PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
WITH
GREAT FROM THE GATE
BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

Research shows that the clinical experience is one of the most critical aspects of teacher preparation, and the quality of the schools and classrooms where student teaching takes place is paramount. Through student teaching, students gain opportunities to authentically experience teaching and build the skills they need to be successful educators.

With this in mind, Great from the Gate was established to help facilitate meaningful clinical experiences for teacher candidates by supporting local university and school partnerships. Great from the Gate (GftG) is a fellowship program that works with educator preparation programs to place eligible students, or Fellows, who are entering their clinical experiences in local, high-performing P-12 schools with trained mentor teachers. Specifically, Great from the Great can support schools' efforts to:

- **Cultivate your teacher workforce pipeline** with highly-skilled, diverse teachers who are familiar with your student population and eager to serve in your schools.
- Create leadership opportunities for your best teachers by **providing high-quality professional development** in instructional coaching and adult mentorship, along with stipend opportunities.
- **Boost your school culture** by elevating your highly effective teachers and positioning them to shape the experience of your future teacher workforce.
- Make smarter hiring decisions by **test-driving new hires** that have completed clinical experiences in your school.
- Train new hires early by **providing onboarding experiences** for teacher candidates that can increase long-term retention and belief in your school's mission.

AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES

This Partnership Agreement for the 2019-20 academic year confirms your school system as a partner of the Great from the Gate program. The parties agree to the following:

Great from the Gate will:

- Provide a $1,000/semester stipend to participating student teachers.
- Cultivate partnerships between preparation programs and P-12 partners to recruit student teachers.
- Facilitate student teacher placements between schools and teacher preparation programs.
- Ensure mentor teachers are rigorously trained in instructional coaching and mentorship to maximize student teachers' growth potential.
- Facilitate meetings and communicate program updates with all partners.
- Coordinate administration of the *Great from the Gate Talent Finder*, a diagnostic tool that all Fellows must complete before being placed with a Great from the Gate partner school.
- Design evaluation methods for mentor and student teachers that participate in Great from the Gate.
- Summarize mentor teacher and student teacher program feedback and share this information with partners.

School system will:

- Register any qualified mentor teachers who are interested and available to host a student teacher so that they may be matched with a qualified student teacher.
- Promote Great from the Gate to high quality mentor teachers using provided marketing materials and messaging.
- Provide a point of contact to lead partnership work. Responsibilities include:
    - Facilitating matching between mentor teachers and student teachers.
    - Managing mentor teachers' participation in Great from the Gate by:
        - Ensuring that all mentor teachers have three years of experience AND a clear California teaching credential.
        - Ensuring that mentor teachers attend required trainings and providing substitute teachers when training requires them to be out of the classroom.
        - Ensuring that mentor teachers are responsive to other program requirements and deadlines, including: participating in an orientation call, reviewing and signing their mentor teacher agreement, responding to all placement requests by stated deadlines, and completing the mid-year and end-of-year survey.
    - Sharing relevant school context and data points with Great from the Gate staff.
    - Reviewing Great from the Gate tools and providing input, as appropriate.
    - Attending and engaging in bi-annual partner convenings.

- Supporting the evaluation of student teachers by mentor teachers, as appropriate.
- Identifying opportunities to hire student teachers eligible to fulfill a teaching role in your school as part of the priority hiring system.

Point of Contact:

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

EMAIL: _____

The signature below affirms agreement with this document, which reflects program operations for the 2019-20 academic year.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINTED NAME:_____

TITLE: _____

SCHOOL SYSTEM: _____

DATE:_____

This agreement is subject to annual review.