



Are you a teacher with a track record of exceptional results for students? Are you looking for a unique leadership opportunity to magnify your impact and grow professionally?

Lead from the Classroom – Become a TLI Teacher Leader!

Overview

What is a TLI Teacher Leader?

The Teacher Leadership Innovation (TLI) program offers excellent teachers the opportunity to spend part of the day teaching and part of the day leading other adults in the building. **TLI Teacher Leaders are school-based employees who teach for at least 50% of the day, and spend the remainder of their day coaching and leading their peers.** TLI began in 2013 and continues to be an integral leadership position at schools across the district. This school year, there are over 150 TLI Teacher Leaders leading LEAP Teams across approximately 70 different DCPS campuses from early childhood to high school! Since the 2016-2017 school year, the majority of TLI Teacher Leaders have been LEAP Leaders, serving as the lead for a content specific LEAP Team at their respective schools. TLI Teacher Leaders lead teachers through a cycle of content specific LEAP Seminars, in which they develop teachers' content knowledge, support their planning, and guide the analysis of student work tied to the DCPS curriculum. TLI Teacher Leaders also often provide coaching support for teachers on their team by using a variety of coaching touchpoints, including observation and debrief, co-planning, or modeling and debrief. At the elementary and middle school level, TLI Teacher Leaders serve as the lead for ELA and Math specific LEAP Teams. At the high school level, TLI Teacher Leaders serve as the LEAP Leaders for the core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies).

TLI Teacher Leader roles for Special Education, Early Childhood, and Culture are also available. These roles are designed at the school level, and focus on leading and/or coaching around a specific school-based focus within special education, early childhood, or school culture.

What are the benefits of becoming a TLI Teacher Leader?

The following are three of the top reasons many of our best teachers decide to pursue TLI teacher leadership roles:



Magnify your impact – As an exceptional classroom teacher, you have the ability to radically impact the students in your classroom. As a TLI Teacher Leader, you will have the ability to <u>expand your impact drastically</u> by leading your colleagues, who will in turn impact many more students.



Lead from the classroom – Career advancement within education no longer requires you to leave the classroom. As a TLI Teacher Leader, you remain in the classroom for at least 50% of the day, connected to doing something you love – teaching. However, you will also





have the opportunity to develop leadership skills through coaching other teachers and leading school teams.



Grow professionally – TLI Teacher Leaders receive professional development to foster success in their roles. This school year, LEAP Leaders received training at a week-long summer intensive, where they strengthened their content knowledge; coaching skills; and ability to lead with equity. In addition, LEAP Leaders continued their development throughout the school year during the three LEAP Leader PLC events, which focused on

building content knowledge and honing adult leadership skills.

What are TLI Teacher Leaders doing?

Meet Ms. Nolin, an elementary school TLI Teacher Leader in Math. Ms. Nolin shares a classroom of second graders with another TLI Teacher Leader at her school. Each morning, she teaches math in her own classroom. In the afternoon she observes or models in other K-2 classrooms and follows up with teachers during debriefs and co-planning. Throughout the week, she runs grade-level math meetings during which she discusses curriculum and data, culminating in her weekly 90 minute LEAP Seminar with her team of 6 general education as well as two teachers who support ELs and SWD. She is also a member of her school's ALT.

Meet Ms. Patterson, a high school TLI Teacher Leader in ELA. Ms. Patterson teaches two sections of English II, and one section each of Pre-AP English II and AP Language & Composition. Twice a week, she leads the English department LEAP Seminar, and meets weekly with the English I and II teams to co-plan. She observes each of the English I and II teachers once a month (in addition to a few other quick observations each month). Ms. Patterson is also a member of the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) on campus.

Support and Development

How are TLI Teacher Leaders compensated?

TLI Teacher Leaders receive a \$2,500 stipend for fulfilling the TLI Teacher Leader duties, in addition to fulfilling their normal teaching duties.

What training do TLI Teacher Leaders receive to do this work successfully?

TLI Teacher Leaders will participate in robust, high-quality training and support delivered in collaboration by the LEAP Team and partners at Leading Educators, an organization that specializes in leadership development. This school year, the training took place during a week-long summer intensive, followed by three 1.5 day trainings throughout the school year.

What supports are in place for TLI Teacher Leaders to help balance teaching and leading?

Each school's master schedule is uniquely designed to support TLI Teacher Leaders. Up to 50% of a TLI Teacher Leader's day can be spent completing leadership responsibilities. Additionally, professional development takes place throughout the year to support their learning opportunities.