**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: 2/19-3/1
* Hours Completed: 5
* Georgia Leadership Standards Met: 1,2,3,4,7,8,
* Description of the Field Experience Activity and Your Role (100 to 250 words)

Each member of the Ware ESOL team has different strengths and passions. This diversity among the team adds to the proficiency and efficiency with which we serve students. I personally enjoy exposing students to the outside world and capitalizing on learning opportunities that the outside classroom has to offer. Therefore, I chose to serve as the Field Trip Chair for the Ware ESOL Team. This year, I planned a trip to Southern Grace Farms in Enigma, GA for our ESOL students. This trip will be on May 8th and will expose students to various fruit farms, planting a plant, a hayride, and a homemade ice cream experience. To organize this trip, I secured our date with the farm and secured buses with the bus barn. I also had to work with the administration and the front office secretary to get field trip approval and submit the official request to the Central Office. Additionally, I drafted a parent information letter and translated permission form. This was a rewarding learning experience and I am looking forward to the trip.

**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 most closely aligned with the LAPS Standards: Organizational Management, Professionalism, and Communication and Community Relations. To plan and execute a successful field trip, I had to manage and secure the resources available to us within the district, such as buses and sack lunches. Additionally, I used networking skills to work with those in the community to make the vision a reality. Parents, administration, and homeroom teachers will also need to be provided with detailed communication, so they are abreast of what is happening. All of these tasks must be handled in a professional manner, exemplary of a school leader. These information and experiences are all skills that I will use daily in a leadership role that I hope to serve in one day.

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

While planning this activity, I learned that a task does not feel like a task when it is something you connect with or have a passion for. I was so excited to plan this trip, and I wanted to generate “buy-in” so I was willing to make it as easy and stress-free as possible for my colleagues. I did not mind putting in the “grit” to get it done because I was eager to see and reap the benefits. I am sure that this is something that leaders experience over and over during their careers. If you truly believe in the benefits and advantages of something, putting in the work to make it happen comes as second nature.

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

Two key points that this field experience activity taught me about leadership are that being a leader requires you to be willing to do what others aren’t, and that you must keep your eye on the prize even when it’s hard to see. While planning this trip for the team, I certainly ran into a few obstacles, such as date conflicts and bus availability, and even convincing some teachers to participate. However, by staying focused on the children acquiring a meaningful experience I was able to maneuver around those challenges and motivate others to participate. I imagine that leaders are often faced with the challenge of low motivation and morale and they have to find creative ways to surmount those obstacles.