



Respect • Enthusiasm • Achievement • Citizenship • Hard Work May 2011

## Follow Us Online



## Use Our Teaching Resources



Even though the 2011-12 school year is still months away, Achievement First teachers and leaders are already creating great readiness plans to set our scholars up for success from the day they walk into classrooms in August. Check out some of the resources we refer to when planning for a new school year:

Our [Elementary Reading Program](#) helps with launching and implementing a strong reading plan.

When considering the steps to create a strong school and classroom culture, refer to our [School and Classroom Culture Plan](#).

Our school operations team ensures that every system is in place using an [Ops Readiness Vision Review](#) document.

For more great classroom and professional development resources, check out our Teacher Resources page [here](#).

## Hear From a Founding School Leader

Joining a founding school team is hard work but extremely rewarding. Stephanie Blake, the founding principal at Achievement First Endeavor Elementary, shares her work to open a brand new school (opening in the fall of 2011)

- *What is most exciting about founding Achievement First Endeavor Elementary?*

## AF in the News



Our NY student lottery was a big success. AF received 5493 applications - eight applicants for every seat! There is huge demand for our excellent schools! View CBS's coverage of the night [HERE](#) (*the news report mentioned the incorrect number of applications -- it was really 5493*).

AF's Director of Science Achievement, Anu Malipatil, was quoted in Scientific American! She worked with the Association for the American Advancement of Science to launch an innovative website with more than 600 multiple-choice test questions to help educators assess more precisely what students know about key ideas in science and—just as importantly—the incorrect ideas they have. Read the article [HERE](#).

## Featured Opportunity

### Principal, AF Bushwick Middle School

AF Bushwick Middle School was founded in 2007 and serves more than 300 students in grades five through eight, over 70 percent of whom qualify for federally subsidized meals. Like other "no excuses" schools, AF Bushwick Middle School's success is built on a culture of rigor and excellence, with high expectations for parents, teachers and students; optimized use of every minute of the school day; a team of

I am most excited about the 180 kiddos who will be starting the path to college with us! I am also excited about building adult culture with a founding team – our team so far is amazing. It's a dedicated group of professionals who love kids!

- *How do you thoughtfully plan for the beginning of a new school year?*  
I began planning for the school year by looking at our co-CEO's awesome readiness spreadsheet and breaking each area down into to-do's. I then thought about when I should have each of those large tasks completed in the spring and who could offer great feedback.
- *What characteristics do you look for in a founding teacher?*  
I look for teachers who are super positive, flexible and receptive to feedback.
- *What's one helpful piece of advice someone has given you about founding a school?*  
I have been unbelievably fortunate to learn from a founding principal every single day this year. She has been advising me on which school priorities should be established in the first year. Her advice is right on!

Contact us [here](#) if you are interested in learning more about joining the Achievement First team and family.

## Join a Virtual Information Session



Join us for a Virtual Information Session hosted by an Achievement First talent recruiter and a current teacher or school leader. We will discuss:

- Achievement First's history, mission and core values
- Training and professional development opportunities
- Various opportunities to join our team for the 2011-12 school year
- Application process and qualities of a successful candidate

### Teaching Opportunities with Achievement First

June 6, 2011; 8:00-9:00 p.m. EDT

[RSVP Here](#)

June 22, 2011; 8:00-9:00 p.m. EDT

[RSVP Here](#)

### Network Support Opportunities with Achievement First

June 28, 2011; 7:30-8:30 p.m. EDT

[RSVP Here](#)

exceptional "school teachers," and effective operational systems that enable teachers to focus on instruction.

Learn more about this great opportunity [here](#)

#### Start Date:

July 2011

## Teach For America Alumni Opportunity

### Calling ALL TFA Sue Lehmann Regional Finalists

Teach For America corps members and alumni play an integral part in Achievement First's growing network of high-performing, college-preparatory public charter schools in NY and CT. More than 300 TFA corps members and alumni are currently teaching, leading and providing network support in our 19 academies, and over 50% of our school leaders are TFA alumni. We are offering a \$1000 bonus for any Sue Lehmann Regional Finalist who joins the Achievement First team and family as a teacher for the 2011-12 school year. [Apply online!](#)

## Network Support Featured Opportunity

### Graphic Designer

**Start Date:** Immediate

The Graphic Designer / Marketing Associate will create, deliver and ensure consistent messaging throughout communications for Achievement First. This position is responsible for conceptualizing, designing, editing and trafficking communications materials including, but not limited to, print collateral, advertising, signage and electronic materials. There will also be multiple opportunities to develop marketing initiatives around branding, media relations, messaging, teacher and student recruitment, and fundraising.

## Leadership Opportunities with Achievement First

June 7, 2011; 8:00-9:00 p.m. EDT

[RSVP Here](#)

---

## Other Ways to Learn More



Check out our calendar of upcoming events [here](#).

Share this email.

[Unsubscribe here](#).

*We are always looking for talented individuals to join our Network Support team. View current Achievement First Network Support opportunities [here](#).*

## Our Mission

The mission of Achievement First is to deliver on the promise of equal educational opportunity for all of America's children. We believe that all children, regardless of race or economic status, can succeed if they have access to a great education.

Achievement First schools will provide all of our students with the academic and character skills they need to graduate from top colleges, to succeed in a competitive world and to serve as the next generation of leaders in our communities.

