The Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Co-Teacher Program of the Department of Teaching and Learning, University of North Dakota and the Grand Forks Public Schools is a program supported by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. This program is situated in a MTSS elementary school demonstration site and provides support from an experienced teacher that will result in greater knowledge and skills to implement high quality multi-tiered systems of support for students. Co-Teachers have an opportunity to earn a M.S. in Special Education through UND coursework and teaching in the Grand Forks Public Schools.

MTSS Co-Teacher
The co-teacher shares responsibility for a caseload of students in special education and must be certified to teach in North Dakota. The co-teacher will earn a stipend and a partial waiver of university tuition. Co-teachers are responsible for uncovered tuition, university fees, and books each semester.

MTSS Co-Teacher Support
An experienced teacher from the Grand Forks Public Schools enhances the Co-Teacher Program. Co-teachers work as a team to fully participate in data collection, administering universal screenings, interpreting focused monitoring data, and student follow-up. The experienced co-teacher offers consultation, demonstration teaching, feedback, and support to the co-teacher.

University Advisor
The university advisor represents the University of North Dakota’s interests in the Co-Teacher Program. This individual advises, and links the teacher to services of the University of North Dakota. The university advisor also offers consultation and support both at the University and in the demonstration school site in Grand Forks Public School District.

Multi-Tiered System of Support Co-Teacher Requirements
To qualify as a co-teacher, the following conditions must be met:
1. Complete an undergraduate degree in education before the start of the Co-Teacher experience.
2. Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.75, with preference given to those with a 3.00 GPA or greater.
3. Be available for graduate study during the summer session prior to the co-teaching experience.
4. Participate in an April 2014 interview process.

MTSS Co-Teacher Application Process
There are two components for applying to the Co-Teacher Program. Submit a letter of interest and resume to Dr. Lynne Chalmers and be admitted to the master’s program in special education.

Letter of Interest and Resume
Prior to March 7, 2014 submit a resume and letter of interest to Dr. Lynne Chalmers, Department of Teaching and Learning, Box #7189, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202

Graduate School On-Line Application Process
Apply for admission and obtain acceptance to the M.S. Special Education program preferably prior to March 7, 2014. The online application is found on the Graduate School website.

The application process includes:
1. Online application.
2. Three letters of recommendation, preferably one from a student teaching cooperating teacher, one from a university professor, and one of your choice.
3. Completion of the personal statement which is uploaded into the application.
4. Official transcripts of all attempted work.
5. $35 application fee.

Collaboration is key to student success. One of the greatest benefits of participating in this program has been the purposeful planning with my co-teacher. Being a part of this grant has allowed me to provide more intense instruction for students of different abilities and at all levels of learning.

I believe this model increases student success and has a great impact on how your classroom is managed. Two teachers working together allowed me to use my assessments to change my teaching to fit the abilities of the students. Taking courses that directly relate to what I am teaching not only helped me, but helped my grade level team as well.

For Further Information Contact:
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“Developing Quality Educators Through a Collaborative Effort of Growth and Renewal”