Strategies and Lesson Essentials in the Co-Taught Physical Science Classroom

Kynisha Okonkwo • Pamela Sosna
Gwinnett County Public Schools
Communication & Clarity

- Communication is key!
  - Between co-teachers
  - With students & parents
  - On-going; scheduled; just-in-time

- Be clear and consistent
  - Less is more
  - United

"Ms. Sosna said it was okay! Why won't you let us?"
Preparation & Planning Ahead

- Backwards Design
- Station Learning
  - Multiple modalities
- Prepare ahead of time!
  - Materials, groupings, handouts
  - Plans for lessons that run short or long

Practically speaking...
Formative Assessment & Flexibility

- Frequent use with a plan to scaffold
  - Split the class and/or pull small groups without notice (both of you!)
  - Use technology and pre-made platforms/assignments to help

- Strategies we love:
  - Standards Checks
  - Keeley Probes
  - Ticket In/Out the Door
  - Revising models
  - Color-by-Number / Mazes
  - Branching Forms
  - Card Sorts
  - Informal Q & A
Closing thought: don’t forget to have fun!

Thank you for your time!
- Kynisha.Okonkwo@gcpsk12.org
- Pamela.Sosna@gcpsk12.org