**School Name:** MS 644 - Bronx Debate Academy

**District:** 09

**School Site:** Aurelia Greene Campus, 1302 Edward L Grant Hwy, Bronx, NY 10452

**Send Cover Letter and Resume to:** newschool644@gmail.com

**POSITION**

Paraprofessional

**DESCRIPTION**

MS 644 is a Dual Language Spanish-English, Debate, and Experiential Learning school. All languages of students are welcomed! Students will either take Dual Language classes in both Spanish-English or students will have classes in English with a Spanish Elective. Each content area will utilize debate and experiential learning in their instruction in order to connect the classroom to the real world. Students will have trips each Marking Period. In 8th grade, all students will take regents in Algebra, Biology and U.S. Government. Also, we will offer SHSAT preparation courses for Specialized High Schools. During our expanded learning and afterschool time, all students at MS 644 will be exposed to a variety of enrichment activities: the arts, sports, different clubs, and the debate team. Additionally, we will have a Saturday Academy that provides both academic and extracurricular enrichments.

MS 644 New Vision Statement

To develop students who are free to think, serve, and lead themselves and their communities.

MS 644 New Mission Statement

To develop young leaders and independent thinkers through debate who grow personally, academically, and professionally.

Our Slogan

Think - Serve - Lead

We are seeking to hire staff with a commitment to instructional growth, leadership growth and collaboration, and a commitment to our core values, our LAURELS, which represents who we are and what we do:

1. **L**ove: We can all love.
2. **A**chievement: We can all learn.
3. **U**buntu: We are all interdependent.
4. **R**espect for Culture & Identities: We all have language.
5. **E**ffectiveExpression**:** We all have a voice.
6. **L**eadership: We are all leaders.
7. **S**ervice: We can all serve.

An 8-day summer planning institute will offer an essential opportunity for staff to be involved in developing the school’s culture and instructional program. Additionally, the school will offer opportunities for staff to participate in:

Because we believe that all staff members play an important role in the education of our students, the school will offer opportunities for paraprofessionals to participate in activities like:

* After school and/or Saturday tutoring, enrichment, sports, arts, and family programs
* In-house school committees and/or special programs.
* Leadership roles.

*Advance notice of dates will be supplied, and those who participate will be compensated according to the terms of the UFT contract. Staff participation in these activities is voluntary, although strongly encouraged, as they are very important to the development of the school.*

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

UFT Paraprofessionals hired after 2004 must have a Level 1 NYSED Teaching Assistant Certificate. UFT Paraprofessionals hired before 2004 currently on DOE payroll are eligible for this position.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Because roles in small schools are varied and complex, serious consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate in their resume and cover letter experience and/or willingness to commit to the school’s mission and core beliefs and to become involved in these essential aspects:

| * Working within a non-traditional school schedule and organization structure that meets the needs of English Language learners and students requiring special education services
* Supporting students in the classroom
* Contributing to student observation and documentation files
* Collaborating with individual teachers and teacher teams to provide targeted, small group and one-on-one instructional support to students
* Working with teachers to implement an integrated curriculum and student-centered environment
* Collaborating with teachers to create a learning environment where students’ emotional and social needs are met through conflict resolution, peer mediation, collaborative learning, team building activities, etc.
* Seeking professional growth experiences, and contributing to the professional growth of colleagues
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**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

* Willingness to carry out the above duties and responsibilities

| * Ability to work with teachers in implementing reading and writing strategies in daily lessons
* Ability to work with teachers in implementing mathematical and scientific strategies in daily lessons
* Ability to work with teachers in implementing study skills and organizational strategies in daily lessons
* Strong student management skills
* Ability to professionally and effectively communicate orally and in writing with colleagues and students
* Ability to work in teams and collaborate and support school wide initiatives to support student engagement and learning
* Commitment to continuous professional growth (i.e. professional development, formal education, outside reading)
* Experience or willingness to learn how to support the use of technology in the classroom to improve student learning
* Ability to assist teachers in all independent, partner, group and whole class projects, work and activities
* Excellent attendance, punctuality and organizational skills
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In addition to the cover letter, resume, and interview, applicants must present three references including, if possible, one from a current supervisor. Other references might include a colleague with whom the applicant has collaborated, and/or a professional organization or staff development representative.

**WORK SCHEDULE & SALARY**

As per Collective Bargaining Agreement