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Materials: Sheets with the Partnering Sentence Stem; Writing Utensils

Outcome: Participants engage in discussing personal and/or team definitions of partnering. Participants hear varying definitions and have an opportunity to collaborate on creating a mutually-shared definition.

Instructions: (These can be varied to fit audiences.) Please write down a brief response to "Partnering is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_". Then discuss response with your team (or a neighbor). Create a team partnering definition or list the characteristics your team identified. Share key points with entire group. Optional discussion points: ask would responses be different if all were educators or family members or community resources? or any different group from the current one? what would students say? or compare with given definition.

Conclusion: Individual, team or dyad keeps their responses to re-examine after a role-play activity or listening to other components of workshop or to take back to professional setting to share with others "Partnering" can be applied to staff as well as families and communities.