### Leadership & Capacity Building for Effective Inclusion

Santa Barbara Unified School District
Board Presentation

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#### Getting on the Same Page

**Inclusion** - A philosophy that states that students with special needs have the right to receive their education in a general education setting (classroom, extracurricular activities, breaks, other non-academic school events & functions), with necessary supports and services provided in that setting; this involves supporting students in the areas of need, which may include academics, behavior, social skills, self-esteem, and so forth. (Different than FULL INCLUSION) c. Dr. Wendy Murawski, 2014

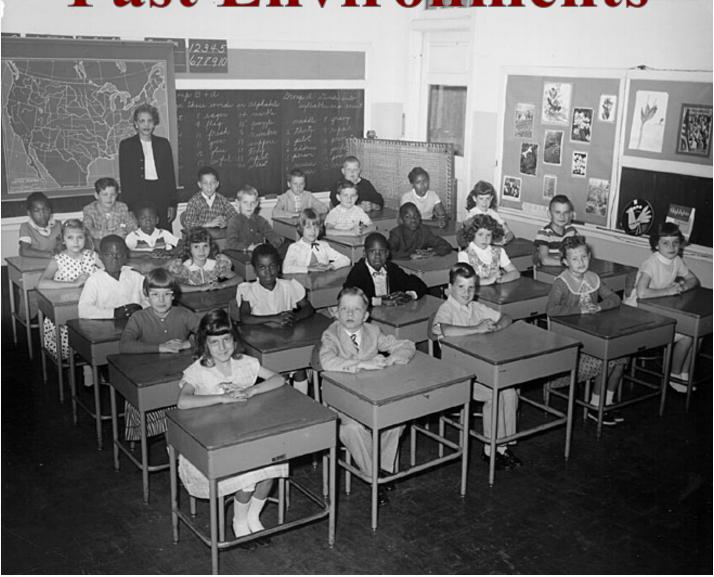
#### Getting on the Same Page

- Collaboration A style of interaction in which two or more individuals work together toward a common goal (Friend & Cook, 2003); not specific to an individual task
- **Co-teaching** occurs when two or more educators co-plan, co-instruct, and co-assess for a group of students with diverse needs in the same general education setting (Murawski, 2003)

## NCLB, IDEIA '04 & Co-Teaching: Legally, a nice fit!

- NCLB (aka NTLS) –
   Requires "highly qualified" content teachers
   Raises the bar on standards-based instruction
   Requires assessments & accountability
- IDEIA '04 —
  Emphasizes least restrictive environment
  Encourages general education participation
  Requires access to general education curriculum
  Stresses collaboration between stakeholders

Past Environments



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21st Century Environments



# **Essential Question**of Co-Teaching

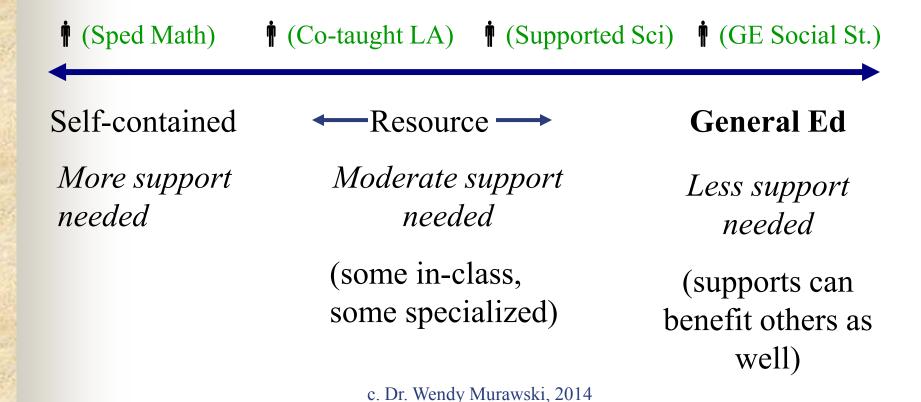
How is what co-teachers are doing together substantively different and better for kids than what each of them would do alone?

(Murawski & Spencer, 2012)

#### The Collaborative Continuum

Start to think about it differently...

#### It's about the KID and the NEED... not the LABEL or the PLACE!



■ Multiple meetings of Community Inclusion Committee – worked on definitions, sharing present level of progress, needs across district, suggestions for communicating with parents/other stakeholders, possible goal of giving constructive feedback to schools during implementation

Multiple meetings of Principals at all levels—shared definitions & clarified goal of district to become more inclusive; shared needs/concerns/barriers/benefits/strengths; emphasized need to have Individualized Action Plans; will be meeting with Secondary on 2/4 and with Elementary individually to create these plans c. Dr. Wendy Murawski, 2014

Multiple meetings of Asst Superintendents & Special Education Management Team shared definitions, paperwork, strategies, goals, overall needs; still working on final district plan & language for paperwork/ IEPs; will work with Management Team to ensure consistency & capacity building across schools

#### NEXT MAJOR STEPS:

- Building Individualized School Action Plans
- Disseminating information across stakeholders
- Ensuring "Inclusive Practices" are infused across ALL initiatives, actions, & activities in district
- Professional Development with teachers

#### Why do we need to change?... Because It's Right For Kids!



Ensuring Quality Service Delivery takes work – but it 's worth it!

#### Thank you for supporting all students & their success

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