



## *Expectations for Team Teaching*

**T**

### **Team** *Teams require planning. You will never be effective if you don't plan together!*

You have 10 “planning periods” per week—10 opportunities to powerfully collaborate with your colleagues. You will be required to use 4 of them every week for meetings—grade level meeting, subject meeting (AH or MST), team teacher meeting, and planning partner meeting. If the term “meeting” makes you want to vomit, we intend to show you that meetings are actually the key to our success!!!

**E**

### **Engage** *Engage students through creatively using team teaching. Be creative!*

When used creatively, team teaching is your greatest asset for engaging students. There are so many different ways to use team teaching to reach kids. From splitting into 2 groups, to doing on the spot remediation, to running stations, to using the other team teachers to split into 4 groups, there are countless ways that you can vary the delivery of your lessons. However, it is easy to fall into the rut of the “On-Off” model, if you are not taking the time to plan effectively. Model creativity for your students!!!

**A**

### **Active** *Be active and present. To be effective, you need to be IN the room AND active!*

Team teaching is a platform for engaging students. Of course in order to be active, you have to first be present. This means that with rare exception we expect that you will be IN YOUR CLASSROOM during both periods of your team taught class. In general, you should not make copies, email, lesson plan or do other things that are not directly tied to the lesson while your team teacher is teaching. During your MST or AH block, there is no such thing as being “off”. You can actively engage students in many ways but not from behind a desk or from the Teachers Lounge!

**M**

### **Model** *Think strategically about the team teaching model that you use.*

The way you present the information is just as important as the information that you present. Though there isn't one right model, there are a few wrong ones. For example, don't use the “On-Off” Model or the “Professor-TA” Model. You will need to choose a model that works best for you, and in order to choose that model you will need to be able to effectively communicate your working styles to your team teaching. Of course, when you communicate be willing to bend a little, but also be honest about your strengths and areas for improvement!

**S**

### **Self** *The vast majority of team teaching “divorces” stem from pride. Check your pride!*

Since team teaching is all about being able to work together with another person, you make up 50% of the successes AND failures of your team. In order to be effective, you must first check yourself, your biases and your pride at the door every day when you walk into the classroom that you *share* with your team teacher. As my wife always reminds me, “I can't change you, but I can change myself.” This may be a result of years of trying or a firm understanding that the only person you can control in a team is YOU.