

**Administrator Recruitment and Development**

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March 15, 2010

Teacher Leader Masters Review Committee  
Education Professional Standards Board  
100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Committee Members:

**Re: Letter of Support: Spalding University Teacher Leader Masters Program**

This letter is written to serve as documentation of our collaboration and input with the planning and design of the Teacher Leader Master's Program at Spalding University. Our district was invited to participate in the development of the program beginning in 2008. In March of 2009, representatives of the superintendent of Jefferson County Public Schools department of leadership development met with Spalding administration and faculty to discuss efforts on the redesign of both the Principal Preparation Program and the Teacher Leader Masters Program. Due to our discussion and our past partnership in co-teaching courses in school instructional leadership program, the collaboration on the development of the Teacher Leader master's program with a co-teaching and co-designing format was a natural development. The program submission also includes enhanced field-based activities.

In August of 2009, a review of the Teacher Leader Masters Program was held with the Dean of the College of Education and faculty members. Input was gathered and collaboration on the program was continued.

We acknowledge our collaboration with the College Dean and faculty to design the program and we commit our support of the program. Further, we strongly believe that our partnership will give us the capacity to pay careful attention and to and identify leadership needs within our district and state. In addition, the District expects to benefit from direct services by education faculty. As a District, we will provide opportunities that are required, including but not limited to:

- Professional growth planning contract signed by candidate's supervisor and mentor.
- Approval of a field-based action research projects embedded in each course.
- Joint identification and support of teacher and school/district leadership to serve as mentors on a candidate's project committee.
- Facilitate coaching and leadership opportunities for the candidate.
- Support collaborative team building projects.
- Support the public presentations of the action research projects.
- Co-design, co-plan and co-deliver courses.

As the district superintendent's designee for leadership development, we strongly support the Teacher Leader Masters of Arts in Education degree program. We believe that teacher leaders should continually reflect and refine their leadership skills to provide maximum effectiveness in their leadership for student learning, implement and evaluate promising practice through research, support fellow teacher growth and serve as instructional leaders with their colleagues.

We believe professional learning community cultures within our district and we appreciate the collaborative approach to the design of the Principal Preparation and Teacher Leader Programs. This signature serves as documentation of the collaboration between Jefferson County Public Schools department of leadership development and Spalding University.

In the event that you need additional information pertaining to this partnership, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (502) 485-3114 or by email at [Lynne.Wheat@Jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:Lynne.Wheat@Jefferson.kyschools.us)

Regards,



Lynne Wheat, Director  
Human Resources Administrator Recruitment and Development/  
The Wallace Foundation Grant

Cc: Beverly Keepers, PhD, Dean College of Education