Sacramento County Office of Education Job Description Classification Title: Project Specialist II, Marketing and Communications

Definition

Under general direction, implements various Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) Communications department strategies; contributes to SCOE public, employee, and media relations efforts by acting as a lead in managing a range of marketing and communication plans to support new and existing Communications objectives; establishes and maintains strategic partnerships with organizations within the county, region, and state; performs other duties as assigned.

Directly Responsible To

Appropriate Administrator

Supervision Over

Professional, technical, and clerical staff as assigned.

Duties and Responsibilities

(Any one position may not include all of the listed duties, nor do all of the listed examples include all tasks which may be found in positions within this classification.)

Strategic Marketing and Communications and Department Support

- Develops, implements, and evaluates marketing and communications strategies and campaigns to support SCOE initiatives and programs;
- Performs a variety of tasks related to initiative communications and marketing, including research, planning, analysis, and evaluation;
- Works collaboratively with internal departments to gather information, and conceptualize content, copy, and layout to optimize department presence for various marketing publications, and on SCOE website and social media accounts;
- Produces a variety of marketing and communication materials in both print and electronic formats:
- Consults and creates strategic marketing, communications and public relations plans for SCOE departments and staff;
- Acts as an internal consultant, providing expert advice on various communication and marketing initiatives:
- Researches, prepares, composes, designs, edits, and distributes a variety of collateral, web, and digital assets and materials in support of strategic communication goals;
- Reviews SCOE and department websites and pages ensuring digital content aligns with federal
 accessibility guidelines and internal standards, and initiates steps to bring websites/pages into
 compliance as necessary;
- Utilizes evidence-based practices and research to identify target audience behaviors, audience needs, and barriers to change or collective action;
- Establishes and maintains strategic relationships with partner organizations at the county, regional, and state levels to support SCOE initiatives;
- Adheres to department fiscal protocols and oversees project budgets;
- Attends meetings, conferences, events, and trainings as assigned.

Media Relations and Coordination

- Coordinates press conferences, media interviews, and related logistics:
- Assists in the planning and organization of special events and activities to enhance public, internal, and external employee/staff relations;
- Organizes interviews and photography of students, teachers, administrators, staff, and public;
- Coordinates the production of videos of county events, programs, and staff;
- Implements emergency communications efforts and media management during crisis situations;

 Provides excellent customer service and develops and maintains professional relationships with news media, business representatives, community members, and internal and external stakeholders.

Minimum Qualifications

Education, Training, and Experience

- Possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution, and course work in communications, public relations, marketing, graphic design, or a related field, or equivalent training and experience;
- Industry certifications or masters degree in communications, public relations, marketing, graphic design or a related field preferred;
- Extensive experience in promotions, marketing, journalism, public relations or another communications-related field required;
- Experience with maintaining and/or administering digital media and/or web applications required;
- Experience supporting marketing and communications plans in building awareness for teaching and learning or social change campaigns in an educational setting, government agency, or community-based organization preferred.

Knowledge of

- Principles, methods, and theory of communication, public, community, and governmental relations, marketing;
- Principles of project management;
- Media outlets including newspaper, radio, television, internet, and other media resources;
- Principles of photography, videography, and graphic design;
- Mass communication media, including traditional, emerging, digital, e-mail, social media, and live streaming;
- Creative processes from conception to production;
- Technical aspects of news media, public relations, writing, and printing;
- Methods and techniques of producing journalistic copy and preparing content deliverables;
- Digital accessibility standards;
- English grammar, spelling, and punctuation according to American Psychological Association (APA) style and grammar guidelines;
- Standard software applications including videoconferencing platforms, online databases, and basic principles of updating websites;
- Basic principles of updating websites using content management systems.

Skill and Ability to

- Plan, organize, and implement processes to support SCOE communications initiatives;
- Analyze data, write reports, and create project evaluations:
- Conduct surveys/polls or focus groups:
- Establish and maintain cooperative, collaborative, and effective working relationships with internal and external partners;
- Identify opportunities for branding, messaging, editing, and storytelling;
- Engage individuals in group collaboration and team participation;
- Produce high-level copywriting and copy-editing;
- Communicate effectively in both oral and written form with individuals from diverse backgrounds;
- Write, edit, design, and publish a variety of public information and outreach materials;
- Operate a computer and related office technology;
- Maintain websites including managing content, posting photos, and text;
- Proficiently operate desktop publishing programs;
- Understand public affairs implications and disseminate the news value of educational programs, activities, and events;
- Effectively deliver and carry out written and oral instructions;
- Conduct research and evaluate data to solve problems, develop recommendations, and make decisions;

- Coordinate a variety of projects simultaneously;
- Develop measurable goals and objectives, set priorities, and evaluate progress toward achievement;
- Work independently with minimal supervision;
- Effectively prioritize workloads;
- Prepare clear and concise written communications;
- React with flexibility and sensitivity to changing situations, settings, and needs.

Approved by Personnel Commission on 11/12/24