School Chief Administrator’s Assurance Form
Teacher Leadership Program
Education Specialist Level

I understand _________________________________ is a candidate in the Education Specialist program in (candidate’s name) Teacher Leadership at Valdosta State University (VSU) and will be required to participate in Teacher Leadership experiences to complete requirements for Initial Certification in that field. To successfully complete those experiences, the candidate must have a signed agreement for the approval and support of the school administration in order to be admitted to the program.

The activities of the Teacher Leadership candidate are designed to be valuable to the school and school community, and can include such activities as addressing curriculum issues, improving school climate, researching content problems or innovations, designing and implementing interventions to address problems, mentoring and coaching other faculty members, and providing research-based professional development to other teachers.

The following list is an overview of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission criteria for this degree that will require administrative participation and support. The administrator signing this document, or this administrator’s designee at the system or school-based level, will serve as this candidate’s leader mentor. The leader mentor assists in the following ways:

- agrees to be part of a Candidate Support Team composed of the candidate, VSU personnel, and the system or school-based leader mentor to provide needed and appropriate support in the field. That team will have three meetings during one school year, and those meetings may be electronic;
- supports the efforts of VSU program personnel and the activities of the candidate;
- provides time for the candidate to fulfill the responsibilities of the residencies;
- supports the candidate with access to serve as a mentor to a first-, second-, or third-year teacher; to gather data within the school; and to work with stakeholder groups;
- supports and helps to arrange cross-grade level and other opportunities for observations;
- supports the conduct of a professional learning project during which the teacher will provide professional learning for a group of teachers, assess that learning, and submit a report; and
- supports the carrying out of an action research project that includes other school personnel.

The school administration reserves the right to approve all work prior to implementation, and all activities will be planned and guided cooperatively by the institution and school district personnel. The activities will be carried out over a three-semester Residency period that can include the summer semester.

NOTE: The administrator’s designee must have authority to (a) collaboratively support work in the field; (b) grant access as needed to students, faculty, and resources; and (c) communicate openly with university supervisors about the candidate’s performance. The administrator’s designee, if different from self, must also sign this document as an indication of support for the candidate, stating that he/she will collaborate as needed with the candidate and the University to maintain a field-based learning environment that is conducive to the implementation of Teacher Leadership practices.

I am willing to grant the above-named VSU candidate permission to carry out the required course activities as needed and specified in this document.

____________________________________  ____________________________  __________________
(Administrator’s Name – Printed)    (Administrator’s Signature)    (Date)

____________________________________  ____________________________  __________________
(Name of Administrator’s Designee – Printed)    (Designee’s Signature)    (Date)