

An Introduction to: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

What is MTSS?

- MTSS refers to the structures and procedures schools provide that can help every student have a positive school outcome.⁶
- Inside this system exists focused support frameworks (such as RTI, PBIS or SBMH) that look to support student academic, behavioral, and mental health needs.⁶
- Integrating these support frameworks within MTSS provides all students with the best opportunities to reach positive academic, behavioral and mental health outcomes.⁴
- The systematic and careful integration of all support systems (See MTSS Umbrella) ensures the effectiveness and efficiency of MTSS.⁴

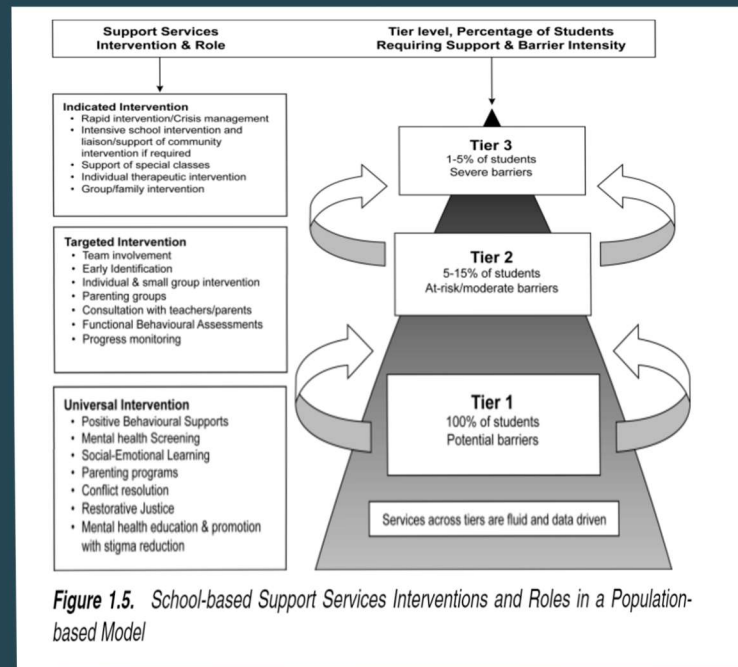


Key MTSS Systems

- Response to Intervention (RTI)
 - "A preventive systems approach to improving schoolwide and individual achievement through high quality universal instruction and additional tiered supports provided in response to student need." (Kent & Goodman, 2016, pg. 6)⁴
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
 - "An evidence based three-tiered framework for improving and integrating all of the data, systems and practices affecting student behavioral outcomes...to create the kind of schools where all students are successful." (Center on PBIS, 2021)¹
- School-Based Mental Health (SBMH)
 - "SBMH provides a full array of tiered supports and services that promote a positive school climate, social and emotional learning, and mental health and well-being, while reducing the prevalence and severity of mental illness and substance use." (National Center for School Mental Health, 2021)⁶

Implementing MTSS

- MTSS must be implemented with careful integration between frameworks to ensure a universal support system.
- An example implementation model is the SSSM Model for School-Based Mental Health (Figure 1.5).²
 - This model follows the three tiered model of MTSS allowing service delivery at the schoolwide (Tier 1), small group (Tier 2) and individual student (Tier 3) levels.²
- Teamwork is essential for MTSS success and school-wide teams must have a membership representative of the entire school community.⁶
- Possible members of Schoolwide MTSS Team.
 - School Psychologists
 - School Administrators
 - Academic, behavior, mental health, intervention, and English language learner specialists.
 - Lead classroom teachers
 - Related service providers (OTs, PTs, SLPs, social workers, etc)



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Leads to References