The Science of Co-Teaching

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State Leadership Conference

10/17/2016

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
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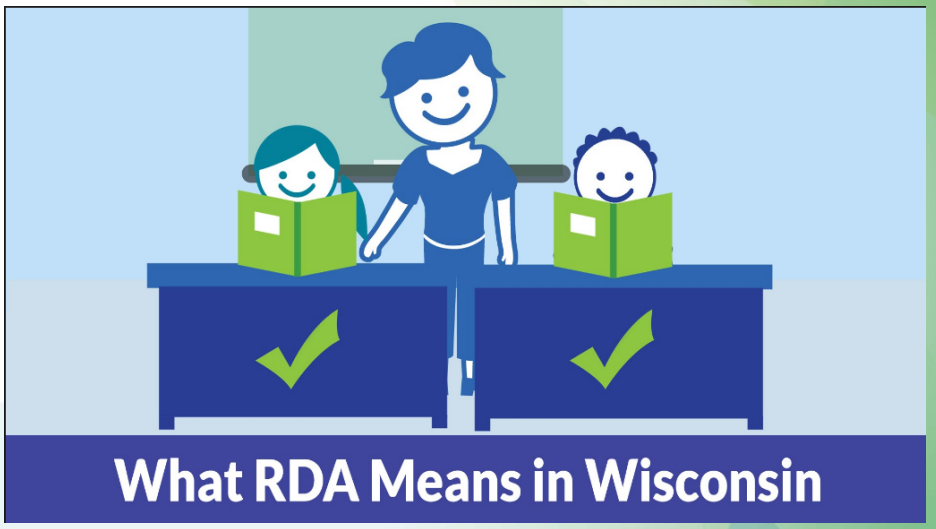
Why Co-Teach?

RDA in Wisconsin

- Agenda 2017
- College and Career Readiness
- Collaboration between general educators and special educators

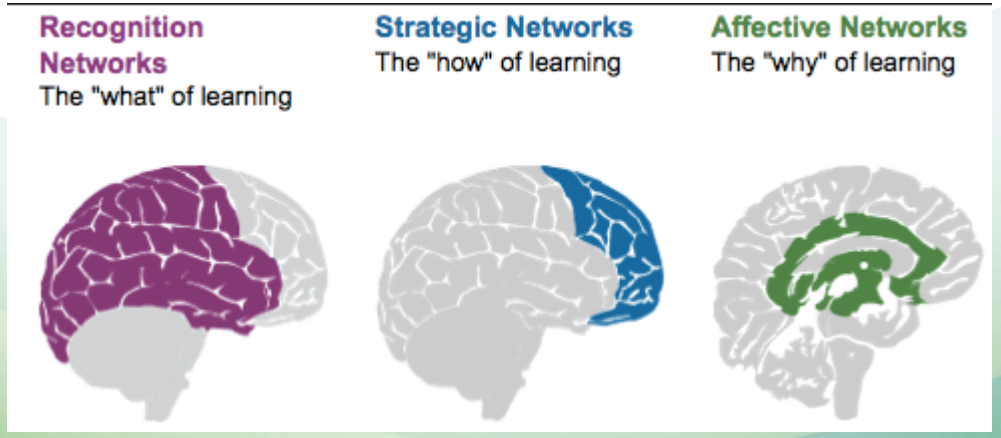


Question from the Field

What is the parallel between co-teaching and the implementation of the UDL Framework?

Universal Design for Learning

- Access
- Assessment
- Engagement



The Power of Co-Teaching

- Students are taught the curriculum by a general education content specialist
- Provides student with disabilities (and at-risk students) greater access to the special education teacher who provides help, strategies, and support

Thousand and Villa, 1989

Question from the Field

What is the evidence you have that it is working?

Systemic Approach

- Implementation Science
- Co-Teaching
- Inclusion

Readiness

- Collaborative Culture
- Belief that All Kids can Learn
- Understanding of Inclusive Practices
- School-wide Understanding of the practice of Co-Teaching

Definition: Co-Teaching

Co-Teaching is defined as two professionals, typically a special education teacher and a general education teacher, *delivering substantive instruction*, to a diverse group of students *in a single space*.

Cook and Friend, 1998

Question from the Field

Please share professional development practices that exemplify the shared roles within the classroom (especially as it pertains to a special ed professional that may need to leave during instruction to address a behavior issue).

Instruction

"Co-teaching doesn't happen simply because there are two professionals assigned to a classroom *especially if the instruction may be no different than when they are teaching alone.* The substance of co-teaching is critical to the purpose and effectiveness of the instruction in this type of setting."

