Mackay Northern Beaches State High School

Junior Secondary Position – Expression of Interest

Please find outlined below more details of our Junior Secondary (JS) model and general philosophy and expectations around teaching and learning at Mackay Northern Beaches SHS (MNBSHS). Our aim in the process outlined below is to gain your thoughts on this model and how you might contribute to this model. It also provides you with a chance to outline your own teaching philosophy for students of this age group and in general, as we develop a strong culture of teaching and learning excellence at Mackay Northern Beaches SHS.

Overview:

As a Year 7, 8 and/or 9 teacher at MNBSHS you will be considered a leader of the JS implementation. Your role would have three key responsibilities:

1. Teaching in your areas of expertise ensuring that your pedagogy is engaging and age-appropriate and your curriculum implementation is relevant and meaningful to adolescents.
2. Promotion of well-being of our Junior Secondary students – and with particular support for a number of students to whom you will be mentor. Another aspect of wellbeing is development and participation in the JS co-curricular activities – camp, events, lunchtime, before school activities etc.
3. Undertake regular self-reflection and peer reflection activities to ensure you remain at the cutting edge of educational practice not only in Junior Secondary but also in your general teaching/engagement with young people.

If successful, you will be supported with significant professional development over time and a comprehensive new staff induction program for all commencing staff at the school.

Detail:

1. MNBSHS will be considered a model for other schools in the region and so together we will be working at the forefront of Junior Secondary best practice. This will be only achieved through hard work and a willingness to learn and improve. This hard work will be highly professionally and personally rewarding. It is likely that you will regularly have visitors to your classroom to observe your exemplary classroom practice and to provide constructive feedback from time to time.
2. Essentially, for the core areas, you will be working in a team of two, teaching two Year 7 classes, primarily covering the learning areas of Mathematics and Science (including Laboratory sessions) or English and History and most likely other subject areas depending on your areas of expertise/qualification. If your two areas were Mathematics and Science, for example you will teach these to both these classes, whilst your partner teaches the complementary subjects.
3. This two-person team would largely teach these two Year 7 classes with the balance of the time for the classes being taught by other specialists.
4. You will likely teach one other class in the Junior Secondary in your area of expertise e.g. Year 8 Mathematics or a Yr 8, 9 specialist class, if this is your area of expertise.
5. Should we have 6 x Year 7 classes we would have 3 pairs of teachers and you would share the planning and assessment development with the other Science and Maths (for example) teachers in Year 7.
6. Year 7 students will also undertake a taste-test or smorgasbord of elective/specialist subjects – these exciting curriculum offerings will be developed to include units in Visual Art, Drama, Digital Media, Industrial Design and Technology, Food Studies and Music. Teachers with a speciality in one or more of these areas are encouraged to apply, emphasising their specialist area of teaching.

7. JS students will have their own identifiable area within the school.

8. The school has taken possession of one larger staffroom in Stage 1 of construction and this will house all staff from 2013-2105. A second larger staffroom is planned for Stage 2 of development.

9. Your staffroom location will be determined each year by the need to have teaching teams in close proximity for planning purposes. Staffroom placement will be reviewed each December.

10. Careers Education will run through each year level starting at year 7.

Please provide a clear written response of no more than three A4 pages to the following:

1. Your thoughts on the model and how you might contribute and value add to the Junior Secondary philosophy at MNBSHS

2. Your own teaching and learning philosophy for students of this age group and evidence of current practice or potential to gain relevant knowledge

3. Your areas of subject expertise and extra-curricular expertise you are willing to initiate and/or be involved in

4. Any curriculum leadership experience you have had and/or areas you would like to develop further.

If you have any queries or questions, please contact Sian Burrows (Principal, MNBSHS) on 48 421 333 and submit your application to Sandra Lucke.