

MiMTSS Newsletter

Michigan's Multi-Tiered System of Supports



September/October, 2021
Volume 2, Issue 1

Welcome to this edition of the MiMTSS newsletter. Each edition keeps you up-to-date about the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) efforts to support effective implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). Please share this newsletter and subscribe at [MDE Email Lists](#), to keep informed of all the latest MiMTSS information.

News to Know

MiMTSS Fiscal Guidance Document

MDE has developed and released the [Fiscal Guidance for Implementing an MTSS](#). The document provides Michigan school districts with guidance on how to coordinate the use of state and federal funds to support MTSS implementation. The guidance begins with a brief overview of MTSS as defined by the MDE MTSS Practice Profile and general methods for coordinating state and federal funds. The overview is followed by descriptions of how federal and state funds may be used to implement example activities organized first by funding streams and then by the five essential components of MTSS. Lastly, three narratives showcase diverse districts applying the continuous-improvement process to identify needs, develop plans, and fund activities to support MTSS implementation. Each district narrative offers unique insights into how districts are implementing MTSS and illustrates how coordinated funds may be used to improve learner outcomes. For more information on implementing an MTSS, join us for a live presentation at any of the following conferences:

- Special Populations Conference – Thursday, September 23, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- MDE Continuous Improvement Conference – Tuesday, October 19, 12:30-1:45 p.m.
- MASFPS Conference – Thursday, October 28, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

For more information about MiMTSS, please visit www.michigan.gov/mtss.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Children matter. You matter. Learn SEL!

There is still time to help you help your students! Last spring, MDE launched the **Children matter. You matter. Learn SEL!** campaign. MDE now is asking leaders and educators to complete an '[Introduction to SEL](#)' online module hosted through Michigan Virtual. The goal is for as many educators as possible (a minimum of one school leader and two to four teachers per building across the state) to complete the module. The course is free, offers State continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs), and is open to all districts.

Please participate in the training and encourage others to complete the training. **Over 600 educators have completed the course since the campaign began.** Check to see if your district is on the [map](#). To learn more, visit www.michigan.gov/mde-sel.



News from the MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center

MiMTSS Technical Assistance Catalog

With a new school year comes the opportunity for districts to re-examine and refine their implementation of MTSS to meet the needs of all learners. In support of these efforts, MDE and MiMTSS Technical Assistance (TA) Center are pleased to present the 2021-22 [MiMTSS Technical Assistance Catalog](#). The catalog offers a variety of universally accessible and targeted professional learning topics to ensure learners accelerate outcomes by accessing safe, predictable, and engaging classroom environments. The topics are available for intermediate school districts (ISDs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), districts, school leadership teams, and teachers.

For questions regarding the MiMTSS Technical Assistance Catalog, contact Melissa Nantais at mnantais@mimtss.org.

MTSS Support to Educators & Leaders Survey

The MiMTSS TA Center wants to hear from you! To provide high-quality, differentiated MTSS support to educators and leaders across the state, the TA Center is seeking input from teachers, district leaders, ISD leaders, and state associations/organizations. The information gathered will be used to inform the development of professional learning topics, resources, and implementation supports that, when possible, are contextualized to meet regional needs of school, local districts and ISDs. The surveys are linked below and can be accessed now through October 31. For questions regarding the surveys, contact Anna Harms at aharms@mimtss.org.

Thank you in advance for sharing your feedback with the MiMTSS TA Center!

[Survey for Staff Working Directly with Students](#)

[Survey for District Leaders](#)

[Survey for ISD Leaders](#)

[Survey for Other State Organizations](#)

MiMTSS TA Center Professional Learning Opportunities

The MiMTSS TA Center also is currently surveying stakeholders to determine the best times to offer universal professional learning during the school day or after school. The dates and times will be forthcoming and advertised under the “upcoming events” on the [MiMTSS TA Center website](#), and emailed via the MiMTSS TA Center listserv. Please join the listserv by completing the [Sign-Up form](#) to avoid missing these quality professional learning opportunities.

MiMTSS Data System

The [MiMTSS Data System](#) is a free-access, web-based information system designed for Local Education Agencies (LEAs), ISDs, and MDE to gather and analyze data critical for the continuous improvement of MTSS in Michigan. Users can enter capacity assessment data, MTSS fidelity data, and student outcome indicators. Teams can monitor the impact of MTSS implementation on reading and behavior outcomes using dashboards. Thirty-two ISDs, 184 districts, and 39 public school academies already are using the MiMTSS Data System.

