**School Name:** PS 456 - The Elizabeth Jennings School for Bold Explorers (BE)

**District:** 15

**School Site:** 489 State Street Brooklyn, NY 11217

**Send Cover Letter and Resume to:** es456k@gmail.com

**POSITION**

Paraprofessional

**DESCRIPTION**

The Elizabeth Jennings School for Bold Explorers (BE) is a community of learners dedicated to an inquiry-based, hands-on curriculum. Our approach is centered in a progressive model of education through exploration allowing children to take ownership of their learning. We believe students learn by doing and students learn best when collaborating with peers in small and whole group experiences. We operate with a students-first mentality.

At BE strive to create an inclusive culture where listening and acceptance creates the truest sense of belonging; where we always challenge the paradigms and perceived notions of equality and equity; where we speak up for and against any forms and acts of racism; where we manifest the deepest and most profound new reality that all of our differences, whether ethnicity, race, gender preference, sexual orientation, physical ability, age, religious beliefs, language preference or socio-economic status are a reflection of the beautiful tapestry of the 456 community.

Our BE core values are trust, collaboration, and joy. We are looking for staff members with a commitment to a play-based, experiential outdoor learning school model of teaching and learning. We are looking for staff members who have the capacity to facilitate learning experiences that allow students to take the lead, incorporate backwards design methods, and meet students where they are.

A 5 day summer planning institute will offer an essential opportunity for staff. Additionally, the school will offer opportunities for teachers to participate in:

* In-house school committees and/or special programs.
* Daytime professional development such as inquiry work, inter-visitations, teacher common planning, and collaborative conversation

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

UFT Paraprofessionals hired after 2004 must have a Level 1 NYSED Teaching Assistant Certificate, bilingual Spanish preferred. UFT Paraprofessionals hired before 2004 currently on DOE payroll are eligible for this position.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Because roles in small schools are varied and complex, serious consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate in their resume and cover letter experience and/or willingness to commit to the school’s mission and core beliefs and to become involved in these essential aspects:

* Working within a non-traditional school schedule and organization structure that meets the needs of English Language learners and students requiring special education services
* Supporting students in the classroom
* Contributing to student observation and documentation files
* Collaborating with individual teachers and teacher teams to provide targeted, small group and one-on-one instructional support to students
* Working with teachers to implement an integrated curriculum and student-centered environment
* Collaborating with teachers to create a learning environment where students’ emotional and social needs are met through conflict resolution, peer mediation, collaborative learning, team building activities, etc.
* Seeking professional growth experiences, and contributing to the professional growth of colleagues

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

* Willingness to carry out the above duties and responsibilities
* Assist and work with classroom teachers to implement collaborative learning activities
* Strong student management skills
* Ability to professionally and effectively communicate orally and in writing with colleagues and students
* Ability to work in teams and collaborate and support school wide initiatives to support student engagement and learning
* Commitment to continuous professional growth (i.e. professional development, formal education, outside reading)
* Ability to assist teachers in all independent, partner, group and whole class projects, work and activities
* Excellent attendance, punctuality and organizational skills

In addition to the cover letter, resume, and interview, applicants must present three references including, if possible, one from a current supervisor. Other references might include a colleague with whom the applicant has collaborated, and/or a professional organization or staff development representative.

**WORK SCHEDULE & SALARY**

As per Collective Bargaining Agreement