

PROJECT GRAD ACADEMIC SUPPORT COACH
Secondary Focus – Grades 7-12

Qualifications: Preferred applicants will have an Alaska Teaching Certificate with classroom experience. Experience with multi-grade settings a plus. A qualified applicant will minimally have a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution, a minimum of two years working in a culturally diverse and rural setting and demonstrate an understanding of the complex dynamics of these settings.

- Firm belief in the power of a strengths-based approach to student support, ACEs, and youth development.
- Ability to actively listen and respectfully communicate among all stakeholders, including students, co-workers (other coaches, counselors, project director, and school staff to further productive collaboration and communication.
- Understanding best practices in instruction, learning, formative and summative assessments.
- Understanding of how ACEs impacts readiness to learn and engage in the classroom and strategies for mitigation.
- Understanding of social and behavioral skills needed for success in academic settings.
- Understanding of strategies to help students develop and practice these skills.
- Ability to build and maintain respectful relationships with school staff (principals, teachers, paraprofessionals) to maximize collaboration and support.
- Experience or high interest in working with Alaska Native youth.
- Experience working with youth from situations of poverty and/or rural isolation.
- Willingness to engage in internal professional development regarding best practices in education and learning, adolescent brain development.
- Comfort in flying in small planes, participating and assisting with organizing some weekend or multi-day youth empowerment events.

Expectations

- Create positive relationships with students in order to productively engage in meaningful educational planning, including paths to high school graduation, academics, life skills, and postsecondary opportunities.
- Assist teachers and fellow coaches to create culturally-relevant and enriching, experiential learning activities
- Support students through individual, small group, and in classroom settings to help develop individual educational plans for students in grades 7-12.
- Support students in grades 7-12 as they work through their educational plan
- Connect with students to help them identify their sparks, strengths, goals, and skills for strengths-based support.

Graduation Really Achieves Dreams

- Work with Site Coordinator, Project GRAD counselor, and fellow coaches to organize support and special events.
- Provide career counseling, mentoring opportunities, and referral services.
- Develop and maintain communications pathways using the PGKP website, social media, and other appropriate media.
- Incorporate the integrative youth development philosophy as a strategy to empower youth.

NOTE: Position requires travel in small planes, some overnight in villages, occasional weekend, and some multi-day events that take you out of town. Weather interruptions are a frequent concern.

Supervision and Accountability:

Academic Student Support Coaches reports directly to the **Site Coordinator** and **PGKP Executive Director**, but while on campus must be able to take direction from the school site principal/administrator, follow all school rules, inform school administration about their daily work schedule as requested, and work in partnership with tribal leadership and other youth partners. **Academic Student Support Coaches** must work cooperatively with tribal/community leaders when using community meeting sites in support of PGKP activities. Collaboration among the PGKP staff is necessary for many of the programs, institutes, and events, so clear communication among the small, but often dispersed staff is key to programmatic success.

Criminal and school background checks required. CPR / First Aid card desirable.

Application Process:

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and three letters of reference to Celeste Novak at cnovak@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Position is a ten-month position (August 1 – May 31). Salary is DOE.