



Canterbury SCHOOL

Academic Dean (2019-20)

Canterbury School is part of a long Episcopal school tradition of strong academics, an inquiry-based approach to learning, and a diverse environment. We give a central place to both the life of reason and the life of faith, and we believe that the ultimate purpose of education is to prepare students to become contributors to and leaders in an ever-changing world. Our PreK-8 structure concentrates on the learning needs and development of young children and middle school adolescents, without the added complexities of the high school experience. Since our founding in 1993, we have stressed that the most complete education develops the whole child: mind, body, and spirit.

Canterbury maintains a staff of approximately 70 employees, and its teaching faculty are a healthy mix of veteran, mid- and early-career educators who enjoy small class sizes where every child is known, cared for, and loved. Students of color comprise about 20 percent of our student body of 350. Our school is situated on a beautiful 35-acre campus with a natural area, ropes course, and pond – and also a well-equipped science center. From chess to outdoor exploration, faculty are encouraged to share their passions, and students and teachers participate together in service learning as well. Canterbury Cougars are active in Greensboro, and we're told that our students are some of the most polite in town – but they're also still kids who love to have fun in a community that challenges their minds and nourishes their spirits.

Greensboro, NC is the birthplace of the Sit-In Movement, a progressive community full of religious and ethnic diversity. It offers outstanding universities, wonderful restaurants, beautiful parks and trails, minor league baseball and basketball teams, and a new 3,000-seat performing arts center opening in 2020.

Academic Dean

Canterbury seeks an experienced educator to serve as the community's academic leader. All teaching faculty report to and are evaluated by both the Dean and their Division Director. The Dean develops and oversees an engaging, challenging, and inspiring curriculum and related programming. The Dean reports to and works closely with the Lower and Middle School Directors and Head of School to assess and continuously improve educational programs, policies, and experiences and align them with the school's mission. The Academic Dean works with teachers, staff, students, and parents to foster a learning environment based on principles of kindness, inquiry, integrity, collaboration, and inclusion in order to reach a diverse community of learners (academically, culturally, racially) and help fulfill the school's mission to develop the whole child. The Academic Dean is a 12-month position with a competitive salary based on qualifications and experience, and it comes with the school's strong healthcare and retirement benefits.

Essential Duties

As Academic Dean, you will:

- Lead the processes of assessing, updating and aligning K-8 curriculum per the school's mission, philosophy, and values, involving faculty closely in the processes.
- Train and support teachers in curriculum mapping, differentiation, assessment, integration/cross-disciplinary work, and data collection in collaboration with the division directors.
- Promote best practices and policies in curriculum and instruction; research and direct professional development accordingly.
- Help teachers learn how to use technology artfully so they can foster students' development of key skills – critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication – and achieve desired learning outcomes.
- With the Division Directors, interview, recruit, hire, and coach new faculty, helping ensure their effective transition to Canterbury.
- Manage and maintain the professional development budget and curriculum artifacts, including faculty (re)certification documents.
- Work closely with Division Directors and help lead both informal coaching and formal evaluation of all classroom instructors, developing a consistent, multi-year process for the same.
- Communicate curricular goals and pedagogy to the community (e.g. parents, Board of Trustees, community partners, etc).
- Collaborate with Learning Specialists to coordinate standardized assessment programming and post-test analyses, summaries, and staff and parent communications.
- Serve as the re-accreditation director for each 5-year review (and intervening 2.5-year update), managing the process, faculty co-chairs, budget, and written school report for the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS). The last re-accreditation visit was in the fall of 2017.
- Collaborate with and supervise the Librarian to help promote reading and research throughout the school community.
- Instruct a course as appropriate and when mutually beneficial for Canterbury and the Dean.

Required Qualifications

A BA or BS degree from an accredited college or university is required; a master's degree in a relevant field is preferred. Substantial, innovative classroom teaching experience is required, preferably across multiple grade levels. Candidates with experience, education in and a passion for instruction, curriculum, and program development, as well as in teacher supervision and evaluation, will receive strong consideration. Finally, the best candidates will also possess a positive, growth mindset, outstanding communication skills, and a good sense of humor.

Applications

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter explaining your interest in and qualifications for this position, which begins in July 2019, and email it to Head of School Phil Spears at spearsp@canterburygso.org.