**FORM 8**

*Georgia Southern University*

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

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

**SUPERVISED FIELD EXPERIENCE REFLECTION**

**EDLD 7737/7738 FALL \_\_\_\_ SPRING \_ X\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_2024\_\_\_**

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: March 27-28, 2024
* Hours Completed: 10 hours
* Georgia Leadership Standards Met: 1,2,3,4,7,8
* Description of the Field Experience Activity and Your Role (100 to 250 words)

**PART II: REFLECTION\***

As a nominated and elected member of the Ware County High School Choral Booster Board for the past two years, we meet monthly to discuss and vote on the activities, finances, and operations of the Ware County High School Chorus. One of 8 members on the team, I hold the Communications/Public Relations chair position. I am tasked with the making sure that the members of the Booster Club receive notice and correspondence regarding the calendar schedule and also with sharing information on *Remind* and social media platforms.

During the months of November-March the Booster Board began planning a 3-day Universal Studios (Orlando, FL) competition/trip for the chorus students. As any educator knows, planning a field trip of any proportion is quite daunting, yet planning the finances, itinerary, transportation, chaperone ratio and logistics of a trip over 200 miles away was quite an undertaking, but we did it! Throughout the 4-month period, we meet once monthly face-to-face and had countless Google Meets and GroupMe text chats to propose and discuss ideas. As things were finalized, I communicated those updates to the parents and other parties who were involved. I also served as a group chaperone over the 3-day trip; being tasked with planning daily navigation through the parks and ensuring that my assigned students were ready and available for their scheduled performances.

I am so pleased to share that the teamwork and shared leadership among this Board made this task that could have very easily been extremely overwhelming and a potential disaster, a complete success. From the very initial stages of planning, to the very last minute that we signed the final documents with the charter company, we had seamless interactions. I am fortunate to be a part of such a flexible and pragmatic team. I look forward to being a part of this leadership team for years to come.

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?

Although this activity aligned with all of the leader standards except teacher/staff evaluation and human resources, I feel it most closely aligned with organizational management, professionalism, and communication and community relations. As a group, we had to brainstorm and execute managing and using the resources available to the chorus within the school, as well as those within the community. I, personally had to foster success of the endeavor by maintaining clear communication with the team, parents, and other involved parties. Throughout this entire process, although it was a less-than-structured activity, a level of professionalism was maintained. This experience will help me in my quest to become an aspiring leader as I sharpened my utilization of resources and my efforts at building and strengthening ties within the community.

1. What did you learn about your own leadership ability or your leadership potential during this field experience?

While participating in this activity, I learned the value of flexibility, teamwork, and clear communication. As a team leader on this project with a valuable role, I realized that my contributions, along with the contributions of each and every other team member was essential. I demonstrated the ability to make swift yet appropriate decisions and work effectively with a diverse group of individuals. These skills and abilities greatly impact the success of leadership.

1. Explain two or three main points about leadership that you learned from this field experience activity.

One key point I learned about leadership from this activity is that there are opportunities and a need for leadership across all types of organizations. To the public sector, it may not seem that serving on the Choral Booster Board requires any specific skills or abilities, yet the tasks and decision making that takes place behind the scenes makes the choral and fine arts program successful. This also connects to Maxwell’s Law of The Inner Circle. Leaders do not succeed alone. Additionally, I learned that although communication is key, so is repetitive communication. As educators, we repeat ourselves to our students multiple times. It is a common misconception that adults should not require that need. However, that is far from the case, and as a leader you have to be armed with the ability to handle that repetition with grace. Instructions and updates were shared again and again to the club members and others involved, and it never failed that questions were asked about the information I had already shared. It is the job of a leader to ensure that the information is conveyed, so that is the what I did. Redelivered the information.