## Preparing to Co-Teach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Questions to ask yourself or others</th>
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| **Assess the current environment** | - What type of collaboration currently exists between general and special education?  
- Has there been any discussion of inclusion, collaboration, or co-teaching?  
- How do teachers react when they hear about students with special needs in general education classes? Who reacts favorably? |
| **Move in slowly**             | - What is our joint understanding of co-teaching as a service delivery model?  
- May I co-teach a lesson with you?  
- Are there any areas that you feel less strongly about, in which I might be able to assist? |
| **Involve the administration** | - How is the district addressing the LRE mandate and the inclusive movement?  
- Would our school site be willing to be proactive by including co-teaching?  
- What discipline areas will we target first?  
- How will we ensure that support is provided across all content areas, including electives?  
- Would we be able to count on administrative support, especially with co-planning time and scheduling assistance? |
| **Get to know your partner**   | - Could we complete a co-teaching checklist to help guide us in discussing our personal and professional preferences?  
- Are there any pet peeves or issues that I should know prior to our working together?  
- Do we both have similar levels of expertise about the curriculum and instructing students with disabilities?  
- How shall we ensure that we are both actively involved and neither feels over- or under-utilized?  
- What feedback structure can we create to assist in our regular communications? |
| **Create a workable schedule** | - How often will co-teaching occur (daily, a few times a week, for a specific unit, etc)?  
- What schedule would best meet the needs of the class and both teachers?  
- How can we ensure that this schedule will be maintained consistently so that both co-teachers can trust it?  
- How will we maintain communication between co-taught sessions? |