



<b>Job title</b>	<b>Special Education Teacher</b>
<b>Reports to</b>	Executive Director
<b>Status</b>	Exempt

### **Job Purpose**

The Gersh Organization is dedicated to changing the lives of children on the autism spectrum. Our team of professionals is committed to providing opportunities, inspiration, and guidance for every child to reach their full potential, regardless of the challenges they face. With our family of programs in various locations on Long Island and in Puerto Rico, Gersh is the leading provider of educational and support services for children on the autism spectrum and their families.

Gersh Academy at Cougar Mountain provides an environment where programs and services are customized around our student's individual needs both inside and outside the classroom. Expanding our program to the Pacific North West and at Cougar Mountain allows for limitless opportunities to use our curriculum and vocational philosophies to create new and exciting experiences that benefit our students, their families and the community.

Gersh Academy at Cougar Mountain is seeking an energetic, experienced and certified Special Education Teacher. The Special Education Teacher will be responsible for teaching all academic subjects and life skills, modifying when necessary to meet the individual needs of students.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

- Use appropriate methodologies when working with students such as Applied Behavior Analysis or Collaborative Problem Solving or any agreed upon method which acts in the best interest of the student
- Create an authentic environment by displaying student work and projects both in and out of the classroom
- Maintain a consistent and safe environment for the students
- Plan daily lessons which meet the needs of individual students as well as appropriate group lessons
- Modify any materials needed to successfully teach students
- Maintain accurate records by recording relevant information in each students' binder
- Write annual reports for each student following specific guidelines
- Participate in and Implement the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Behavior Intervention Plans for each student
- Administer assessments to evaluate student progress and identify areas of deficit or concern
- Collaborate with other professionals including guidance, speech therapists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists, behavior specialists, and vocational directors to create a team approach
- Communicate as directed with parents
- Promote health and safety concepts and social interaction with other students

- Participate in all necessary trainings, team meetings, community activities and school functions
- Communicate regularly with supervisors regarding classroom dynamics and student development
- Conduct weekly daily meetings with classroom staff
- Manage and evaluate performance of classroom staff to include teacher assistant and paraprofessionals
- Responsible to follow directives given by administration and duties assigned

### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor's Degree in education, special education or related field or professional certification required
- Master's Degree in special education preferred
- Experience working with students on the autism spectrum preferred
- Experience using Applied Behavioral Analysis preferred
- Experience in assessment and report writing preferred

### **Working Conditions**

- Occasional before and after school work hours at the discretion of the Administrative staff
- School / Classroom setting

### **Physical requirements**

- Must be able to keep students safe from themselves and others and in some cases may need to implement CPI procedures
- Must be able to remove oneself from potentially harmful situations and in some cases be able to lift a child