

## *What is Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)?*

An approach that promotes an integrated system connecting general, compensatory, gifted, and special education in providing high quality, standards-based instruction and intervention that is matched to students' academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs.

## *How do we establish Multi-Tiered Systems of Support?*

- Being prevention oriented: knowing who needs support early each year and putting those supports in place.
- Implementing evidence-based practices for all students and tailoring interventions based on student need.
- Using progress-monitoring data as a vehicle to initiate change.
- Providing support to teachers throughout the process.
- Discontinuing ineffective strategies immediately.

## *Who is impacted by MTSS?*

- Every student
- Every teacher
- Every parent
- Every school
- Every staff member

*Specific practices set up a system to provide targeted interventions to students at risk of experiencing school difficulties, while students who are identified as being at low risk for difficulties can be provided advanced instruction to enhance their learning.*

## *What We Know*

- The earlier school staff can assess students' needs and identify those with difficulties, the quicker and less expensive the task is to help those struggling learners catch up.
- The longer a student goes without assistance, the longer the remediation time and the more intense the services must be.
- There is emerging evidence that many students who struggle in the early grades cannot catch up if we wait until 3rd or 4th grade to deliver intensive remediation.

*The purpose of intervention is not to pave the way towards special education support. Rather, it is a method of exhausting every effort before an educational evaluation is considered.*

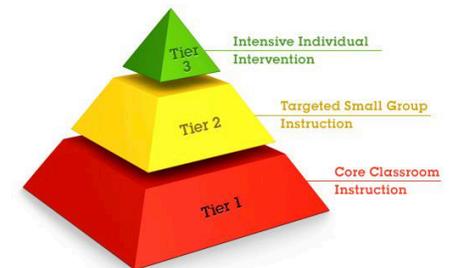
## *What it looks like...*

MTSS helps schools and districts ensure that supports for the entire system are provided in a very coordinated way, including:

- Students receive the help they need quickly.
- Data is used for all instructional decisions.
- Student progress is monitored frequently to ensure instructional efforts are on track.

## *What is intervention?*

The term “intervention” refers to the specific strategies, techniques, and/or programs used, in addition to the general classroom instruction, to improve your child’s academic performance.



## **3 Tiers of Support**

**How can I get help for my struggling child?**

If you notice your child struggles when reading or completing homework, or grades seem to be dropping, you may contact any of the following individuals:

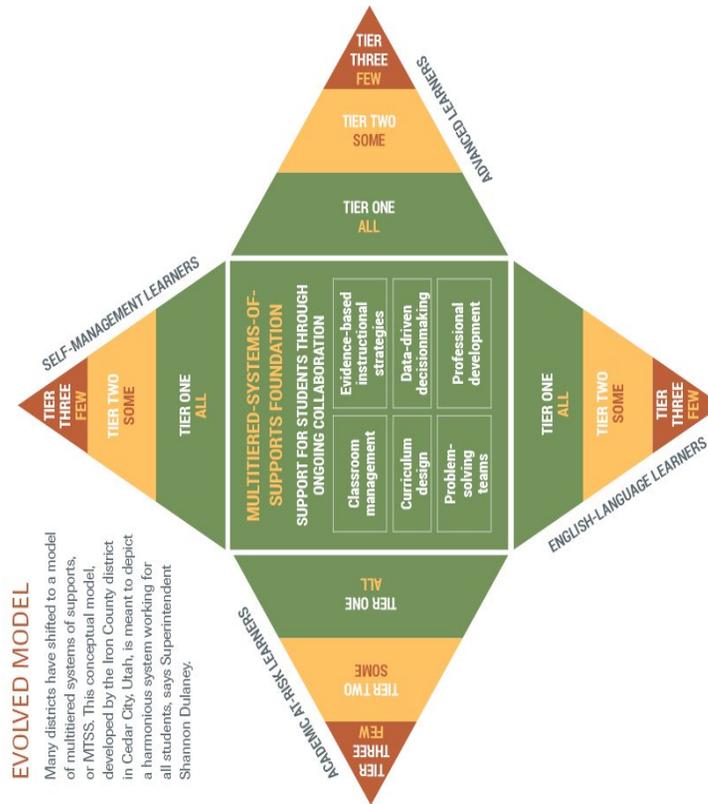
- Your child’s classroom teacher
- Your school’s interventionist
- Your school’s assistant principal
- Your school’s principal
- Emily Burke, MTSS Coach
- Amanda Samples, Executive Director of Elementary Education
- Lucy Hasselman, Executive Director of Secondary Education

**How does the school determine if my child needs supplemental instruction?**

Multiple factors and sources of data are considered before providing a student with supplemental education. Factors include:

- Universal screener data
- State assessment data
- Grades
- Retention
- Attendance
- Behavior

Your child may be referred to the Teacher Support Team if a deficit is identified in reading, math, or behavior.



*Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)*



*DeSoto County Schools*  
 5 East South St.  
 Hernando, MS 38632