Dear Educational Leader:

The Georgia School Superintendents Association (GSSA) is proud to sponsor an exciting, innovative and challenging leadership program. The **District Office Professional Development Program** will get underway in September 2020 and will be made available through statewide cohorts and individual school systems at the request of the superintendent or RESA Director.

A one-year program, the District Office Professional Development Program is targeted for members of the superintendent's central office staff and principals. Typically, these leaders demonstrate high levels of proficiency in their area of expertise, which may include: curriculum and instruction, human resources, finance, professional learning, operations, and/or school leadership. While individual responsibilities of district office and school leaders differ, research indicates that when district and school leaders function as a cohesive unit they add value to the district by impacting student achievement and organizational effectiveness.

Minimum requirements for entry into the District Office Professional Development Program include the possession of the, L-5/PL-5 certificate and/or other appropriate job credentials, three or more years of satisfactory experience as an educational leader, and two professional recommendations. This program is designed to support individual leader professional growth goals and is aligned to the Leader Keys Effectiveness System. GSSA and program participants share the cost of the program. Applicants pay a \$400 application fee,which helps defray a portion of the cost of assessment activities. This fee is refunded if the applicant is not selected. Annual tuition is \$2,040, payable in two installments of \$1,020 due each September and January of the program's duration.

Persons interested in applying will find a confidential application from the Georgia School Superintendents Association by visiting our website at www.gssaweb.org. (Please note that nomination forms are also available on the site, for anyone who wishes to nominate an individual to the District Office Professional Development Program.) The application includes a request for recommendations by two individuals thoroughly familiar with the applicant, both personally and professionally. Additionally, the endorsement of the applicant's system superintendent is required.

A committee selected by GSSA will choose the program participants. Individuals chosen for participation will be notified by August 21, 2020. Please refer to the contact information below if you have further questions about the program.

Best wishes in your application process!

Sincerely,

Keith Porter

GSSA Professional Development Director klporter112@gmail.com

