



*as far as the mind can see*

## **2020-2021 Upper School Learning Specialist**

### **Exciting Opportunity at Francis Parker School in San Diego, California**

Francis Parker School is seeking an enthusiastic, dedicated, and passionate educator who shares its core values: Students First, Academic Excellence, Global Perspective, Strength of Character, Inclusive Community, and No Limit to Better. Collegial and collaborative, Parker faculty create a learning environment that is dynamic and engaging. Parker faculty are content and pedagogical experts who invest in professional growth generously supported by the School. Importantly, Parker's unwavering commitment to being a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community creates a culture of respect for all.

If Parker's values and school culture resonate with you, we encourage you to consider this opportunity.

### **About Francis Parker School:**

Francis Parker School is a coeducational independent day school in San Diego, California with 1300 students in grades JK-12. Founded in 1912, the school's mission is "to create and inspire a diverse community of independent thinkers whose academic excellence, global perspective and strength of character prepare them to make a meaningful difference in the world".

Overlooking Mission Valley, two separate campuses serve students in Lower School – junior kindergarten through 5th grade; Middle School – 6th grade through 8th grade and Upper School – 9th grade through 12th grade. As a college preparatory school Parker offers a comprehensive program that includes twenty-five advanced placement courses as well as a rich palette of electives – all designed to meet the individual needs of our students.

### **Job Description:**

The role of the Learning Specialist serves our Upper School population and supports students with identified learning differences by providing appropriate interventions; support teachers in their efforts to advance students with different learning needs within the classroom; and work with parents, students, and outside professionals in order to better support academic progress. The teacher's broad area of responsibility is to ensure that each student may learn and flourish academically, socially, and emotionally, and upon graduation is prepared for a successful transition to college. The Learning Specialist reports to the Head of Upper School.

### **Essential Duties/Responsibilities:**

- Develops solid knowledge of the Scope and Sequence and all other grade-level curricula in each content area taught, including the essential information, concepts and skills so as to better support students and assist classroom teachers.

[www.francisparker.org](http://www.francisparker.org)

Linda Vista Campus    6501 Linda Vista Road    San Diego, CA 92111    858 / 569-7900  
Mission Hills Campus    4201 Randolph Street    San Diego, CA 92103    619 / 298-9110

*as far as the mind can see*

- Differentiates instruction as needed (in content, process, product, and environment).
- Oversees the Implementation of each student's ILP, collaborating with classroom teachers, and the Gooding Family Academic Resource Center.
- Provides individual and small group instruction.
- Assists teachers in classrooms to help adjust, modify, and enrich curricular approaches and improve pedagogy.
- Provides professional development for faculty.
- Works collaboratively with Department Chairs and the Middle and Lower School learning specialists.
- Works in conjunction with the Head of Upper School and Director of Student Academic Support to recommend tutors, psycho-educational referrals, etc.
- Consults with outside specialists attending to students' needs.
- Seeks out new and innovative curricula, texts, and technological applications for implementation in our classrooms and in the Gooding Family Academic Resource Center.
- When necessary, meets with the appropriate teacher(s) and department heads to ensure the easy and comfortable assimilation of all new students.
- Remains current with accepted and appropriate instructional theory, practice and research. Including engaging in regular and strategic professional development to advance the role of the Learning Specialist (including local and national seminars and conferences).
- Provides skillful classroom management practices (routines and procedures) to ensure a safe, orderly, positive, enjoyable, and productive learning environment.
- Uses formative and summative assessment and documents student progress and achievement; assesses and analyzes student strengths and needs; designs and implements appropriate instruction to facilitate learning and growth.
- Establishes and maintains frequent communication with parents about their child's academic, social and emotional progress and needs. This includes report cards, phone calls, learning management systems, email blasts, etc.
- In consultation with the Head of Upper School, and Director of Student Academic Support, creates and implements a protocol for determining who will receive special needs support.
- Attends meetings for all students with ILPs and weekly US Student Support Meeting.
- Gives input to teachers regarding student report cards as deemed appropriate and necessary.
- Attends and participates in faculty meetings, committee meetings, school functions, and professional development activities during and after school hours as needed, appropriate and assigned.
- Upholds the philosophy, principles, policies, and procedures of Francis Parker School.
- Represents Francis Parker School positively in the school community and the wider community.
- Adheres to strict student confidentiality.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience with record keeping and documentation of service provision.
- Performs other tasks as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Head of Upper School



*as far as the mind can see*

**Qualifications:**

- Has significant experience within a thriving Learning Specialist Program and/or experience building a Learning Specialist program.
- Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution
- Professional Teacher Certification (***including special education***)
- Coursework and experience in special education or educational therapy
- Experience interpreting psychoeducational evaluations and translating results into accommodations and interventions that reflect empirically based best practices
- Experience working with High School students both individually and in groups
- Knowledge of relevant technology
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to implement formal and informal assessment programs
- Passion for teaching

**Salary and Benefits:**

Francis Parker School is committed to attracting and retaining the highest quality faculty and staff through a substantial compensation plan, including competitive salary, TIAA retirement benefits and full medical/dental coverage. Individual salary is negotiable depending on years of experience and educational background.

**Non-Discrimination:**

Francis Parker School values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty, and staff from different backgrounds. All employment decisions are made without regard to unlawful considerations of race, color, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and related medical conditions), gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, religion, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, creed, age, mental or physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, military or veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law.

**Application Process:**

A cover letter, resume, transcripts, and completed employment application should be submitted electronically to:

[parkerjobs@francisparker.org](mailto:parkerjobs@francisparker.org)

<https://www.francisparker.org/about-us/employment>

Please indicate the position you are applying for in the subject line.

[www.francisparker.org](http://www.francisparker.org)

Linda Vista Campus    6501 Linda Vista Road    San Diego, CA 92111    858 / 569-7900  
Mission Hills Campus    4201 Randolph Street    San Diego, CA 92103    619 / 298-9110