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# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GUIDE

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Podcast Episode 25 — Run Time 17:15

### **Accountability within Collaborative Learning**

Perhaps the most misused word in education is collaboration. What do we mean when we tell students they will be collaborating? More importantly, what do students do when we tell them they will be collaborating? Join Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning & Innovation colleagues Dr. Karen Marklein and Mrs. Julia Osteen for a conversation about ensuring individual accountability for group work.

### **Summary Points**

What do we mean by collaboration?

- ➤ Co-laboring together
- ➤ Coming together of ideas
- Meshing work contributions to create something even better

How do we hold individual students accountable for group work?

- Include individual accountability as well as group accountability
- Group size is key
- Triangulate assessments group work rubric (self, each team member)
- Design meaningful tasks challenging, engaging, stimulating, and multilayered
- > Students need a reason to collaborate (other than a grade)
- Model individual accountability while working in collaborative groups.

#### **Continue the Conversation**

"Where are the opportunities to incorporate collaboration within our context?"



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Food for Thought	
What do we mean by collaboration?	
How are you communicating what collaboration means for your course/classroom?	
How do we hold individual students accountable for group work?	
How are you holding individuals accountable for group contributions?	
How are you ensuring that tasks are sufficiently complex so that collaboration is actually required?	
Self-assessment: See Marklein & Osteen reference & hyperlink (below).	
References & Recommended Resources	
Burns, M. (2016, November 22). 5 Strategies to Deepen Student Collaboration. Retrieved from https://www.edutopia.org/article/5-strategies-deepen-student-collaboration-mary-burns	
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Marklein, K. & Osteen, J. (2019) Self-assessment: Collaborative Practices. eduTOOLBOX Academic Resource Sharing Portal. Retrieved from https://www.edutoolbox.org/rasp/4710?route=toolkit/list/6102/909	
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in educators and support positive student outcomes.