



Academic Teacher: Kindergarten and Grades 1, 5 or 6

Wangari Maathai Community School (WMCS), a new K-8 public charter school opening in Providence for the 2019-20 school year, is seeking a dynamic founding team of educators to reimagine what school can be. **WMCS is filling teaching positions in Kindergarten, First, Fifth and Sixth grades.** Partnering with students, their families, and the larger community, WMCS provides interdisciplinary, personalized, authentic learning experiences that are culturally responsive and promote social equity and environmental sustainability. Daily routines and structures support relationship-building and social and emotional wellness for all within our school community. WMCS is an inclusive school serving all students, including English Language Learners and students with diverse needs.

At WMCS, we believe learning that is rooted in one's immediate world, among familiar people and sites, leads children to better understand their place in the world, develop a sense of responsibility for that place, and grow their capacity for empathy and action to care for the whole planet. This innovative approach connects teaching and learning to the real world through regular exploration of both natural and built spaces as well as the many cultural and historical assets found throughout Providence. By challenging and supporting the curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking of our students and giving them ample opportunities to practice these skills, our students will become actively engaged citizens, positive agents of change, and responsible stewards of the environment.

This is a rare opportunity to join a school at its inception, to fully contribute to and be a foundational part of shaping our school culture. WMCS's values of *Diversity, Exploration, Responsibility, and Interdependence* will guide this sometimes messy work, and applicants must be open and ready to embrace challenges as they surface, while maintaining fidelity to our principles and mission. WMCS is dedicated to fostering the health and wellbeing of every individual in our school community, and we expect every staff person to play a role in creating a happy, healthy, and collaborative workplace.

As an ideal Academic Teacher candidate, you have these qualities:

- **You reflect the diversity of the student population in the Providence community.** WMCS values cultural and linguistic diversity and is particularly interested in candidates who demonstrate a commitment to cultural proficiency in diverse communities and/or are fluent in Spanish.
- **You have experience in project-based learning.** You are passionate about, and have experience guiding inquiry and project-based learning (PBL) and/or have worked in school networks committed to PBL (i.e. Big Picture Learning, EL Education, High Tech High).
- **You embrace an interdisciplinary, inquiry-based, and exploratory approach to teaching and learning.** While you have strong content knowledge, you are also willing to be a generalist and can demonstrate your own dedication to lifelong learning.



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- **You have passion for urban education and social change.** You are invested in changing inequitable systems and providing support that will empower students to complete higher education, be economically viable, and serve as change agents in their communities. You understand that difficult conversations are sometimes necessary on the path to effecting change, both in our school community and out in the larger world.
- **You deeply value the power of collaboration.** You are eager to develop a co-teaching culture with fellow educators and want to engage in ongoing professional collaboration with your colleagues. You believe that collaboration is the key strategy in creating a school committed to innovation and high quality teaching.
- **You are excited about the potential for deep learning to be found outside the school's walls** and welcome the knowledge to be shared by external partners: parents, amateur enthusiasts, those teaching in museums, gardens, and other out-of-school settings. You are skilled at encouraging your students' own excitement and wonder and guide both their joyful discoveries and disappointing challenges with ease.
- **You believe every child holds within, the seeds of their potential.** You recognize that traditional school norms do not always celebrate, or make room for, the diverse range of *being* and *knowing* that each student brings to school. You practice teaching that supports, guides and encourages children to find their voice and take ownership for their own learning.

Must-have qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree
- Appropriate RI certification to teach in Elementary School
- Ability to meet the RI Professional Standards for Teachers
- Current authorization to work in the United States by first day of employment

Additional preferred qualifications:

- ESL-certification
- Bilingual

The position begins in August 2019; selected candidates will be invited to participate in school planning activities from April through July 2019. Compensation is competitive and fair, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

To Apply: Interested candidates should send a resume, cover letter, one-page statement of educational philosophy, and a 20-30 minute video showing you teaching your best lesson, to: info@wangarimaathaischool.org