership, and who is skillful in writing and conferencing.

#### Salary & Benefits:

- School year position, full time.
- Federal/State holidays off, four weeks off for school holiday closures: 2 weeks in December, 1 week February, 1 week April.
- Health, dental and vision benefits available, SIMPLE IRA.
- School-aged children of full time employees are able to attend Acera's after school and summer programs free of charge.

#### Application:

Please submit cover letter and resume along with a personal statement of educational philosophy, description of your classroom management / discipline beliefs, any experiences and/or training in gifted education you have had to: [hiring@Aceraschool.org](mailto: hiring@Aceraschool.org)

**Anticipated Start Date:** Mid/late August 2021

#### Equal Opportunity Employer

Acera is an Equal Opportunity Employer that does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, creed, color, religion, alienage or national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, age, disability or handicap, sex, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, arrest record, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local laws.

#### Conditions of Offer:

***You must provide documentation of a completed COVID vaccination series.***

All offers of employment are contingent upon CORI, SORI and fingerprint-based background checks, as required by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Under the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA), our company is required to verify the identity and work authorization of all newly hired employees. Therefore, if you accept this position, you will be required to complete a Form I-9 upon hire. Within 3 days of beginning employment, you will need to supply acceptable documentation days of beginning employment, you will need to supply acceptable documentation (as noted on the Form I-9) of your identity and work authorization.