This memorandum of understanding is entered into between the College of Education, Department of Curriculum & Instruction, at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and______________________, a Professional Partnership (PPS) site in District______ for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

**A Professional Partnership School (PPS)** is a collaborative partnership designed to transform the education of both students (P-12) and educational professionals, inservice and preservice. Critical to the success of a PPS is a shared vision among school and college faculty that encompasses new models of education and professional training. A PPS is based on mutual trust, respect, and parity and is seen as mutually beneficial to all partners (university, district/school, and other child-servicing agencies).

**Beliefs Underlying PPS Initiatives**

- Collaboration between universities and school districts strengthens the profession's capacity to address important educational issues.
- The benefits from a PPS impact a wide range of clients.
- Broadening the teacher preparation learning environment enhances the capacity of preservice teachers to transition smoothly into their roles as professional educators.
- A PPS encourages more interactions among teachers, administrators, school support personnel, and university faculty.
- The knowledge base of education is enhanced from the shared perspectives and active inquiry of both university and school personnel.
- PPS environments should reflect the diversity of today's schools and communities.
- Involvement with a PPS necessitates a continuous renewal of purpose and reevaluation of results by all partners.

**University Responsibilities** are as follows:

1. Identifying teacher candidates.
2. Supporting, supervising, and evaluating teacher candidates.
3. Collecting and managing the fingerprinting and background check for teacher candidates.
4. Providing university supervisors to each PPS site who will dedicate one specific day per week of the academic year.
5. Providing diverse, comprehensive professional education course work.
6. Facilitating solutions to problems that may arise with teacher candidates.
7. Participating in the yearly evaluation of the PPS model.
Professional Partnership Site Responsibilities are as follows:

1. Selecting and providing qualified, experienced cooperating teachers to mentor and develop teacher candidates.
2. Working collaboratively with teacher candidates to promote their development in the teaching profession.
3. Supporting, supervising, and participating in the evaluation of teacher candidates.
4. Providing a space for the university supervisors and teacher candidates.
5. Providing a designated site coordinator from the faculty.
6. Including the university supervisors in planning and delivering professional development efforts, as appropriate.
7. Supporting teacher candidates as they implement research-based teaching strategies derived from university methods classes.
8. Embracing Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) and mentor teacher candidates in its implementation.
9. Participating in the yearly evaluation of the PPS model.

Site Coordinator Responsibilities are as follows:

1. Working collaboratively with the school and university personnel to ensure the district and university are meeting their respective responsibilities as PPS partners.
2. Ensuring that the public school students remain at the forefront in all decision-making.
3. Working collaboratively with cooperating teachers and teacher candidates to promote their development in the profession.

Teacher Candidate Responsibilities are as follows:

1. Working collaboratively with cooperating teachers, the site coordinator, the principal, and the university supervisors.
2. Adhering to all school policies and procedures.
3. Demonstrating skill and competency in applying professional, legal, and ethical standards for educators.

Terms of Agreement and Termination

1. Commitment to a three-year term of participation, subject to annual review.
2. Consideration of renewal for an additional three-year term.
3. Support the goal of providing the best possible environment and conditions for preparing teachers to meet the ever-increasing demands of the educational system.

This agreement is for professional cooperation concerning the specific responsibilities outlined for the undersigned Professional Partnership site and the Teacher Education Licensure Program at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

This agreement will be in effect for three years subject to annual review. Termination of this agreement upon written notice may be initiated by either party at least 30 days prior to the end of a school district semester and is subject to completion of that entire semester.
Director of Teacher Education and Licensure Programs

Professional Partnership University Supervisors

Professional Partnership School Principal

District Superintendent or Designee