



Job Title: Family Engagement Coordinator

Type: Full Time

Reports To: Tenacity's Middle School Academy Site Director

OVERVIEW OF TENACITY MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMY: Working in partnership with the Boston Public Schools, Tenacity's School Year Academy delivers an intensive three-year experience for middle school students presently at six schools: Curley (K-8), Jackson-Mann (K-8), Lilla G. Frederick, Dever-McCormack (K-8), Irving Middle School and the Mario Umana Academy (K-8).

DESIRED RESPONSIBILITIES, QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCES:

As Tenacity grows to meet the critical needs of Boston's children, it offers a unique opportunity for a talented professional who understands the development of the whole child. The successful candidates will be entrepreneurial, collaborative, "willing to go the extra mile," have a strong desire to lead, possess a willingness to share full responsibility for the success of a site and be deeply committed to supporting Boston's youth to achieve excellence in the classroom and on-court while imparting life skills and promoting character development to lay the foundation for their pathway to college. The successful candidate will have a passion for not only delivering high quality instruction to middle school students and their families, but also supervising the growth of the AmeriCorps Fellows who comprise the site team.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS:

The primary function of the MSA Family Engagement Coordinator is to promote and increase parent and family involvement in all aspects of our programming, and coordinate socio-emotional student support; thereby strengthening support for MSA and ultimately increasing success for students and families.

- Build and maintain trusting relationships between parents, Tenacity staff and partner school, to set up strong engagement through the pathway.
- Oversee the structure whereby Tenacity families receive two family visits per year in order to:
 - Ensure continued participation and success in the MSA to prepare for the pathway
 - Engage families in the overall academic achievement of their student
 - Develop student and family goal setting and action plans that are followed up on throughout the year
- Act as a resource to the school (administrators, family engagement coordinators) in school-based family initiatives.
- Lead site student support efforts including weekly meetings.
- Ensure meaningful parent participation at Tenacity and school activities (open houses, conferences, events, performances, etc.), and lead site team reflection around ongoing family involvement.

- Facilitate plan for regular communication with families including phone calls, meetings, and newsletters,
- Act as a resource to the families to help identify additional services or support that may be helpful to the families' success in supporting their children. As necessary, facilitate discussions between parents and schools, including but not limited to bridging language or cultural barriers, addressing institutional mistrust, or informing of BPS or educational systems.
- Play a leading role in engaging families of 8th grade students in the high school selection process, beginning in the spring of 7th grade. Assist in transitioning students from MSA to College Prep program, maintain student enrollment records and assure that data is up to date in the Tenacity information system.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL MSA COORDINATORS:

Work as a team with other site-based Tenacity coordinators, AmeriCorps Fellows, volunteers and part time tennis instructors to manage all aspects of the Middle School Academy (MSA) at a particular BPS site. This includes:

- Accountability for the overall success of the site, which includes but is not limited to:
 - Recruitment and enrollment of middle school students for the MSA Program.
 - Maintenance of high student retention rates and site attendance rates.
 - Meeting expected student achievement goals.
- Directly supervise and coach relevant staff in program.
- Organize and facilitate regular meetings with staff to ensure quality execution of lesson plans and preparation of all materials or equipment.
- Meet regularly with role-specific Fellows to supervise their professional development, increase instructional and behavioral management skillset, provide in-the-moment coaching around program-delivery techniques, provide growth opportunities, and manage professionalism and team dynamics.
- Meet regularly with all Fellows and provide coaching and feedback to ensure that the execution of program is meeting the expectations of Coordinators.
- Expertly navigate and mediate team conflicts or professional improvement opportunities for staff, where relevant.
- Co-plan and attend events, field trips, and other activities, including some evening and/or weekend events.
- Build and manage highly effective relationships with the principal, teachers and parents to discuss individual student progress and ways to better meet the needs of the students and school.
- Participate regularly in school meetings, including but not limited to weekly content or student support meetings, student-specific meetings such as IEP meetings, the Instructional Leadership Team, school wide assessment reflection sessions, and professional development sessions.
- Execute Tenacity's high school selection process to ensure every 8th grade student is fully engaged in the process and meeting requirements (e.g. school visits, applications). Work directly with a small caseload of students to ensure maximization of high school options for student.

- Exhibit a desire to collaborate and share best-practices with coordinators from all MSA sites.
- Show an eagerness to take on more leadership in the organization, including preparing and facilitating weekly coordinator meetings, attendance at conferences or events that raise the visibility and thought leadership of the organization, initiate new partnerships with other institutions that strengthen the strategy of Tenacity and its students.
- During the summer, perform preparatory work, family visits, and/or strategic program revisions for next year's implementation as deemed appropriate by the MSA Director.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCES FOR THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CANDIDATE:

- Masters in Social Work strongly preferred with a focus on K-12 educational settings.
- Bilingual in *Spanish* is *highly* preferred.
- Significant experience working with low income families whose children who have both academic and social challenges.
- An ability to model a “Growth Mindset” for students, other staff, and oneself.
- Experience working with urban middle schoolers, ideally in a capacity that targeted socio-emotional growth.
- Experience working with young adults and providing coaching, mentoring, and support for them to meet the needs of middle school youth.
- Strong interpersonal, team development, management, organizational and verbal/written communication skills.
- Have considerable relationship management skills and experience – particularly working with parents, students, teachers, and principals.
- Passion for improving the quality of education for children living in low income, urban communities.
- Proficiency in verbal and written communication, Microsoft Word, Excel.
- Some tennis experience a plus.
- Drivers License Required.
- Skill, experience and desire for data management a plus.
- Owning a car is a significant plus/willingness to drive

TO APPLY:

Send resume and cover letter to msafamilyengagement@tenacity.org, with “#138 – family engagement coordinator” in the subject line of your email.