Service Opportunities

Thank you for your interest in working with the College of Education at Temple University to provide our students with unique opportunities to support our community. Please complete this form to share your proposed project.

Tom Szczesny
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Contact Person
Preferred E-mail

The LINC: Learning in New Contexts / School District of Philadelphia

Company/Institution

122 W. Erie Avenue

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Philadelphia PA 19140

City State Zip Code

Phone Number

Brief Organizational Background

The LINC is non-selective School District of Philadelphia (SDP) managed high school opening in the fall of 2014 with 115 freshmen. The school’s mission is to provide a personalized, competency-based learning environment open to all students where 100% of students graduate within 3-5 years ready to enter a four-year college without the need for remediation. Dr. Saliyah Cruz designed the school in collaboration with SDP’s Office of New School Models and will assume the role of principal.

The LINC’s design was informed by listening sessions with students and stakeholders across Philadelphia and research from the Carnegie Foundation on successful school models. The result is a school that will emphasize 21st century skills and global competencies. It will tailor its curriculum to the pace, needs, and interests of each student through the deployment of a competency framework in all subjects. In addition, students will be encouraged to act as positive leaders of change in their communities as they explore their identity, examine issues in their community, and devise solutions to address those issues.

Range of Services (i.e. tutoring, discrete workshops, research, etc)

The LINC will serve 115 freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. It will grow each year until reaching capacity at 450 students. It will offer students a curriculum that meets Pennsylvania state standards and graduation requirements. It will also prepare students for entry into a post-secondary institution by offering counseling and other services.

Population Served (i.e. demographics, age range, educational level, cultural background, etc.). Please include other relevant information.

All LINC students will be high school freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. As a non-selective (“neighborhood”) high school there were not any admission criteria for entering students. An overwhelming expression of interest necessitated a blind lottery weighted toward the communities immediately surrounding the school. 50% of students will come from the ten zip codes surrounding the 19140 area while the other 50% of the students will be drawn from the rest of Philadelphia.
Service Opportunities
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Brief Description of Proposed Activity
LINC students would receive tutoring in STEM fields through Temple’s tutoring initiatives. LINC teachers would identify students in need of additional support in the math and sciences then direct them toward Temple’s supports. Given the school’s competency framework, it will be possible for the focus of sessions to be quite narrow with an emphasis on a singular topic or module that is particularly challenging for the LINC students.

Main Expectations of student interns (i.e. time commitment, frequency, duration, etc.) Please specify type of students required (undergraduate, graduate, & specific educational discipline if necessary).
Undergraduate or graduate students would be welcome. However, students with a background in a field related to STEM would be necessary. The student interns would commit to working at The LINC weekly on a day and time period that is negotiable but it must remain consistent. These periods could be during normal school hours or occur as part of an after-school tutoring program.

Benefit to Students
Temple student interns would have the opportunity to work directly with Philadelphia students. They would have a positive impact on those students academic trajectory by providing additional support for students challenged by material in the STEM fields. In addition, they would be able practice different teaching strategies and explanations in a small group setting.

Benefit to Organization
The LINC would benefit from the student interns’ presence because they could offer critical learning support for students. The individualized, focused instruction delivered in a tailored tutoring session will aid student achievement. It will allow for students challenged by the material to receive additional support, which will then help them demonstrate mastery of it sooner than otherwise possible.

Service Location
All service opportunities would occur at The LINC, 122 W. Erie Avenue.

Materials/resources to student interns (i.e. curricula, library, IT, & other community resources)
Temple student interns would be in contact with teachers at the LINC to identify the students in need of additional support. The LINC teachers would then supply student interns with information about particular topics or focus areas and other pertinent information for each session. LINC would ensure students are arriving to sessions with the materials necessary to receive instructional assistance and would designate a regular space for the purpose. In particular, LINC students would have access to Chromebooks to facilitate any dialogue or practice that requires technology.

Please send your completed form to Attn. Patricia Lehrman, Special Assistant to the Dean for Strategic Partnerships and Community Affairs, via e-mail: patience@temple.edu or mail to: 266 Ritter Hall, 1301 Cecil B. Moore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19122. We look forward to working with you!