

As teacher evaluations continue to change for you, we realize that the traditional student teaching model of giving up your classrooms for an extended period of time may be worrisome. With a shift in thinking, the STEPP Office hopes to incorporate student teachers into your classrooms by means of encouraging you to consider a Co-Teaching model **in addition to or in place of** a traditional Independent Teaching Model. We are doing this in an effort to better meet P-12 student needs as well as the needs of cooperating teachers and administrators in our partner schools, while at the same time continuing to prepare excellent teachers for the future.

**Co-Teaching is defined as two or more teachers working together with groups of students and sharing the planning, organization, delivery and assessment of instruction and physical space.**

### **Why Co-Teach?**

- Enhanced collaboration skills for the teacher candidate and cooperating teacher
- Flexibility to try things you wouldn't be able to do alone
- Help with classroom management
- Reduce student/teacher ratio
- Increase instructional options for all students (interventions, enrichments, and flexible grouping)
- Greater student engaged time
- Greater student participation levels

### **What Co-Teaching is NOT:**

- A less rigorous student teaching experience
- Simply dividing the tasks and responsibilities among two people.
- One person teaching one subject followed by another who teaches a different subject
- One person teaching one subject while another person prepares instructional materials at the Xerox machine or corrects student papers in the teachers' lounge
- Someone is simply assigned to act as a tutor