

Principal Search

P.G. Chambers School
Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

Start date: September 2024

Organization at a glance:

70 Years of excellence in special education and therapy
1:2 Staff to student ratio
~900 Children with disabilities served

We offer a school for students with complex disabilities; early intervention for infants and toddlers; and therapies for hundreds of students in public and private schools. We serve children from 11 counties in northern New Jersey.

Our Shared Values are Passion, High Expectations, Respect, Empowerment, and Excellence.

We offer unique learning opportunities, including:

- Curricula designed for diverse learners including Orton Gillingham reading, Readtopia and Readtopia Go, EQUALS math, FOSS Science
- Assistive technology, AAC, equipment and orthotics clinics
- Award-winning Powered Mobility Program
- Student-operated Café
- Gardening Program
- Student Leadership Group

We have 175+ staff representing an extraordinary array of talent and expertise, including:

- Certified special education teachers
- Certified teacher of the visually impaired
- Certified teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Speech language pathologists
- Registered nurses
- Social workers
- School psychologists
- A dedicated support staff of teacher assistants and administrative personnel

Position overview:

P.G. Chambers School seeks an energetic, experienced educator and accomplished leader with expertise in special education to serve as its next principal.

The successful candidate will oversee the school operations and functions ensuring quality and best practice standards of instruction and support are provided to all students. In addition, he/she will:

- Through leadership, supervision, and direction, facilitate a positive, collaborative, and team-oriented work environment,
- Develop and maintain relationships with all sending school districts and families,
- Ensure compliance with NJDOE code,
- Ensure instructional design emphasizes grade level student learning standards,
- Ensure provision of services are implemented as per each student's IEP and in accordance with organization and best practice standards,
- Lead and oversee the interview, selection process, mentoring, and supervision of the instructional staff,
- Select and adapt curricula to meet the needs of our students and maintain the strong instructional focus,
- Demonstrate fiscal responsibility,
- Participate in the strategic leadership of the organization in partnership with the executive director and others.

Opportunities and challenges:

The School's success is dependent upon the coordinated delivery of services by highly talented staff from multiple disciplines, including educators, speech language pathologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and nurses. The successful candidate will embrace shared leadership, build strong relationships of trust and respect, and communicate clearly and often to engage others. Together, the principal and the broader team will fulfill the school's mission and embrace the shared values of passion, high expectations, respect, empowerment, and excellence.

Qualifications and personal attributes:

- Well-developed leadership skills,
 - Ability to lead and work with multidisciplinary teams,
 - Ability to mentor and empower self-directed teams,
 - Ability to foster a collaborative environment.
- Ability to analyze and address diverse school, community, and family issues,
- Understanding of learning and development,
- Knowledge of specialized curricula and experience in designing instructional programs,
- Ability to build and maintain a strong instructional program,
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, and critical thinking skills that focus on bridging differing points of view and successfully move a group toward agreement.
- Advanced degree in education with certification as N.J. Principal/Supervisor,
- Minimum five years supervisory experience,

- Minimum of three years teaching experience in special education,
- Certification as N.J. Teacher of Students with Disabilities (Teacher of the Handicapped)
- Comprehensive understanding of state and federal education code and regulations.

Our mission and history:

P.G. Chambers School's mission is to be a leader in the education and development of children with disabilities and in increasing the children's confidence in their individual abilities, preparing them to engage in the community, and expanding their capacity to lead full, productive lives.

Discovering the unique potential within every child is at the heart of our mission and inspires us to provide exceptional, innovative services for the children we serve.

In 1954, the vision of a small group of parents convinced an entire community to support the development of a school and therapy center for their children with disabilities, and the Morris County Society for Crippled Children & Adults incorporated that same year. In 1968, the organization changed its name to the Easter Seal Society of Morris County. By 1976, the organization had developed comprehensive therapy and education programs, providing services for 225 children from Morris County. The Board of Trustees voted to become an independent organization in 1991 and disaffiliated from the Easter Seals, changing its name to The Children's Center for Therapy and Learning. The Center continued to grow and in 1993 moved from Morris Plains to a larger facility in Cedar Knolls, becoming a regional provider serving 500 children each year. As a result of rapid growth and long waiting lists, the organization completed an addition to the Cedar Knolls facility in 2005, nearly doubling its size. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, and to honor long-time Board member and benefactor Patti Chambers, the school was re-named P.G. Chambers School.

Throughout its history, P.G. Chambers School has responded to the needs of children and families with professional, high quality, caring services. Today, P.G. Chambers School is a leader in the field of special education and therapy services for children with disabilities. P.G. Chambers School is credentialed as both an Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities and an Approved Clinic and Agency by the New Jersey Department of Education. The organization is one of the region's most comprehensive educational and therapeutic service providers, serving children from eleven counties in northern New Jersey.

Our programs:

The **Community Services Program** provides on-site related services, consultations, and training for students in public and private schools. The services include direct occupational, physical, and speech therapy services; feeding and assistive technology evaluations; special education and assistive technology consultations; and workshops and seminars.

The **Assistive Technology (AT) Program** provides children with the appropriate equipment and technology to support them in reaching academic and developmental goals. Children benefit from assistive technology clinics in equipment, orthotics, and splinting. They receive AT assessments to trial equipment and technology that can support movement, communication, and access to education. Our AT program provides comprehensive AT evaluations to students at area private and public schools to support the student in their own classroom.

The **School Program** serves 110 children, preschool through 8th grade, with multiple, complex disabilities from eleven counties in northern New Jersey. Students engage in a full-day, year-round academic program, including therapeutic services and curriculum adaptations to meet each child's specific needs. In addition, P.G. Chambers School has a collaborative high school program in partnership with Randolph Township Public Schools called PG RISE at Randolph.

Our **Comprehensive Early Intervention Program** provides education and therapy services to children from birth to three years of age in their homes and their childcare settings.

PGCS serves children without regard to socio-economic or ethnic background. Children and students are accepted based on the services they need and come to us via referrals from the State and public school districts.

Learn more:

Website: www.chambersschool.org

Facebook: [P.G. Chambers School | Cedar Knolls NJ | Facebook](#)

Instagram: [P.G. Chambers School \(@pgchambersschool\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

Morris County business and community guide <https://chambervu.com/morris23/>

To apply:

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume to the executive director in confidence.

Patty Sly, Executive Director
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