

What is a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)?

MTSS is a term used to describe an evidence-based model of schooling that uses data-based problem solving to integrate academic and behavioral instruction and intervention. The integrated instruction and intervention is provided to students at varying levels of intensity based on student need. The goal is to remove barriers to learning, intervene early and set individual goals so that students can be successful. MTSS grew out of the integration of two other intervention-based frameworks: Response to Intervention (RtI) and PBIS.

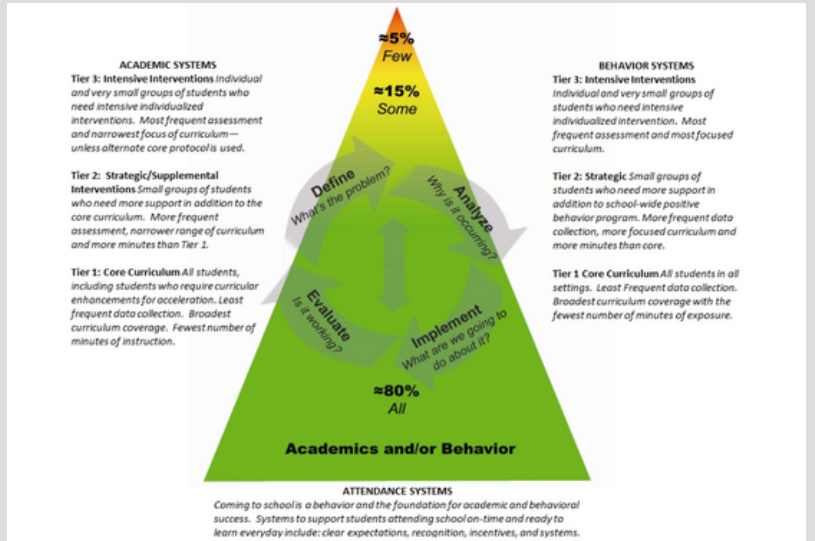
MTSS Tiers of Support

MTSS seeks to integrate academic and behavioral instruction and intervention. These varying levels of intensities are known as Core (Tier 1), Supplemental/Strategic (Tier 2), and Intensive (Tier 3).

Core (Tier 1) refers to the high quality instruction that is provided to all students in the general education classroom.

Supplemental/Strategic (Tier 2) refers to the interventions that are provided to small groups of students who need more support than they are receiving through Core (Tier 1). Support is aligned with Core (Tier 1). Students receiving supplemental supports have a specific individual goal and progress is monitored bi-weekly to determine student response to intervention.

Intensive (Tier 3) refers to interventions that are provided in very small groups or with individual students. Support is aligned with Core (Tier 1) and Supplemental/Strategic (Tier 2). Students receiving intensive support have a specific individual goal and progress is monitored weekly/bi-weekly to determine student response to intervention.



What Can I Expect with MTSS?

- Support for your child that increases or decreases depending on his or her needs.
- Information and involvement in your child's instruction/intervention.
- Early identification of academic or behavioral concerns at the first signs of difficulty; proactive and preventative framework

What Assessments are Administered at Middlesex to Support MTSS?

- “The FastBridge assessment system includes reading, math, and SAEBERS tests that help teachers learn which students may need extra supports. These FastBridge tests are used with all students, K-5, for Universal Screening in Reading, Math, and Behavior.
- FastBridge Subtest Focus Areas
 - Reading- looking at various reading skills (concepts of print, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary)
 - Math- looking at various math skills (number sense, whole number operations, algebra, statistics and probability, measurement, rational numbers, and geometry)
 - Behavior- SAEBERS- looking at the 3 areas of social, academic, and emotional behaviors

What Do I Do if I Believe My Child is Struggling?

- Talk with your child’s teacher.
- Participate in conferences and other meetings about your child.
- Review and assist with homework assignments.
- Learn more about the curriculum, assessments, and interventions being used in your child’s school.
- It's always important to celebrate the successes your child is having.

How Can I Participate in MTSS?

Families play a critical role in supporting what their children are learning in school. The more parents are involved in student learning, the higher the student achievement. Ask the following questions to learn more about MTSS in your child’s school:

- Is my child successful? How do I know? If not, why and what can we do differently?
- If needed, how is additional help going to be provided? By whom? How often? For how long?
- What can I do to participate in problem solving meetings about my child?
- What can I do to support my child at home?
- How will I know if interventions are working?
- Should you have any questions about the intervention process please reach out to your child's teacher and/or the interventionist that is working with your child.

