Each year, the Kansas Deaf-Blind project offers intensive supports to a few school teams across the state who provide educational services to children who are Deaf-Blind via the Distance Mentorship Project. The Deaf-Blind Project uses technology to deliver technical expertise to local school teams remotely, or from a distance, allowing the Project to offer ongoing, intensive assistance in a cost-efficient manner. The word mentorship was used originally because the model was started to support new teachers or those who had never worked with children who are Deaf-Blind.

Parents are a critical part of this model, are part of the local school team, and should be involved in the activities and exchange of information. The following technologies are used to promote the exchange of information, the communication among local team members, and the professional growth of local team member:

- **Web Conferencing:** Local teams supporting a child who is Deaf-Blind meet with Deaf-Blind Project staff regularly (as determined by the educational team or IFSP/IEP team and Deaf-Blind Project staff) via web conference to ask questions, review progress, share strategies and develop action plans to promote student growth.

- **Team Collaboration Site:** The Deaf-Blind Project develop a secure team collaboration site (wiki) for each local team as a repository of action plans, articles, and resources, and discussion among and between the "educational team" and the KS Deaf-Blind Project. We do not use personally identifiable information (last name, address, phone numbers, etc.) on the site. Only the child’s educational team or IFSP/IEP team members and Deaf-Blind Project staff are invited to the site.

- **Photographs and Videotape:** The local team may capture photographs or video of a student during a routine or learning activity with a staff member and share this video on the team collaboration site for educational purposes.

**Team Collaboration Site Management (Wiki) and Ownership**

The Deaf-Blind project staff sets up and manages the site and Web Conferencing sessions. All information contained on the site is owned by the student's parent(s) or guardian. Parents can request the site be closed and information deleted at any time. When the Deaf-Blind Project support for the local team ends, all information contained on the site and/or the Web Conferencing site (meeting notes) will be deleted or, at the request of the parent/guardian, turned over to them.

**Professional Ethics**

All local team members are obligated to honor and follow a professional code of ethics and standards regarding confidentiality and student privacy.

**PARENT PERMISSION:** Please circle the appropriate response:

I/we do _____ NOT GIVE _____ GIVE permission for the photographic, video, audio and any other form of electronic recording of my child to be published on a team collaboration site as part of the Kansas Deaf-Blind Project’s technical assistance activities to support schools working with students who are Deaf-Blind. **PLEASE PROVIDE LIST OF NAMES AND EMAIL ADDRESSES OF SCHOOL TEAMS WHO CAN ACCESS THE TEAM COLLABORATION SITE.**

____________________________ ________________
Signature Parent/Guardian: Date: