

# Supervising - Learning to Loosen the Reins

You have opened your doors, your space, and possibly even your lesson plan cabinet. It can be tough to take a step back and hand the reins to the student teacher, especially when their practices may be very different. It's vital to share your perspective and words of wisdom. But it's also important to allow room for trial and error, and ultimately growth. Below are some reminders as your student teacher is most likely handling a full teaching load:

**01** Allow the student teacher to make honest mistakes and to have the opportunity to learn from them.



**02** Don't be afraid to leave the classroom for brief periods of time.



**03** Although tempting, try not to interrupt the student teacher once they have taken over responsibility of the class.



**04** Be sure to have one to two regular meetings per week, although discussion is most likely happening daily.



**05** Only step in when absolutely necessary, especially if there is a class that is out of control or there is a possibility of someone being harmed.



Check out the Cooperating Teacher Website for more tips and reminders for loosening the reins: [www.UFCooperatingTeachersSupport.com](http://www.UFCooperatingTeachersSupport.com)

Encourage your intern to schedule their mock interview, if they haven't already.

Don't forget to complete the weekly evaluations and bi-weekly evaluations!

"We're better when we share our real selves. We're better when we're really authentic. We're better when we all work together."  
- Sheryl Sandberg