

Best Practices for Cooperating Teachers

Listed below are the best practices you should demonstrate while mentoring your student teacher.

Social Support

- Communicate regularly and openly
- Encourage and support their efforts.
- Pay attention to their:
 - Mindset
 - Attitude
 - Well-being
- Provide weekly feedback on performance and progress in an uninterrupted setting

Professional Support

- Use observational data during feedback sessions
- Encourage them to take the lead in evaluating their teaching
- Introduce them to the school community
- Help them develop and maintain a positive view on teaching
- Share effective approaches of for:
 - Managing reporting
 - Administrative aspects of teaching
 - Building relationships with administration, teachers, and staff

Role Modeling

- Involve them in your roles as an agriculture teacher
- Talk to them about becoming an excellent teacher throughout their career
- Share your philosophy and approaches for SAE development and supervision, as well as FFA advising
- Discuss student discipline
- Share strategies on maintaining a productive learning environment in the classroom and the lab
- Coach them on strategies for developing and maintaining professional rapport with students