

SPECIAL EDUCATION FIELD ADVISORY

**Schools provide high quality
inclusive programs and activities.**

Fredonia Central School District
From a grade 3 perspective

- Kristen Ferro - Director of Special Education
- Erin Clark - 3rd grade general education teacher
- Laura Corsi - 3rd grade special education teacher

Resistance to co-teaching by school staff is often driven
by *limited understanding*
of the co-teaching process and by
lack of experience.

(Walther-Thomas, Korinek, & McLaughlin, 1999)

INCLUSION

A belief system or philosophy that all students are a part of the learning community/classroom and make valuable contributions, even if their abilities differ.

INTEGRATION

3 educational dimensions that contributes to inclusion:

- ❖ Social
- ❖ Physical
- ❖ Instructional

COLLABORATION

The systematic process in which we work together to analyze and impact professional practice in order to improve our individual and collective results.

CO-TEACHING MODELS

Co-teaching occurs when two or more certified teachers jointly deliver substantive instruction to a diverse, or blended, group of students in a single physical space.

1. One Teach, One Support
2. Parallel Teaching
3. Alternative Teaching
4. Station Teaching
5. **Team Teaching**

WHAT IT TAKES...

1. Establish rapport
2. Identify your teaching styles
3. Discuss strengths and weaknesses
4. Trust

CURRICULUM

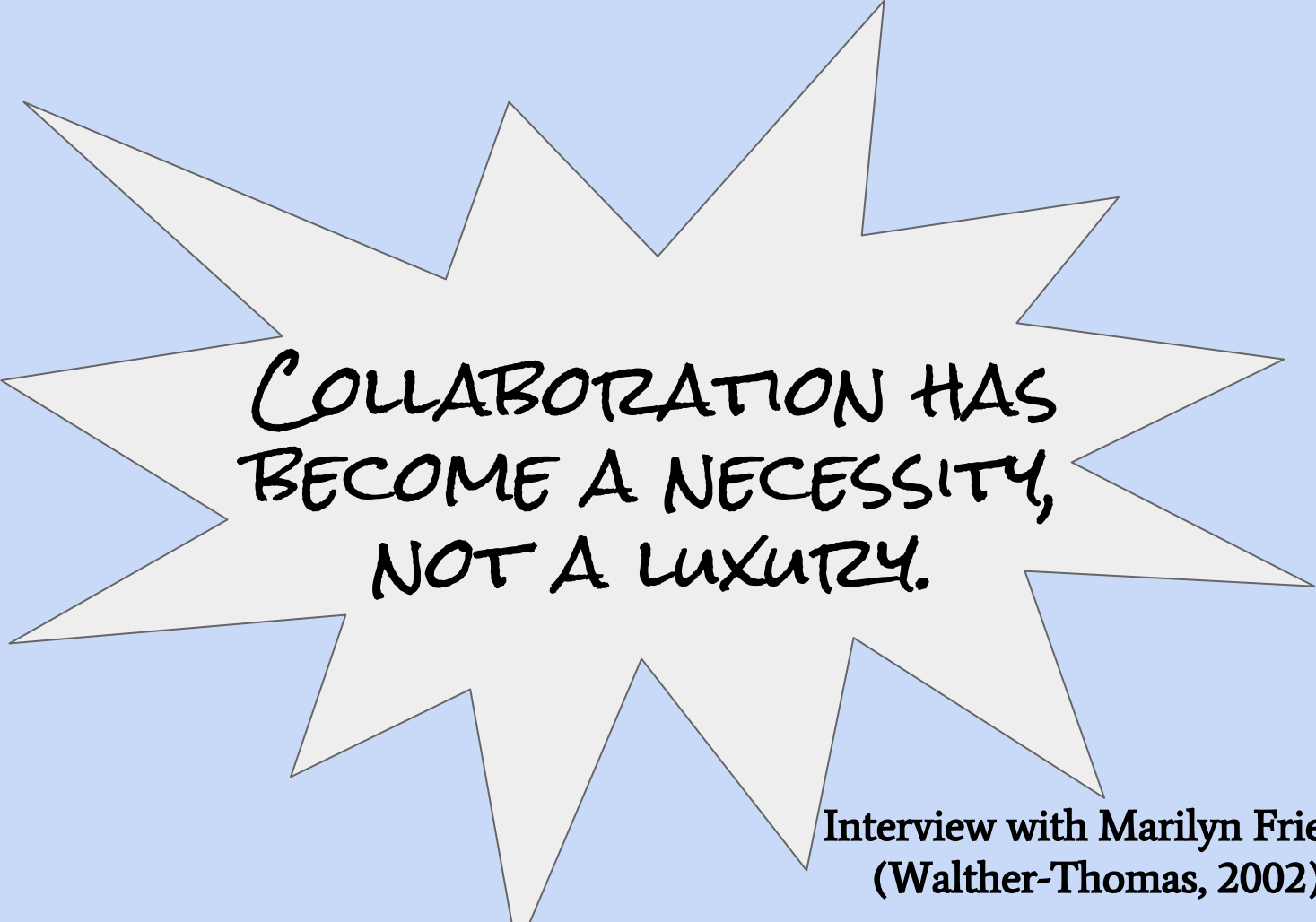
- Differentiated curriculum for all
- Our job is not just to differentiate for the special education children, but for all children within the classroom.

BLENDING EXPERTISE

- ❖ How are we similar?
 - How can these similarities contribute to the effectiveness of our co-teaching partnership?
- ❖ How are we different?
 - How might these differences contribute to the effectiveness of our co-teaching partnership?

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN OUR THIRD GRADE CLASSROOM?

- Laura teaches math while Erin supports
- Erin teaches ELA while Laura supports
- We also team teach depending on the lesson being taught
- Both teachers are in charge of scaffolding for students
- Shared planning period and lunch



**COLLABORATION HAS
BECOME A NECESSITY,
NOT A LUXURY.**

**Interview with Marilyn Friend
(Walther-Thomas, 2002)**