

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for Families and Community Members

There is great power in harmony and
mutual understanding.

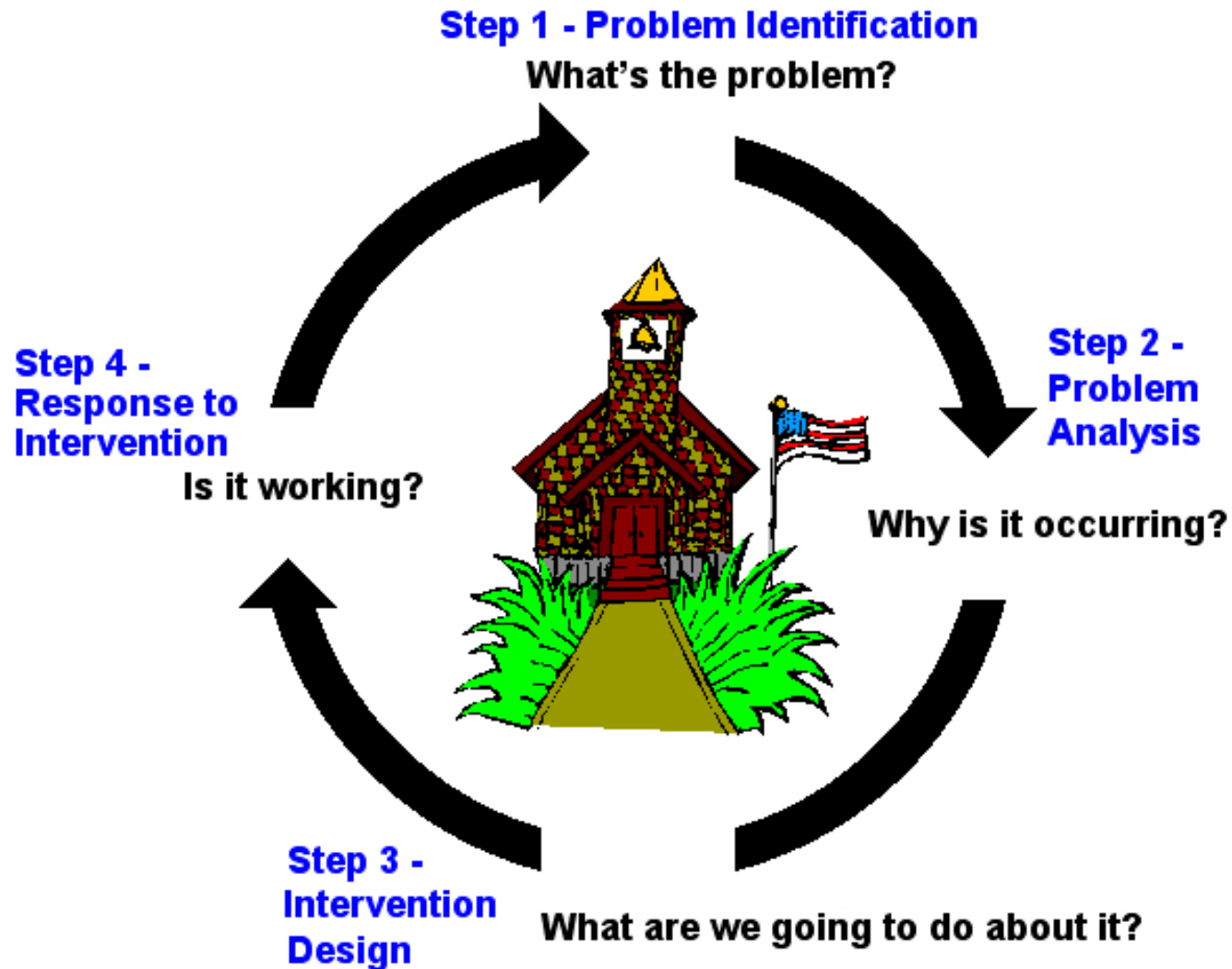
Acknowledgements

- Developed April, 2010 by FDOE State Transformation Team for Rtl
- Adapted January, 2012 by the Family and Community Engagement Workgroup of the Florida MTSS Inter-Project Collaboration

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

- A term that refers to the organizational framework (the system)
- A way to organize academic and behavioral help for all students
- Uses students' response to intervention data to find solutions
- Student supports are based on student need; students who need intense supports are given additional help

Problem-Solving Process



Response to Intervention (RtI)

- RtI refers to the 4th step of the planning/problem-solving process
- The term RtI has been used to refer to the framework of multi-tiered supports
- Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a more accurate term that refers to one seamless framework that provides varying levels of academic and behavior supports to students based upon their need.
- Schools may choose to refer to their *system* as an *RtI framework*

