



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Position Description

STAND UP is seeking a dynamic, visionary leader to serve as its founding Executive Director, an individual who has a demonstrated commitment to education reform and a deep knowledge of the complex issues facing our public school system. The Executive Director of STAND UP acts as the Chief Executive Officer for the organization and is primarily responsible for setting the vision and direction, organizational management, fundraising, and external relations.

Leading candidates for the position will be innovative, open-minded and confident professionals with experience in an entrepreneurial culture, and have a strong degree of comfort working in a start-up organization in a highly complex and political environment. The Executive Director is expected to bring an analytical and intellectual understanding of how academic achievement can be increased through school choice, accountability, human capital professional development, and parental involvement.

Organization Overview

Great schools are the foundation of great cities. STAND Up is a non-profit organization that works directly with the Mayor's office to positively impact the students of Sacramento by ensuring all children have access to a high quality education. Currently in the start-up phase of development, STAND UP will focus on increasing academic achievement and college completion rates by advocating, supporting, and developing excellent public schools. The five main pillars at the heart of the organization's vision include: accountability, school choice, human capital, parental involvement, and resource development.

Key Responsibilities

- Vision & Strategic Planning.* The Executive Director is accountable for setting the vision and direction for STAND UP for Education based on the initiatives provided by the Board of Directors. Specifically, the Executive Director is responsible for the following:
 - Determining the feasibility and implementation of short and long term organizational objectives
 - Formulating policies and procedures for operations
 - Constructing optimal organizational structure for maximum efficiency
- Organizational Development & Financial Management.* The Executive Director is accountable for the overall leadership and operation of the organization, while executing on the Board's vision and mission for the organization. Within policies established by the Board of Directors, the Executive Director supervises the Deputy Director and any subsequent personnel additions. Specifically, the Executive Director is responsible for the following:
 - Overseeing all accounting functions including those necessary for budget development and execution, financial analysis, tax reporting, and administration of benefits and insurance
 - Supervising the hiring and firing of staff and selecting, training, and developing employees
 - Managing building contracts, facilities planning, maintenance, and custodial operations
 - Assisting in the planning and implementation of information technology (IT) infrastructure

3. *Fundraising & Resource Development.* The Executive Director is accountable for determining the optimal course of funding for STAND UP. Specifically, the Executive Director is responsible for the following:

- Overseeing the philanthropic fundraising activities
- Managing grant-writing activities
- Securing additional funds from the federal government
- Developing formal partnerships with departments with the City of Sacramento as a means to leverage fund and resources

4. *External Relations.* The Executive Director is accountable for initiating and nurturing productive relationships with a variety of constituencies at the local, state and national levels. Central to this role is the effective and persuasive presentation of STAND UP's vision and mission to various stakeholder groups. Specifically, the Executive Director is responsible for the following:

- Engaging local school district leadership
- Maintaining strong network of leaders of charter management organizations
- Cultivating and developing relationships with philanthropic groups and individuals
- Liaise with local and state government representatives and national regulatory agencies

Desired Qualifications

STAND UP is seeking an individual with the following experience and attributes:

- Earned at minimum an undergraduate degree in related field of study, an advanced degree is preferred.
- Three years successful experience in education reform. Successful administrative experience in nonprofit and general management is also desired.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Strong organizational and project management skills.
- Demonstrated ability to conceptualize, develop, and evaluate programs.

Compensation

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience.

Application Process

The interview process will include a resume review, cover letter, phone interview and a project. For the first round, please send your resume and a cover letter to Andrea Corso at acorso@standup.org. Applicants who are selected for the second round will be notified by February 28, 2010.

About Mayor Kevin Johnson

Kevin Johnson is the 55th mayor of Sacramento. He is the first native Sacramentan, and the first African American to be elected to the office. His vision is for Sacramento to become "a city that works for everyone."

Johnson's dedication to public service began long before he started his tenure as mayor. Upon retiring from the NBA after 12 seasons with the Phoenix Suns in 2000, he returned to his Oak Park neighborhood in Sacramento to serve as the CEO of St. HOPE, a non-profit community development organization he founded in 1989 to revitalize inner-city communities through public education, economic development, civic leadership and the arts. St. HOPE has dramatically improved the community of Oak Park through its holistic community development approach, and is recognized as a national leader in the "transformation high school" movement.

Since taking office in December 2008, Mayor Johnson has accomplished a number of objectives in his ambitious action plan for Sacramento, including:

- Improving public safety by adding more police officers, securing grants, and hosting two gang summits;
- Championing excellence in public education by meeting with area superintendents, hosting an education summit and bringing U.S. Secretary of Education to Sacramento for a series of back-to-school meetings and events;
- Boosting economic development by supporting existing businesses and working to bring others to Sacramento, collaborating with President Obama's administration, Governor Schwarzenegger and Congresswoman Matsui to advocate for stimulus funds for the region, and promoting green business development;
- Addressing homelessness in a respectful and proactive manner, specifically finding clean and safe housing for hundreds of Sacramentans, chairing the Policy Board to End Homelessness, establishing a task force to research the viability of a "safe ground" and Launching Sacramento Steps Forward.
- Setting a new standard for community engagement and accountability by holding office hours and town hall meetings throughout the city, promoting the use of the City's 311 service, and launching Volunteer Sacramento, an initiative designed to make the Sacramento a national leader in volunteerism.

A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, Johnson also served on the Board of Directors for LISC National, the California Charter Schools Association, the UC Berkeley Foundation, the Institute of Governmental Studies National Advisory Council and the Harvard Divinity School SLI Advisory Board. His concern and compassion for children and education prompted President George Bush to honor him with the 411th Point of Light.