Position Title: Head of School, Kigutu International Academy

Location: Kigutu, Burundi

Background:

The Kigutu International Academy is a grade 9-12 boarding school that will develop a new generation of problem-solvers, change-makers and entrepreneurial leaders for Burundi. The Academy is located near the small village of Kigutu on the expansive campus of Village Health Works. About three hours south of Bujumbura, the Academy is nestled in lush mountains and overlooks beautiful Lake Tanganyika.

KIA will offer a transformative education for young Burundians. Highlights of the Academy include: a curriculum focused on building critical 21st century skills such as team-work, communication, critical thinking and entrepreneurship; innovative instruction, including project-based and experiential learning that use Village Health Works as the classroom; hands-on experience operating small enterprises; instruction in English with exposure to French and Swahili; and a focus on science, technology and math.

The Academy will open its doors in September 2020 to a cross-section of young people from across Burundi who have demonstrated strong academic performance and a track record of leadership in their communities. Students will gain the skills and competencies needed to lead in a complex and changing world as well as solid grounding in traditional subject areas. The Academy’s 4-year program will prepare students to lead locally and compete alongside the best in the world, providing pathways to universities in Africa and the US. Launching with a small pilot class of 30, the Academy will grow to around 250 students. KIA’s innovative approach to teaching and learning will serve as a model for Burundi; once established, it will provide innovative teacher training to educators from across Burundi and the region.

A founding team of educators is currently being assembled to launch this game-changing school. We are recruiting a small number of mission-driven individuals, who are motivated by the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to bring the Academy’s vision to life. For more information, see: https://www.kigutuinternationalacademy.org/

The Kigutu International Academy is an initiative of Village Health Works (VHW) a leading, global non-profit organization. Founded in 2006 in partnership with the community of Kigutu, VHW uses a holistic model to improve local livelihoods and restore dignity and hope, focusing first on treating and preventing illness through
primary health care services and then integrating education, sustainable agriculture, and economic development programs. VHW has built an extensive campus in Kigutu, with close to 500 full- and part-time employees in Burundi and a small team in the US. VHW delivers a wide array of impactful programs in a catchment area of 200,000 people. VHW provided over 40,000 patient consultations in 2019 and is currently constructing the Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion, a 150-bed surgical and teaching hospital, which will be completed in 2020, providing an unprecedented level of healthcare in rural Burundi. For more information, see: https://www.villagehealthworks.org/

**Position Description:**

The Kigutu International Academy is seeking an outstanding leader to serve as the founding Head of School. The Head of School will build the culture and student experience at the Academy, with overall responsibility for educational outcomes. The Head of School will oversee teaching and learning, serving as the instructional leader for this vibrant new school. This includes managing the faculty, developing and piloting the curriculum, and creating and mapping KIA’s learning outcomes. The Head of School will ensure that the overall learning experience reflects the school’s mission and values to the greatest possible extent. The Head of School is an externally facing role; he/she will work closely with teachers, parents, students and other stakeholders. He/she will also work closely with the Kigutu-based Chief Operating Officer, and the US-based Executive Director.

**Responsibilities:**

- Onboard, train and oversee teaching team
- Serve as instructional leader
- Pilot, test and develop curriculum
- Set and model a tone of high expectations and academic excellence
- Shape the student experience, both in and out of the classroom, in a manner that reflects the school’s mission and values
- Build the school’s culture and sense of community
- Create a set of school traditions and rituals
- Collaborate with the COO to build the systems and processes that are needed for smooth operations
- Act as an ambassador for KIA with wide variety of constituencies
- Communicate on a regular basis with parents and community members
Profile of Ideal Candidate:

- At least 6 years’ experience teaching in a high-expectations school setting, including in instructional leadership roles
- Track record as a highly effective teacher, ideally in a school that prioritizes building 21st century skills (such as teamwork, entrepreneurship, and ethical leadership) and instruction that is compassionate and student-centered
- Track record as an exceptional team leader and culture builder
- Experience developing curriculum and working with a globally recognized examination board
- Deeply committed to the KIA mission of equipping a new generation of ethical leaders
- Flexible and self-motivated person, who can wear “multiple hats” and will thrive in a start-up environment
- Sense of humor and team player with an ability to inspire others
- Excited to work in a beautiful, rural setting
- Pioneering mind-set
- Native English speaker
- French language skills a plus

Benefits:
A competitive salary, commensurate with experience

How to Apply:

Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a CV and a thoughtful cover letter describing your experience and passion toward the Kigutu International Academy’s mission to: KIAjobs@villagehealthworks.org. Your cover letter should also include where you found this job posting. Please include “KIA Head of School” in the subject line of your email.

Village Health Works considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status or disability. Village Health Works is an equal opportunity employer.