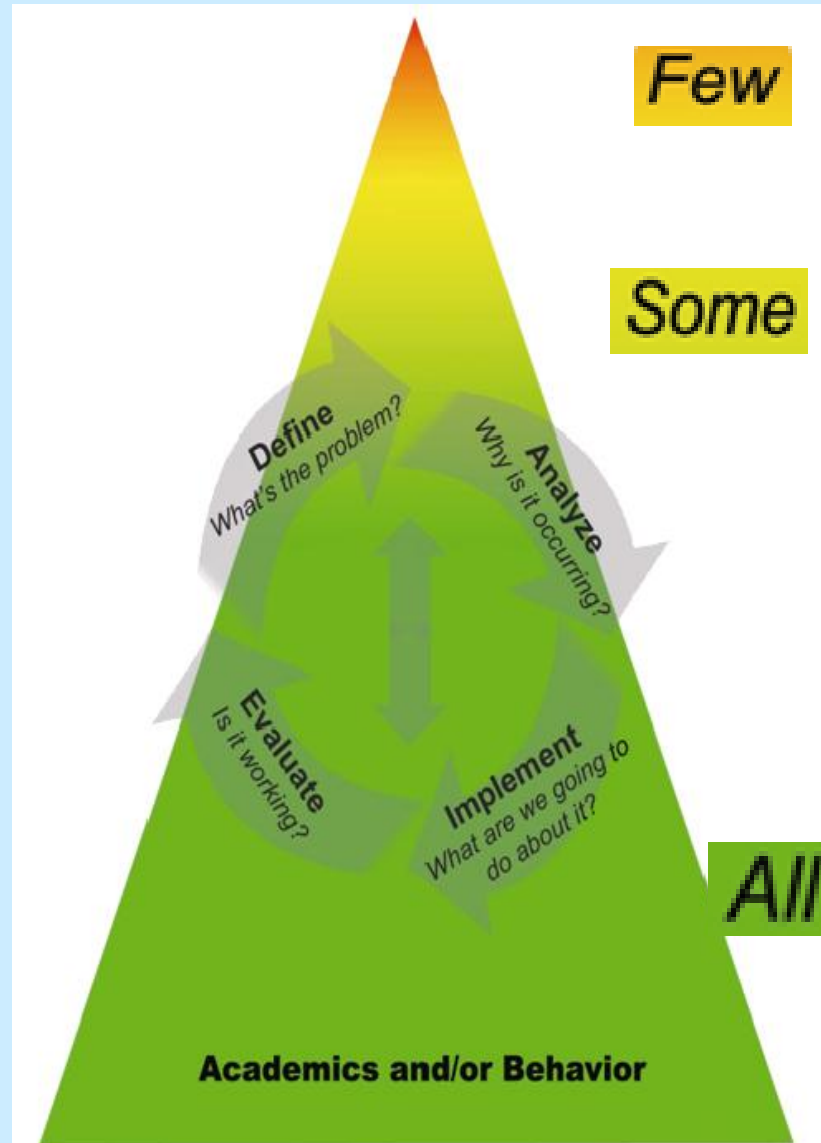
What can I expect?

- Frequent updates on your child's progress (typically 3 times per year)
- Early identification of academic or behavioral concerns at the first signs of difficulty.
- Help for your child that increases or decreases depending on your child's needs
- Information and involvement in planning and providing interventions to help your child
- Information about how your child is responding to the interventions being provided

What are the goals of the system?

- For the school to provide effective teaching that fits the needs of each student.
- For the school to make sure the classroom environment is the best possible for every student.
- To help all students meet grade level standards.
- To use student data to identify students who may be struggling.
- To “add to” general education instruction, not “replace” with something different.
- To provide interventions (“help”) as a natural, ongoing part of education that doesn’t wait until the student is struggling.

Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) & the Problem-Solving Process



What are the 3 Tiers of MTSS?

- Tier 1 – High quality teaching and behavior support for all students in the school
- Tier 2 – Additional interventions for students who need more help on specific skills
- Tier 3 – Interventions designed to address the unique needs of an individual student

Show your support, ask key questions

- 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 about my child?
- What can I do to help with the interventions for my child at home?
- How will I know if interventions are working?

What do I do if I believe my child is struggling?

- Talk with your child's teacher
- Ask for regular progress reports in the areas of difficulty
 - Ask for help to understand what your child's data mean
- Celebrate when progress is made; ask questions when there is little or no progress
- Make a list of specific questions to ask about your child's progress.

Does MTSS have anything to do with Special Education?

- Every student in the school, from Kindergarten to graduation, is involved in MTSS, including students with disabilities.
- Interventions are provided through a variety of resources so that all students can be successful.
- For students who need ongoing intensive or individualized help to maintain progress, special education resources may be accessed by the school.

Does MTSS have anything to do with Special Education (cont' d)?

- Information gained through on-going problem-solving about what your child needs helps the school make a decision about your child's need for special education resources.
- Special education services are part of the MTSS continuum of services; within MTSS, the problem-solving process continues even if your child receives help through special education resources.

Learn more about MTSS

- Visit:
 - <http://www.florida-rti.org/parentResources/index.htm>
 - http://www.nclld.org/images/stories/Publications/parent_advocacyguides/parents_guide_RTI_FINAL_101111-2.pdf
 - <http://www.florida-rti.org/Partnership/involvement.htm>
- Contact your child's principal