



Special Education Teacher, K-5 Job Description

General Functions: The teacher will provide guidance and instructional experiences that are academically and developmentally appropriate for each assigned student. This person will closely work with classroom teachers in creating the best possible learning environment for students with developmental, physical, and cognitive challenges as well as gifted students.

Qualifications and Leadership Characteristics

- Exhibits a passion for creating the best possible learning environment for students with disabilities and gifts in alignment with the innovative aspects of the Raíces mission
- Possesses collaborative skills and a willingness to work with colleagues collaboratively
- New Mexico Elementary Teaching Licensure (Level II preferred)
- Special Education Teaching License required
- Classroom experience with Kindergarten to 5th (early childhood)
- Bilingual and Bi-cultural (preferred)—has an understanding and appreciation of practices for teaching elementary students
- Has knowledge of elementary school content and approved curriculum
- Understands and utilizes the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) of 2004 as guidance for instruction
- Understands and ensures compliance with Individual Education Program (IEP) for each caseload student
- Has ability to differentiate instructional methods and resources in each area taught
- Uses hands-on kinesthetic instruction, and motivates and encourages students
- Possesses technological knowledge/proficiency
- Recognizes the social, emotional and intellectual developmental needs of early elementary school students and understands appropriate responses
- Contributes to the overall school community by supporting school/community programs, activities and events related to school's vision, mission and goals

Teacher Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinates and facilitates IEP meetings for students on assigned caseload including the annual review, reevaluation, and other IEP review meetings
- Ensures the attainment of learning standards in the English Language Arts and math Common Core Standards
- Teaches in an inclusion, pull-out, or resource setting and modifies assignments for students with disabilities based on the most appropriate approach for individual students
- Collaborates with regular education teacher and informs education assistants and parents on effective methods to achieve the best academic outcomes for each student with an IEP
- Provides a safe and effective learning environment for students, staff and overall school community
- Administers assessments and organizes student portfolios to capture individual student progress
- Collaborates with parents and communicate student's progress and classroom expectations
- Attends on-going guidance activities and/or workshops regarding Xinachtli ways of knowing to further conceptualize Raíces vision and mission.