GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

AGREEMENT WITH HOST DISTRICT
STUDENT TEACHING SITE

2004 - 2008
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I. Introduction

The following proposal is a description of a working relationship between Gustavus Adolphus College and a consenting school district. The student teaching agreement concept is a cooperative relationship between the Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College and a consenting school district.

The Department of Education proposes an agreement with a school district to work with up to six elementary or secondary student teachers during the course of one semester according to the Gustavus Adolphus school calendar. The college and the school district will act as partners in the preparation of beginning teachers.

The primary purpose of a teacher education agreement is:

- To provide Gustavus with assurance that a consenting school district and/or specific school building will agree to work with student teachers one semester per year for four consecutive years.
- To provide an assurance to district personnel that Gustavus will provide capable student teachers, capable supervision and responsible program management.

The ultimate goal of the collaboration and the agreement is to provide competent, professional educators for society.
II. Description of the Teacher Education Program

Teacher Education Students at Gustavus Adolphus are prepared in Elementary Education, Secondary Education majoring in specific curriculum area, or K-12 license in Art, Music, Health, Physical Education, or a Foreign Language. The student receives a Bachelor of Arts Degree upon satisfactory completion of the program. Many students at Gustavus Adolphus elect to take a foreign language for supplementary background in teaching. New licensure rules in Minnesota mean that both elementary and secondary majors are prepared to teach at the middle school level within a specific discipline.

Teacher education programs at Gustavus are approved by Minnesota Board of Teaching and accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The North Central Association accredits the college. Graduates of the programs are licensed to teach in public, private, or parochial schools.

Students are drawn to the education program from a number of areas throughout the United States and Abroad. Though the number of teacher licensure holders in Minnesota exceeds the number of jobs available, students from Gustavus rank significantly higher than the state norm for placement of graduates in full-time teaching positions.

Admission to teacher education programs and to the professional semester requires the student to meet several criteria in addition to the completion of relevant course work. Gustavus Adolphus Department of Education moved to a very rigorous selective admission system beginning with the sophomores of 1997-98. The following list is the current criteria for admission to student teaching and the professional semester.
III. Program Criteria for Student Teaching

A Student in Good Standing

• An overall minimum GPA of 2.75.
• A minimum GPA of 2.75 in the major.
• No incomplete on record.
• No grades of less than a C- in the major or any Education class.
• Completion of one writing course with a grade of C or better.

Experience in School Settings

• Successful completion of a set of field experiences in elementary and/or secondary schools

Professionally Prepared

• Completion of 26 courses including the required sequence of courses in licensure programs.
• Taken the Pre-professional Skills Test as required by the MN Board of Teaching.

Recommendations from Professional Faculty

• Recommendations from college faculty.
• Written recommendations from the cooperating teachers during field experiences.
• Approval by department chair of student's major.
• Approval by Coordinator of Teacher Admissions and Field Experiences.

Demonstrated Personal Commitment of Candidate

• A personal interview
• Writing sample
• Candidate's Statement.
IV. Gustavus Adolphus Agreement Status

School District #______________ agrees with the Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College to observe the following:

The College agrees that:

A. The College will place in the district only student teachers that are eligible for such a placement under the college guidelines.

B. The College will pay the District or the District’s Cooperating Teacher an amount not to exceed $120 for a 14-week term (January Term $60) for each student teacher placed in the school.

C. The College will provide student teaching supervision by qualified College personnel.

D. The Department of Education will provide 8 to 14 visits per semester based upon student need. For Secondary and K-12 Student Teachers, some supervision visits may also be provided by the major department.

E. The College will work closely with the schools in the district in the development and implementation of the student teaching program.

F. Student Teachers who violate the trust placed in them by either the College or the District will be removed from the student teaching experience. The Chair of the Education Department and the College supervisor will be responsible for this termination of placement.

G. The College will facilitate interviews of prospective student teachers by the District upon the District’s request.

H. Gustavus faculty will update cooperating teachers concerning the cooperating teacher handbook, supervisory strategies, observation techniques, and evaluations as requested by the staff and principal prior to the arrival of the student teachers and during the semester of student teaching.
V. School District Agreement Status

_________________________________________ District #____________ agrees with

the Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College to observe the following:

The District agrees that:

A. The District will supply to the student teacher an opportunity to work in a teaching-
   learning situation of a practicing teacher licensed at standards equal or superior to the
   regulations of the State of Minnesota, including the Board of teaching, during the period
   of the student teaching assignment.

B. The District will cooperate with the College in development and implementation of the
   student teaching program.

C. The District will provide appropriate supervision of the student teacher pursuant to rules
   promulgated by its requirements established by the College with regard to the student
   teaching program.

D. The District will immediately notify the college if there is a change in the licensure status
   of any practicing teacher providing supervision to any student teacher assigned.

E. The District will not replace any of its employees nor fill any vacancies normally filled by
   an employee with a student teacher assigned under this agreement. Therefore, a
   student teacher shall not act as a substitute teacher. A student teacher may assume full
   teaching responsibilities under the supervision of a substitute teacher.

E. The District will consider and treat any student teacher placed at the District, pursuant to
   this agreement, as an employee for purpose of liability insurance coverage and the
   provision of legal counsel.

G. The District will consider and treat all records and data regarding a student
   teacher, whether such records or data are received from the college or the student
   teacher or are generate by the school, with confidentiality.
VI. Signed Agreement

_______________________________________________ District # ______

agrees with the Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College concerning the items and provisions listed in the School District Agreement Status/Gustavus Adolphus Agreement Status.

General provisions:
1. The terms of this agreement will commence on January 1, 2004, and end January 1, 2008
2. The School shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this agreement without the prior written consent of the Department of Education.
3. Any amendments to this agreement will be in writing.

__________________________________________________   _____________  
Signature of Coordinator of Admissions and Field Experiences  
Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College  
Date

__________________________________________________   _____________  
Signature of Department Chair  
Department of Education at Gustavus Adolphus College  
Date

________________________________________________________________  
Name of District

________________________________________________________________  
Address of District Office

___________________________________________________  ____________  
Signature of District Office Director of Student Teaching,  
Superintendent of Schools  
Date

This district prefers that the compensation check to be sent to:  

__________ District Office OR  
__________ Directly to Cooperating Teacher