**FORM 8**

*Georgia Southern University*

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**Department of Leadership, Technology, and Human Development**

**SUPERVISED FIELD EXPERIENCE REFLECTION**

**EDLD 7737/7738 FALL \_X\_\_\_ SPRING \_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_2023\_\_\_**

Candidate: Dinah Myrick

Campus Mentor: Mr. Levar Garner

University Supervisor: Dr. Suzanne Miller

School: Center Elementary

**PART I: DESCRIPTION OF THE FIELD EXPERIENCE**

* Date of Activity: 10/24
* Hours Completed: 2 hours
* Georgia Leadership Standards Met: 1,2,4,7,8
* Description of the Field Experience Activity and Your Role (100 to 250 words)
  + The relationship between influence and leadership is quite interesting. John Maxwell has written and provided countless seminars regarding how one can increase their influence to improve their leadership. Chris Goede and Perry Holley moderated 3 podcasts on the titles How to Become a Person of Influence and 12 Choices Leaders Make to Fuel Their Influence. As an aspiring leader, eager to learn how to grow into an effective leader, I viewed these podcasts and completed the corresponding listening guides. Following this, I shared and discussed the information I learned with my school mentor. The reflections we both shared sparked some thought provoking dialogue in relation to strategies he uses to increase his sphere of influence and grow as a leader. My notes from the listening guide are linked under this reflection in the online portfolio.

**PART II: REFLECTION\***

Please reflect on the Field Experience by answering the following questions in at least one paragraph each.

1. Based on your study of leadership, how was this experience aligned with the knowledge base and skills of school leaders and how did this help you to learn information that you will be able to use in your career as a leader?

* This activity aligned with the standards of instructional leadership, school climate, organizational management, professionalism, and communication and community relations. The acrostic “INFLUENCE” detailed nine lessons on developing influence. They include Integrity, Nurturing, Faith, Listening, Understanding, Enlarging, Navigate, Connecting, and Empowering. The hosts speak on ways, built from Maxwell’s literature, that these target behaviors can help leaders increase their influence and become notable leaders. Upon, reflecting, I realized that each of these key points have great potential to empower my leadership skills. Mr. Garner also shared that he realizes that mastering all of these elements is a growing process. He noted that even in his 7th year of leadership, he still is developing is the areas of Enlarging and connecting; not from a lack of awareness of the need or a desire to do so, but the challenge of time.

1. What did you learn about your own leadership ability or your leadership potential during this field experience?
   * Engaging in this activity was very enlightening. It helped me make real-life connections between influence and leadership. In some ways, the words are actually synonymous. Skilled and effective leaders are proficient in the skills noted in the podcast, and evolve into leaders who naturally gravitate towards the 12 positive choices that increase leadership influence. Keeping these pointers in mind has definitely helped shape and build my leadership potential.
2. Explain two or three main points about leadership that you learned from this field experience activity.

* Three very profound points that this leadership activity helped me learn are:
  1. ***To your followers, hearing your voice is more important that that what you are saying.*** This point reminds me to remain aware of my tone and volume.
  2. ***Responding yields greater influence and results that reacting.*** As the hosts said, take a gap to think, check your emotions, rationalize, and respond.
  3. ***Leaders who are excessive talkers appear untrustworthy and self-centered.*** Those within your sphere of influence want you to listen to them. If you are a leader who does all the talking, and does not ever allow the voices of your followers to be heard, you are hurting your influential leadership potential.

In the reflection with Mr. Garner, I shared these three takeaways and he agreed that these were all great points and connections.