

MTSS: Information for Parents

What is MTSS?

A Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) integrates all students. It is a process that provides high-quality, research-based instruction targeted to learner needs. Needs are identified by monitoring students' progress. Adjustments to instruction and interventions are based on students' performance and rate of success. MTSS promotes a well-integrated system, connecting general, gifted, and special education with intervention and enrichment services. MTSS provides high-quality, standards-based instruction and intervention that is matched to students' academic, social and behavioral needs. MTSS was previously referred to as Response to Intervention.

Key Principles of MTSS

- Early intervention
- Multi-tiered model of service delivery that provides a continuum of support
- Instruction matched learners' needs
- Progress monitoring data collected regularly to ensure effectiveness of instruction
- Research-based interventions and instruction
- Interventions implemented consistently and correctly
- Parent involvement is encouraged throughout the child's educational journey

Potential Benefits of MTSS

- Improved education for ALL students
- Provides at-risk students with support earlier rather than later
- Progress monitoring data yields relevant, easily understood information
- Facilitates collaboration among educators, families and community-members

Key MTSS Terms

- Tier I (low risk) is considered core instruction and should meet the needs of approximately 80% of students

- Tier II (moderate risk) is aimed to provide a focused intervention for students who are not fully responding to core instruction. Up to 15% of students may require small group instruction designed to supplement Tier I.
- Tier III (high risk) is the most intensive level of intervention. Approximately 5% of students may need this level of individual or small group intervention.
- Universal Screening: A procedure in which all students are given an academic screening assessment three times per year for the purpose of identifying those students in need of specialized interventions.
- Progress Monitoring: A practice used to frequently assess students' academic progress to determine effectiveness of intervention.

What is the role of the parent/guardian in MTSS?

Parents play a critical role in supporting what their children are learning in school. Research has demonstrated that the more parents are involved in student learning, the higher the student achievement. Parents can be involved in the process by communicating any concerns to the child's teacher, providing insight into their child's learning and development, and assisting with identified interventions at home.