World Affairs Council Faculty Adviser Role
2021-2022 Academic Year

The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization dedicated to engaging people of all ages in matters of national and international significance. The Council’s education department fulfills this mission through large-scale simulation programs, debates, and additional extracurricular opportunities. These programs bring together a diverse group of students from an array of local and regional schools to debate and discuss topics related to current events, domestic and global affairs, and foreign policy issues.

**Faculty Adviser Role and Commitments:**

The World Affairs Council relies on dedicated ‘faculty advisers’ as our school-based point of contact. Any teacher or administrator can serve as faculty adviser, with most schools selecting a history or social studies teacher for the role. For homeschoolers or parent-led initiatives, a dedicated parent is welcome to serve as faculty adviser. The role can also be shared among two faculty members or parents, if necessary.

Council staff communicate regularly with faculty advisers via email correspondence and e-newsletters. The time commitment for a faculty adviser varies from school to school, but the role typically entails assisting with responsibilities for an entire academic year.

**What are the Responsibilities?**

- Serve as primary point of contact for the Council at the school or with the school group;
- Recruit and register students for Council Education programs using our online registration forms;
- Distribute program-specific content, such as briefing papers or resource guides, and ensure that students are adequately prepared to participate in Council Education programs;
- Ensure students complete pre-program preparatory work and meet any pre-program deadlines;
- Coordinate student transportation (for in-person programs), complete any necessary school-level paperwork for events and serve as your school’s primary student chaperone;
- Attend any Council facilitated teacher preparatory sessions or meetings (these occur a few times a year);
- Complete a brief teacher evaluation form at the end of each program and ensure students complete student evaluation forms; and
- Be willing to share any relevant student success stories and testimonials with the Council, school administration, and the wider school community (i.e. through social media, school announcements, school bulletin boards).
What are the benefits?

- Special access to the Council’s award-winning Speaker Events, a fantastic opportunity to meet with and hear from a wide variety of world leaders, academics, and policymakers;
- Inclusion in a growing network of a diverse group of Philadelphia-area educators dedicated to teaching students about diverse perspectives, critical global topics, and civic engagement;
- Potential to enhance classroom curriculum with the Council’s experiential learning opportunities and program resources; and
- Receive first-hand communication through the Council’s Education e-newsletters on professional development opportunities and global education resources.

World Affairs Club
(Optional, but recommended)

In order to maximize impact, faculty advisers are strongly encouraged to establish an extracurricular World Affairs Club or similar model within their school. Clubs can meet at the adviser’s discretion, however, we suggest these clubs meet weekly or biweekly, especially in the weeks prior to a Council Education program. Schools are encouraged to develop student leader positions within their World Affairs Club, however, primary communication and invoicing should remain with the designated faculty adviser.

Interested in signing your school up to join the World Affairs Council?

For Middle School Membership, contact Eric Bumbaca, Director of Student Programs, at ebumbaca@wacphila.org or at 215-561-4700 ext. 216

For High School Membership, contact Kasey Trapp, Associate Director of Student Programs, at ktrapp@wacphila.org or at 215-561-4700 ext. 207