**The “Nuptial Conversation”**

**What are Co-Teaching Issues for Discussion and Planning?**

Time for Planning: **IT DOES TAKE MORE TIME TO PLAN INiTIALLY!**

Instruction

Student Behavior

Communication

Evaluation

Logistics

Timeline for shift from CT to TC and “solo” teaching?

Other?

**Sample “Nuptial Conversation” Issues for Discussion and Planning**

Time for Planning

* How much time do we need?
* Where will we find the time that we need?
* How will we use our time together?
* What records can we keep to facilitate our planning?

Instruction

* What content will we include?
* Who plans for what content?
* How will we share teaching responsibility?
* Who adapts the curriculum and instructional and assessment procedures for select students?
* What are our strengths in the area of instruction and assessment?
* How will the content be presented -- will one person teach and the other(s) arrange and facilitate follow-up activities, or will all members share in the teaching of the lesson?
* How will we arrange to share our expertise? How can we arrange to observe one another and practice peer coaching?
* Do we rotate responsibilities?
* How will we assess the effectiveness of our instruction?

Student Behavior

* If we could each have only three class rules, what would those be?
* Who decides on the disciplinary procedures?
* Who carries out the disciplinary procedures and delivers the consequences?
* How will we be consistent in dealing with behavior?
* How will we proactively addressing behavior?

Communication

* What types and frequency of communication do we each like to have with parents?
* How will we explain this collaborative teaching arrangement to the parents?
* Who will communicate with parents? Will there be shared responsibility for communication with parents of students with identified special education and other specialized needs, or will particular members of co-teaching team have this responsibility?
* What types and frequency of communication do we each like to have with students?
* Who will communicate with students?
* How will we ensure regular communication with each other?
* Who communicates with administrators?

Evaluation

* How will we monitor students' progress?
* How will we assess and grade student performance?
* Who evaluates which group of students -- do team members collaborate in evaluating all students' performances, or is each team member primarily responsible for evaluating a subset of students?

Logistics

* How will we explain our co-teaching arrangement to the students and convey that we are equals in the classroom?
* How will we refer to each other in front of the students?
* How will teacher space be shared?
* How will the room be arranged?
* Who completes the paperwork for students identified as eligible for special education?
* How is the decision made to expand or contract team membership?
* How will a balance of decision-making power be maintained among co-teachers?