Friend and Cook, 2010

Effective	Non-Effective
• Sustained instruction for students having difficulties	• Gen Ed Teacher does all the planning for instruction
• Re-Teaching/Pre-Teaching	• Gen Ed Teacher does nearly all the instruction for the classroom
• Strategic, Specially Designed Instruction	• Spec Ed Teacher is the helper or support staff

Question from the Field

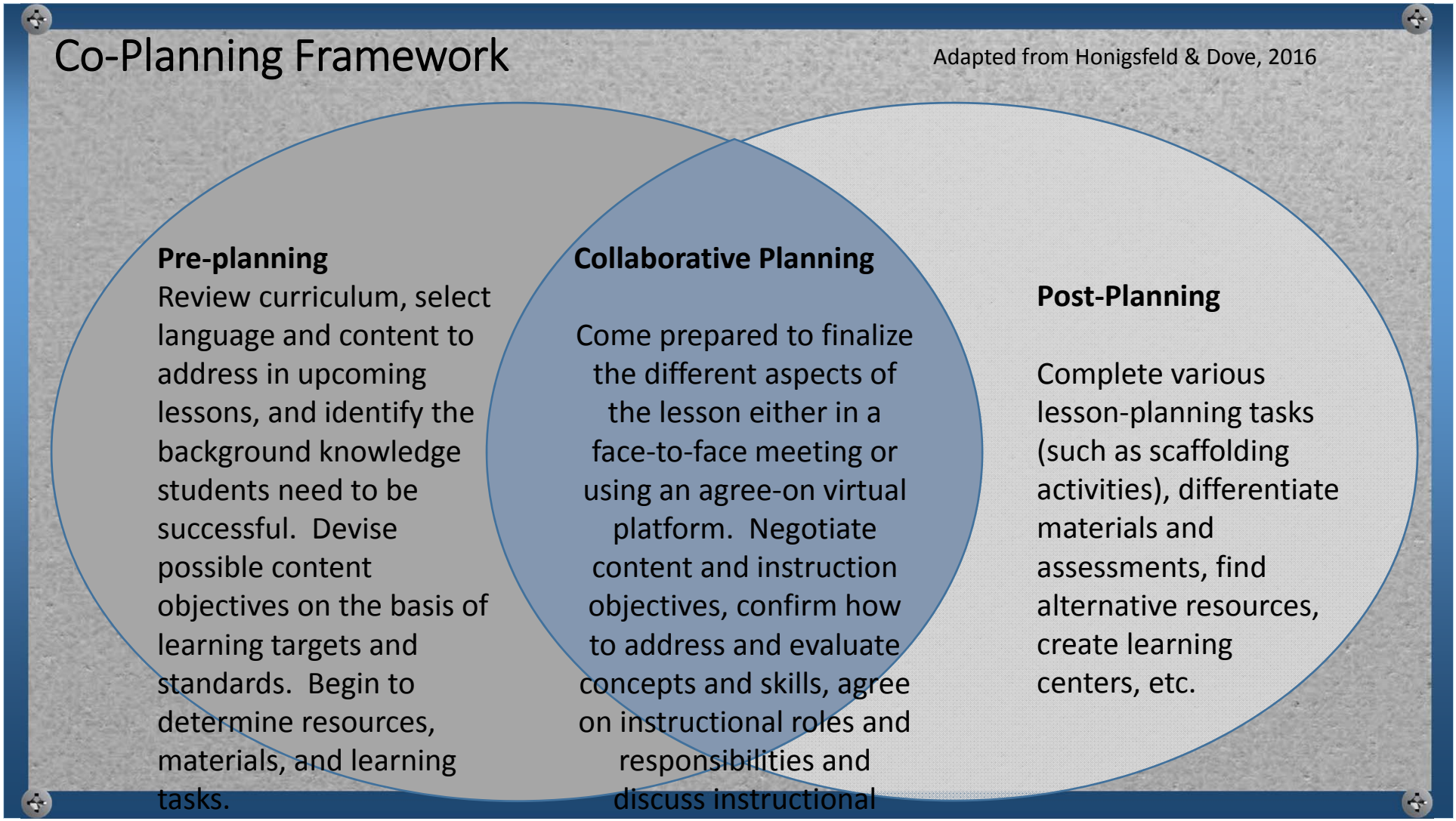
Should, and if so how, would co-teaching be written into an IEP.

In the Classroom: The 3 C's

- Co-Planning
- Co-Instruction
- Co-Assessment

Co-Planning Framework

Adapted from Honigsfeld & Dove, 2016



Universal Curriculum
IEP TEAM
Assessment Practices
RESULTS
Accommodations
DATA DRIVEN
Specially Designed Instruction
INDIVIDUALIZED
Service Delivery
Co-Taught
Small Group
Aide Supported
Unsupported
Consultative
One-on-one Instruction

Specially Designed Instruction

Definition

- Specially Designed Instruction means adapting as appropriate the *content, methodology,* or *delivery of Instruction* to address the unique needs of a child that results from a child's disability…

Modified Content

- A student with an IEP may be working on increasing the number of words that he can spell correctly while typically developing peers are being taught to write short stories with completed paragraphs.

Modified Methodology

- Different instructional strategies and approaches are being used to teach grade level content to the student with disabilities.

Modified Delivery

- The way in which instruction is delivered is different than what is provided to typically developing peers. Can include small group instruction, more frequent instructional opportunities, or individual instruction.

Questions for Specially Designed Instruction

Question 1

Is the Special Education Teacher or Related Service Specialist teaching something that *requires specialized training?*

Question 2

Is the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction *different from* what is provided to general education peers?

Question 3

Is the instruction intentional and specifically related to the development of skills needed *for the achievement of IEP goals and objectives?*

Question 4

Is the instruction meaningful and *linked to an external indicator* (i.e. District Curriculum Standards) that provides the underlying curriculum for the instruction?

Adapted from Central Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center

Questions?