



Director of Professional Learning, Wilmington Learning Collaborative

Wilmington, Delaware, United States · Full time, Onsite

Description

The Wilmington Learning Collaborative (WLC) is a voluntary network of schools in Wilmington, Delaware, across multiple school districts. Currently composed of eight unique school communities representing three local public school districts, the WLC serves approximately 2,500 students in PreK through 8th grade. The Collaborative's goals are to create consistency for students, empower educators, school leaders, and communities, and improve outcomes for students in Wilmington schools.

In the summer of 2023, the Council hired Dr. Laura Burgos as the inaugural Executive Director to actualize the goals of the WLC. Over the past year, Dr. Burgos has led a [teaching and learning analysis](#) of WLC schools, identified three [Big Shifts](#), and laid the foundation for collaborative structures across schools and districts. The WLC's leadership team is equity-focused, future-oriented, and unapologetic in removing barriers to success for students and teachers. Their collective goal is to ensure that WLC schools have the resources, services, and relevant support needed to accelerate student achievement through investing in educator practice.

Summary of the Role

The Director of Professional Learning will report to the Executive Director, working with school-based Educator Leadership Teams (ELTs) to pilot innovative solutions through leveraging WLC resources. This will include supporting school-based instructional leaders in increasing teacher capacity to: (1) deliver sequenced, standards-based instruction, (2) design aligned

formative assessments, (3) establish student learning goals, and (4) develop and maintain data dashboards that track student mastery of learning objectives. This person will support all WLC schools, leveraging both existing school/district expertise AND contracting external content experts to create a culture focused on strengthening Tier 1, whole-group, and differentiated instruction. Collaborating closely with existing instructional coaches, content specialists, and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), this person will identify pedagogical needs and coordinate opportunities for instructional modeling and additional professional learning support. Ultimately, this person will create a shared culture of data-informed decision-making, where educators prioritize high-quality Tier 1 teaching and decrease an over-reliance on Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention support.

Scope of Work & Responsibilities

- Conduct an audit of existing curricular tools, standards-based instruction, instructional models, and teaching practices across WLC schools.
- Work with teacher leaders, PLCs, ELTs, and other school-based teams of practitioners to design and implement a cohesive instructional infrastructure.
- Collaborate with the Executive Director and school and district leaders in conducting instructional walkthroughs and focused classroom observations to inform teacher professional development decisions.
- Make informed decisions around contracting and scheduling teacher professional development and in-classroom modeling based on student performance and teacher observation data.
- Communicate with instructional leaders across schools to ensure that expectations are clear and that questions are answered directly and transparently.
- Consult with the Executive Director, district liaisons, and school leaders to develop strategies and recommendations that will improve teacher practice.

- Under the direction of the Executive Director, interface extensively with the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) to support WLC initiatives and provide expertise and recommendations to the WLC leadership team.
- Act as a liaison between the WLC and Educator Leadership Teams (ELTs), creating a cooperative working relationship between these teams across the WLC schools and with the WLC leadership team.
- Solicit proposals from external teaching training providers and prepare data-driven narratives to share with the Council, district partners, and school leaders that clearly indicate the rationale for such support.
- Develop and update key internal and external communications, presentations, fact sheets, and messages in various multimedia formats for the Executive Director and other key officials to use as needed, highlighting the exemplary work and achievements of WLC schools through the implementation of defined teaching strategies.

Skills Critical for Success

Emotional Intelligence

- Comfort with delivering feedback to peers, partners, and other stakeholders, and sharing unpopular opinions
- Able to read the room, navigating the competing interests and motivations of others, while acting with integrity in a politically complex environment
- Maintain confidentiality when trusted with sensitive information, data, and background context

Problem Solving and Decision Making

- Able to lead complex and difficult tasks transparently and effectively
- Exhibit a deep understanding of the intricacies of an urban school system, the political nature of the work, the complexities of teaching, and the tools/supports necessary to improve student outcomes

- Analyze complex, nuanced data from multiple angles and exercise judgment in making critical decisions, and communicate the implications to diverse audiences
- Exhibit critical thinking skills with an ability to analyze data, identify trends, and diagnose root causes; then establish goals, metrics for success, and track results

Equity Lens

- Demonstrate belief that each student can achieve at the highest levels; hold self and others accountable for promoting high expectations for the academic achievement of WLC schools
- Lead courageously and intentionally to seek the voices of marginalized and historically silenced communities to invite diverse input regarding decisions that impact stakeholders directly
- Engage in transparent decision-making and share with stakeholders how their input informs district decisions

What You'll Bring

- Advanced degree in education with a concentration in one or more areas of specialization, i.e., curriculum and instruction, mathematics education, early childhood education, and inclusive education
- Minimum of five (5) years of full-time, paid, professional experience in a coaching and/or supervisor of instruction role, with significant responsibility for the design and implementation of teaching and learning models, for a public or private agency
- Experience working in a diverse, urban setting is required. Experience in a mid-sized metropolitan school district and/or state education agency is preferred
- A proven record of success in instructional strategy development and tactical execution of establishing a data-driven teacher culture.
- Proven cultural-competence skills with a history of inclusive and relevant equity practices

- Ability to navigate uncertainty and ambiguity in times of tremendous change, and to prioritize work efforts to achieve the WLC's mission

Benefits

The salary range for the Director of Professional Learning position is \$110,000 to \$125,000, commensurate with experience. Additional compensation includes a comprehensive benefits package provided by Delaware State University.

Apply

Please email a resumé and compelling cover letter to jessica@wlc-de.org. Your cover letter should detail how your values, aspirations, and experiences qualify you as an ideal candidate for this position. Initial interviews will begin late July.