

Lawrence Gardner High School Special Education Teacher

Job Title: Special Education Teacher

Location: Lawrence Gardner High School – Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex, Topeka, KS

Reports To: Principal

Position Type: Full-Time / 12-Month Contract

About Lawrence Gardner High School:

Lawrence Gardner High School (LGHS) is an accredited public high school serving students within the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex. Our mission is to provide high-quality, personalized education that supports justice-involved youth in achieving academic success and successful reentry. At LGHS, we are committed to the values of Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Empathy.

Position Summary:

We are seeking dynamic and mission-driven teachers to provide standards-aligned instruction to students using Apex Learning and supplemental curriculum resources. The ideal candidate is skilled in trauma-informed practices, classroom management, and differentiated instruction within a secure setting. Teachers at LGHS are dedicated to helping students build confidence, develop life skills, and earn credits toward graduation.

Position Responsibilities Include:

- Provide rigorous, engaging instruction aligned with Kansas State Standards using digital and supplemental materials
- Facilitate a supportive classroom environment focused on growth, discipline, and mutual respect
- Develop, implement, and evaluate individualized education programs (IEPs) tailored to meet the unique needs of each student in accordance with federal and state regulations.
- Adapt and modify general education curriculum to meet the academic, physical, social, and emotional needs of students with disabilities
- Provide instruction to students individually or in small groups using a variety of instructional techniques and technologies
- Collaborate with general education teachers, administrators, support staff, and others to support student learning and ensure compliance with IEPs
- Conduct assessments and interpret data to monitor student progress and inform instructional decisions
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date student records, including IEP documentation, progress reports, and communication logs
- Implement positive behavioral interventions and support strategies to promote appropriate student behavior and engagement
- Participate in multidisciplinary team meetings, student progress conferences, and professional development sessions
- Advocate for students with disabilities and promote an inclusive, respectful, and supportive learning environment

- Ensure compliance with all relevant laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to special education services
- Use data from Apex Learning and assessments to guide instruction and monitor student progress
- Collaborate with support staff and correctional staff to maintain safety and consistency
- Document student performance, maintain records, and assist with graduation and reentry planning
- Participate in ongoing professional development and school-wide initiatives

Additional Requirements:

- Ability to work both independently and as a member of a team.
- Capacity to work with students of varying abilities and backgrounds.
- Ability to maintain positive working relationships with students and staff members.
- Effective organization and time management skills.
- Strong interpersonal and communication (both oral and written) skills with the ability to present information effectively to a wide range of audiences.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in special education or a related field and a valid Kansas teaching license.
- Experience in teaching, preferably in a middle school or high school setting.
- Experience working with adjudicated youth or in a correctional facility is highly desirable.

Benefits:

- Competitive salary.
- Comprehensive benefits package, including health insurance, KPERS, and paid time off.
- Collaborative and supportive work environment.

To be considered for this position, please submit a cover letter, resume, current Kansas teaching license, and a list of three professional references to:

Karli Robinson at krobinson@smokyhill.org or Smoky Hill Education Service Center, 605 E. Crawford ST, Salina, KS 67401.