

Job Posting: Director of Innovation

St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School is committed to strengthening and enriching student learning through innovative teaching methods. Students and their individual goals for the future are at the center of all learning experiences, and empower students to identify and solve problems, bridge content across traditional "subject" domains, and develop an unshakable growth mindset. We define "innovation" as mindsets, design processes, and teaching practices that challenge traditional norms and assumptions. These can take the form of new strategies or iterations or remixes of existing strategies. We seek a listener and risk-taker to lead and support innovative teaching and learning in our school while connecting St. Stephen's with the broader community, nation, and world.

The Director of Innovation position is a full-time, 12 month position reporting to and working closely with the Head of School. This new position is for the 2016-2017 school year and may begin as early as July 11, 2016. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. If you would like a range, please email mnevin@sseds.org as we are not publishing that information.

Qualifications:

- Hold advanced degrees and have at least three years of exemplary teaching experience.
- Varied professional experience, both in classroom settings and outside of schools. Former entrepreneurs encouraged, having demonstrated ability to independently develop professional connections and skills.
- Bonafide risk taker, out-of-the-box thinker, and problem solver who enjoys working in a dynamic, fast-paced team environment.
- Demonstrated expertise in listening and understanding needs, as well as introducing new ideas without forcefulness.
- Possess a can-do outlook, a well-developed sense of humor, a servant-leader's attitude, and the ability to make meaningful and positive connections with a broad base of stakeholders.
- Demonstrated reflection upon and learning from failures. Examples will be requested.
- Demonstrated perseverance, resilience, and comfort with ambiguity. Examples will be requested.
- Demonstrate initiative, independent judgment, and diplomacy in their decision making.

Responsibilities:

- Provide inspiration in developing and implementing new innovative pedagogical design, consulting, and advisory support for teachers and students, as well as entrepreneurial engagement and involvement.
- Connect with teachers individually to support each teacher's innovation growth from their own starting point and at their own pace. Publicly celebrate attempts, successes, and failures in new endeavors.

- Help facilitate the endless creative possibilities dreamed by teachers to become reality for their students.
- Support development of a community-wide common language around innovation, including faculty, students, families, and local community. Reach out to “outside” community to collaborate and form partnerships.
- Create safe physical and emotional spaces for teachers to explore and develop innovative learning opportunities. Support a cultural shift towards more innovation through collaboration.
- Build capacity of faculty and students to independently investigate and design new innovations. Act as a multiplier of faculty and student strengths.
- Broker relationships between disparate groups both within and outside the school community. Foster ties between groups with different expertise and daily experience to encourage cross-pollination and boundary-crossing.
- Plan, organize, and schedule all aspects of [Miami Device](#) Innovation Learning Event to take place at St. Stephen’s in November of 2017 and on an on-going biennial schedule.
- Work closely with the Head of School and Assistant Head of School to provide meaningful professional development activities focused on innovative instruction.
- Create and oversee robust innovation labs that will function as a demonstration center for teachers, students, as well as industry and auxiliary revenue partners.
- Support and challenge the learning community to take intelligent risks, move at a quick pace, work as a team, and engage with a sense of urgency and completion.
- Lead the school’s analysis of emerging technologies, instructional theories, and innovative approaches and its efforts to capitalize on teachers’ and students’ own creativity.
- Collect data and track innovation growth throughout the school to support connections, monitor patterns, and provide example cases to others. Data might consist of qualitative project examples and specific feedback from teachers, students, and families, as well as quantitative numbers of students served and events held.
- Establish long-term and trimester goals for innovation growth milestones within the community. Meet with Head of School and Assistant Head of School monthly to share data on innovation growth and solicit feedback for continued progress.
- Connect with innovation leaders at other schools.
- Other duties as assigned.

Diagram above:

- Working with innovation coaches or small group of teachers on learning experiences, design, iteration, and reflection – 30%
- Collecting, analyzing and presenting data to track innovation growth within the school – 20%
- Establishing and maintaining community partnerships, including community family events and wider community connections to science, technology, and entrepreneurship innovation mentors – 20%

- Collaborating and learning with innovation leader colleagues at other schools, including personally and at regional, national and world-wide conferences – 20%
- Planning and/or delivering all-faculty professional development – 10%

About St. Stephen's

Established in 1958, St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School, serving students in preschool through Grade Five. It is located in the heart of Coconut Grove within the metropolitan Miami area on a beautiful 3.5 acre campus just off Biscayne Bay. Throughout the School's rich history, St. Stephen's remains committed to offering an innovative educational experience for students to lead the future with confidence as they confront a fast-paced, digitally based global marketplace. Mastering 21st century skills, driven by a vigorous college preparatory environment, reflects the world class education received by students at St. Stephen's. The School is a member of the National Association of Episcopal Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools and is accredited by the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS) and the Florida Kindergarten Council (FKC).

About Miami Device

Miami Device is a two day Innovative Learning event that takes place mostly on the grounds of St. Stephen's. It is an International event that has drawn educators, librarians, administrators, and technology support personnel from 11 countries and 22 US States. Everything about Miami Device is planned and expected to be top notch. From the quality of the presenters to the well-planned topics and schedule, as well as activities that occur before, during, and after the event. This is one of the most rewarding and fun parts of this job. Currently, Miami Device is scheduled to happen biennially.

All interested applicants should submit their resume, cover letter, and three references to Joy McIntosh, Assistant Head of School jmcintosh@sseds.org. A link to a video of any length that shows you in action or helps give us a sense of your personality, while not required, would greatly be appreciated.

New hires at St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School agree to a 90-day probationary period. Any questions about this policy may be directed to our Business Manager, Mariví Nevin, at mnevin@sseds.org.