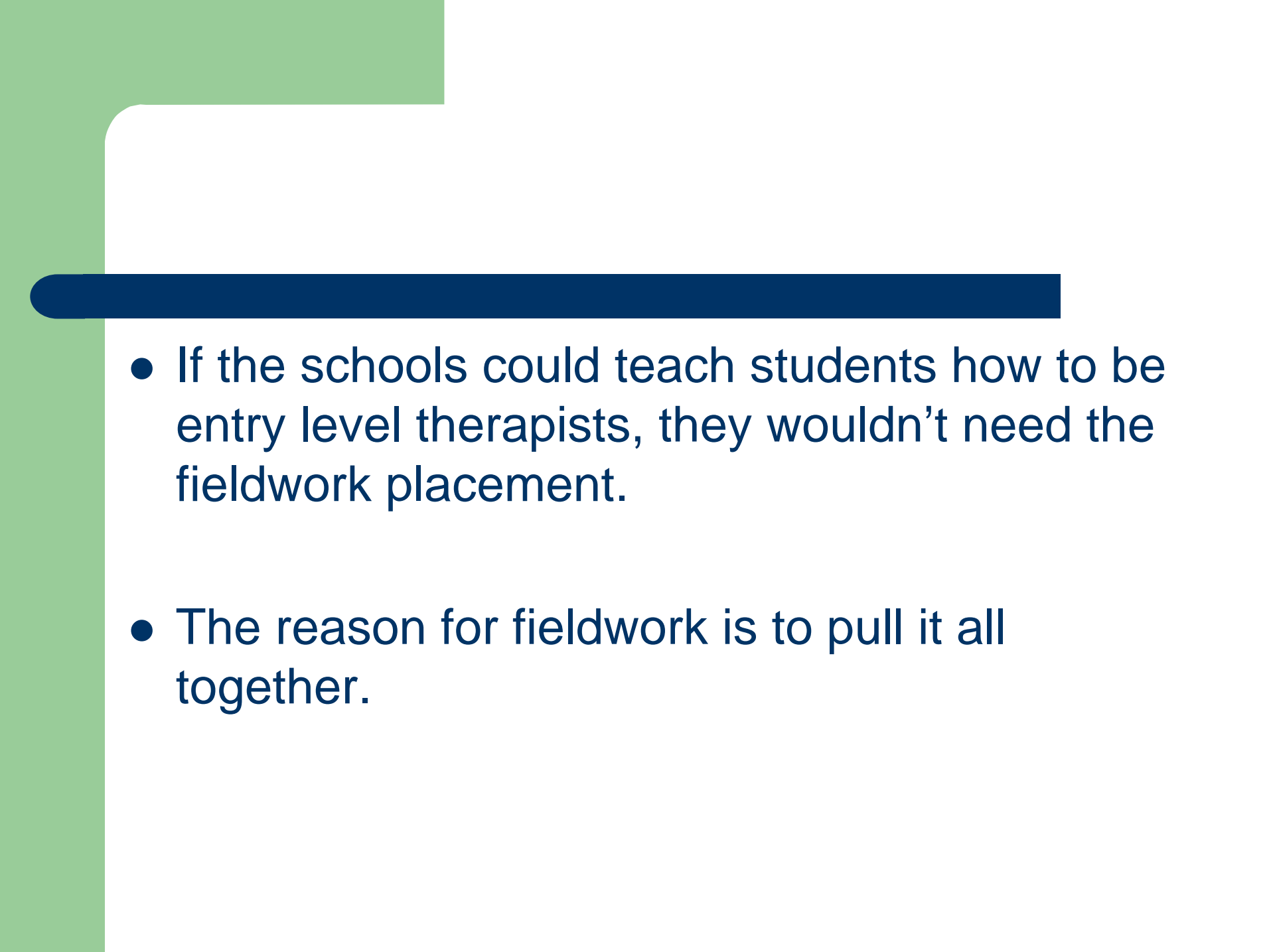


The Struggling Student



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- If the schools could teach students how to be entry level therapists, they wouldn't need the fieldwork placement.
 - The reason for fieldwork is to pull it all together.

Why do students struggle?

- Maturity level
- Bumpy learning curve
- Poor fit between student and site/supervisor
- Actually incompetent
- Other reasons?

How Do We Deal with It?

- Structure and Clear expectations are the best prevention
- Early recognition – weeks 3 through 5 are critical
- Analyze why, what is not working

Ability Problems

- Learning style differences
- Time management or focus issues
- Specific skill deficits
- Characteristics of this setting
- Communication Skills

Attitude Problems

- Immaturity
 - Unmet expectations on either side
 - Relationship Clash
 - Attitude!
-
- The remedy must match the problem

Relationship Styles

- Relationships, Harmonizing
- Reflective, Preserving, Theory Building
- Pragmatic, Directive
- Interpreting Feelings, Achieving Perfection

The 3 stages of Student Growth

- Stability/Stagnation
- Confusion
- Integration

– Gennifer Young, OTR Wyoming State Hospital

The Remediation Plan

- Always written
- Ideally before the midterm,
- Input/Discussion with School's CEC
- Clearly identifies what you need to see
- Call on other resources, don't just vent
- Involve the student

Education is Different than Treatment

- Do structure learning activities to improve results
- Don't modify expectations to match student's ability
- Structured, Caring Feedback is Key

Strategic Feedback

- The behavior I want to change –
- The negative consequences of the behavior –
- How I felt about the behavior –
- What I want done for remediation –

- Therapist as Supervisor and Coach by Gary A. Morse

Summary

- It is not just you
- The students have a responsibility, too
- The school makes the final decision about the student, your decision is about this placement
- Confidentiality is required