Considerations for Co-Teaching in a Student-Driven Classroom

The student-driven classroom is well-suited for a co-teaching model. With very little whole-group presentation of information, student-driven classrooms in general, and *Learner-Active, Technology-Infused Classrooms* specifically, allow teachers to interact with students in one-to-one and small-group settings.

For co-teachers in a student-driven classroom, having a plan of action is essential to ensure that both teachers understand and agree upon procedures and expectations, thus creating a more cohesive environment of everyone.

With your co-teacher, reflect upon the following items and questions to leverage your relationship and maximize student learning.

Items to Consider	Questions to Answer
Physical Layout	• Where will teacher materials be kept? • How many *small-group mini-lesson* meeting areas are needed? Where should they be located?
Expected Classroom Behaviors	• How will the *Great Student Rubric* be introduced and used? • What consequences will students face for not meeting behavior expectations? • Will students who meet behavior expectations be rewarded? If so, how?
Planning	• When and where will planning take place? • What norms should be set prior to the first planning session? • How will tasks be divided (e.g., copying, creating anchor charts, etc.)?
Instruction & Facilitation	• How will *benchmark lessons* be presented? • Which *small-group mini-lessons* will each teacher lead? • What strategy will be used to ensure all students receive needed facilitation time (assign specific students/groups to each teacher, split the room in half, etc.)? • Will the facilitation grid be digital, paper-based, or another format? • How will we share information that we gather on our facilitation grids?
Grading	• How will grading responsibilities be determined? • What will be the grading policy?
Communication Between Home and School	• What is the preferred method of contact for each teacher? • How will parents be informed about which teacher to contact? • How will information be communicated to parents (e.g., websites, newsletters, emails, etc.)? • After meeting or talking with a parent, how will information be shared with the co-teacher?
Creating a Positive Culture	• How will we demonstrate a culture of equal adults in the classroom? • How can both teachers leverage teaching styles, strengths, and weaknesses to create an effective student-driven classroom? • What strategies will we use to reach consensus?

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