Family Matters Fact Sheet

Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education

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Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS)

A comprehensive Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) framework connects education, health, and human service systems. Organizing these available resources helps schools, centers, and ALL learners, with and without individualized education programs (IEPs) across tiers of support.

MTSS Essential Components

Team-Based Leadership

District, building, and educator collaboration supports success of the child.

Comprehensive Screening and Assessment System

Uses best practices to screen, assess, diagnose, and monitor student progress.

Selection and Implementation of Evidence-Based Instruction, Interventions, and Support

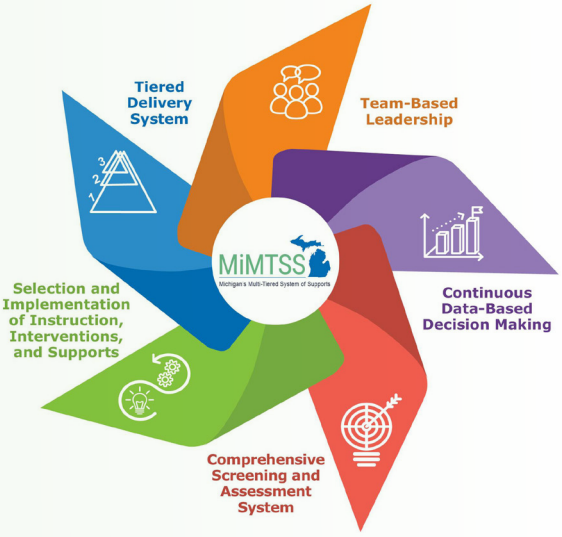
Schools choose instructional practices, interventions, and supports that are evidence-based because they are proven to help students succeed.

Continuous Data-Based Decision Making

Schools use different types of student data to make better decisions and know whether they are making progress. Taking this approach helps improve supports for all children to be successful.

Tiered Delivery System

Meets the need of the whole child (cognitive, physical, social, emotional, behavioral) within a school district.



October 2026

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Family Matters fact sheets are intended to enhance public understanding of Michigan's special education system and are not a substitute for official laws and regulations.

MTSS Key Ideas

- Model (framework) for supporting ALL learners.
- Uses data to solve problems through educational and behavioral teaching and supports.
- Provides planned supports to meet needs of individual learners.
- Way of thinking and problem solving and not a program, strategy, or trend.
- Centers on needs and performance of ALL learners in buildings and districts.

Layering MTSS Tiers of Support

Tier 1

High quality teaching and behavior support for ALL learners (called universal supports).

Tier 2

Supports (additional to Tier 1) for some learners with more specific skill or behavior needs; may be provided in small group support. These short-term interventions focus on remediating problems.

Tier 3

Intensifying (or increasing) supports for students with ongoing or individual needs. Tier 3 support provides more complete (comprehensive) assessments to better understand what is contributing to the group or student's difficulty. The support will be intensified (or increased) while working toward the defined (target) skill.

MTSS Involves

- Screening ALL learners.
- Increasing levels of support for struggling learners.
- Including all school staff working as a team, evaluating learner needs.
- Training school staff to use interventions and supports.
- Involving and educating families to support their child.
- Monitoring progress of learners to see if interventions are working and change them if needed.

Resources

- Michigan Department of Education, Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Michigan's Multi-tiered System of Supports (MiMTSS) Technical Assistance Center
- Understood.org
  Search MTSS

Michigan Alliance for Families
information, support, and education

Michigan Alliance for Families: Response to Intervention (RTI), Multi-Tiered System of Supports MTSS