MTSS Resources & Supports for MICIP

The MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center has a number of resources available to MICIP users that have also been included in the MICIP Process Guide. These resources might be helpful to all districts regardless of partnership with the MiMTSS TA Center. If you have districts that are engaged or considering engaging in MTSS work and/or partnering with the MiMTSS TA Center, you may be interested to know that the MiMTSS TA Center has been working to align with MICIP, including creating resources that will help avoid duplication of efforts. One such example is a new reporting feature within the MiMTSS Data System, allowing districts to download reports specific to MICIP, including a Behavior Data Set (PBIS), a Reading and Engagement Data Set, and a District Capacity Data Set. The reports pull several MTSS data graphs and tables from the MiMTSS Data System into a single file that can be exported as a PDF and then uploaded into the MICIP Platform as data objects in the Whole Child Data Discovery section. Additional resources are also available on the [MTSS Supports for MICIP](#) pages on the MiMTSS TA Center website.

MiMTSS State Conference

On August 3 - 4, the MiMTSS TA Center held its 16th annual state conference. The conference focused on advancing effective MTSS implementation to ensure the growth and success of all learners. The two-day conference was an opportunity to learn the latest in research and best practices related to MTSS, strengthen implementation within your context, and connect and share with other attendees. The conference session recordings are available on the [MiMTSS TA Center YouTube channel](#).

Accelerated Learning

MDE and the MiMTSS TA Center hosted a series of five webinars focused on accelerated learning. Each webinar in the series shared the common focus on strategically preparing students for success in grade-level content through the implementation of accelerated learning strategies. Webinar recordings can be found at [MDE's Accelerated Learning: Professional Development](#) page.

You Tube Channel

The MiMTSS TA Center has a [YouTube Channel](#) filled with resources to support educators' installation and use of MTSS systems, data, and practices. Navigate to the YouTube channel to check out what is there and subscribe to the channel for updates.

Social Media

Stay up to date with announcements from the MiMTSS TA Center by following on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MiMTSSSTAC> and on Twitter @MichiganMTSS.

Conferences



MDE Announces First SEL Conference

MDE announced the first SEL Conference, scheduled for October 27-28 at MSU's Kellogg Center.

Registration for the SEL Conference is OPEN. More information and a registration link are now available at [SEL Conference](#).



The MDE Virtual Continuous Improvement Conference

The MDE Fall 2021 Virtual Continuous Improvement Conference, "Equity and Stakeholder Voice: Making Education More Engaging and Relevant for Students, Families, and Educators" is Tuesday, October 19. Keynote speaker is **Dr. Jal Mehta, Professor of Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education**. The topic: "Humane and Equitable Continuous Improvement: Why Tools Should Serve Humans and Not Vice Versa."

Returning to the event is **Dr. Seena Skelton, Director of Operations for Region III Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center, speaking on:** "Equity and Continuous Improvement: Using Quantitative and Qualitative Data in an Equity-Centered Continuous Improvement Process."

Attendees will have an opportunity to choose from up to 30 breakout sessions; in contrast to the recorded presentations at last year's event, breakouts this year will be live. Attendees may access all presentations after the conference.

Conference information and a registration link are available at [MDE Fall 2021 Virtual Continuous Improvement Conference | Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators \(gomasa.org\)](#). Please contact Ben Boerkoel at boerkoelb@michigan.gov if you have questions.



Special Populations Conference

MDE's Office of Educational Supports (OES) is excited to announce the 10th Annual Special Populations Conference: Leading Together Toward Tomorrow. The conference will focus on program coordination, best practices, early literacy, and networking, and will emphasize the following programs:

- Learners who are at-risk eligible (Section 31a)
- English learners and immigrant students (Title III, Section 41)
- Learners experiencing foster care (Title I, Part A)
- Learners experiencing homelessness (Title IX, Part A)
- Migratory children and youth (Title I, Part C)
- Learners in neglected and delinquent placements (Title I, Part D)

Please join us for this virtual professional learning opportunity September 22-24, 2021. The cost of the conference is \$50 per participant. Conference registration is available at [OES Special Populations Conference](#).

Sharing Experiences from the Field

Hearing from local and ISDs about their MTSS implementation experiences is an important part of each newsletter. We wish to thank Lenawee ISD and Montabella Community Schools for their contributions, and most importantly, their continued efforts to implement an MTSS framework.

Want to share an experience with MTSS implementation, an MTSS accomplishment, or MTSS challenge that has been overcome? Submit your story by filling out the [Google form](#).

Quick Links

[MDE MiMTSS Website](#)

[MiMTSS TA Center](#)

[MiMTSS Data System](#)

[Practice Profile](#)

[MICIP](#)

[EWIMS](#)

Contact Us: MDE-MTSS@michigan.gov



To learn more about how your organization can contribute to the success of an effective MTSS implementation or how MDE can support your efforts, visit the [MiMTSS website](#).



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