

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GUIDE

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Podcast Episode 18 — Run Time 15:42

## What the Best Mentor Teachers Do

Mentor teachers are essential to successful classroom field experiences for pre-service candidates. Listen to a conversation between Dr. Junior High and Dr. Emily Medlock of the *College of Education at Lipscomb University* as they discuss strategies for creating a positive teaching and learning experience for both mentor teachers and teacher candidates.

#### **Summary Points**

Preparing for a Student Teacher Candidate

- > The desire to host a student teacher candidate.
- Understand the expectations and responsibilities from the university.
- Share your classroom and school expectations. Provide teacher candidates with school and classroom policies and procedures.
- > Develop positive relationships.

Mentoring a Student Teacher Candidate

- Supportive supervision
- Modeling
- Coaching
- Feedback

Co-teaching: Sharing Responsibilities

- > Planning
- ► Instruction
- > Assessment

#### **Continue the Conversation**

"What steps are you taking toward being an effective mentor teacher?"



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## Food for Thought

Preparing for a Student Teacher Candidate

- > Why do I want to be a mentor teacher?
- > What are the expectations from the university partner?
- What important information about my school and classroom does my teacher candidate need to know?
- What are ways to foster a positive collaborative relationship with my teacher candidate?

#### Mentoring a Student Teacher Candidate

- What supports will my teacher candidate need? How does my role complement that of the supervisor provided by the university?
- How will I model classroom expectations? How will I model lessons?
- > How can I coach my teacher candidate?
- > How will I provide feedback to my teacher candidate?

#### Co-teaching: Sharing Responsibilities

- What are the standards/learning objectives that will be taught? What strategies will be used? Who is responsible for which part of the lesson?
- How will leadership be shared in the classroom? How will we manage the classroom together?
- How will we assess students together? How will feedback be given to students? With the upcoming requirement that all candidates complete edTPA, what role should I expect to provide to the candidate?

#### **References & Recommended Resources**

The Academy for Co-Teaching & Collaboration. (2010). *Mentoring Teacher Candidates Through Co-Teaching Handbook*. St. Cloud State University, MN.

- Bacharach, N., Heck, T., & Dahlberg, K. (2010). Changing the face of student teaching through co-teaching. Action in Teacher Education, 32 (1), 3-14.
- Danielson, Charlotte. (2007) Enhancing Professional Practice A Framework for Teaching. ASCD

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