

If my child is receiving support through MTSS, does it mean that he/she is going to be in Special Education?

No! Support from MTSS does not mean a child automatically qualifies for Special Education services. In fact, most students that receive support from MTSS do not need Special Education. They just might need some help with specific skills that they have struggled with or missed along their learning path.

It is helpful to remember that all students receive support from MTSS at Tier 1. This is the level of the framework that standards based curriculum is taught to all students. For students that need more than Tier 1 support in order to be successful, Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 supports are added.

At Tier 2 and Tier 3, interventions are put in place that target the student's specific skill needs or gaps. Most students master the skills taught through intervention and close gaps in their learning. MTSS is intended to be fluid and flexible, meaning that once the gaps are filled, the student can be released from the intervention and move on to other learning needs/supports.

Is parental consent required for supports in Tiers 1-3?

No. The teaching strategies and interventions that are used in Tiers 1-3 are General Education support, and consent is not required.

What about Students with Disabilities, Gifted, or English Language Learners?

MTSS is **not** Special Education, Gifted, or ESOL, but, students that are already found eligible and are provided with specialized instruction through these programs can also receive support from MTSS. If the student's response to instruction data indicates a need that is not already addressed by one of these specialized instructional programs, they may receive support through the MTSS framework.

Are interventions through MTSS required in order to determine Special Education Eligibility?

Yes. The Georgia Department of Education requires that research-based interventions be implemented to address student needs and that the Response to Intervention (RTI) data be considered, along with a comprehensive evaluation to determine eligibility for Special Education.

Is a 504 plan the same thing as MTSS?

No. 504 provides access to curriculum and accommodations for students with disabilities. MTSS provides instruction and intervention to build skills. A child can have a 504 and also be in the MTSS process.

Wilkes County School District MTSS Multi-Tiered System of Supports

Sandra Standard

706-678-2718

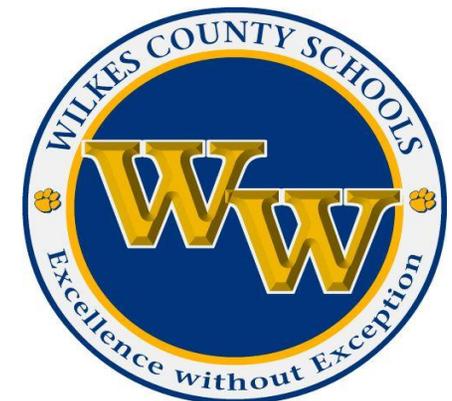
School Name:

Helping All Students

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS):
A General Education Framework that supports All
students

We all need help from time to time

The same is true for students. In schools, this is organized through **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)** that considers a student's **Response To Instruction or Intervention (RTI)** to determine the intensity of supports.

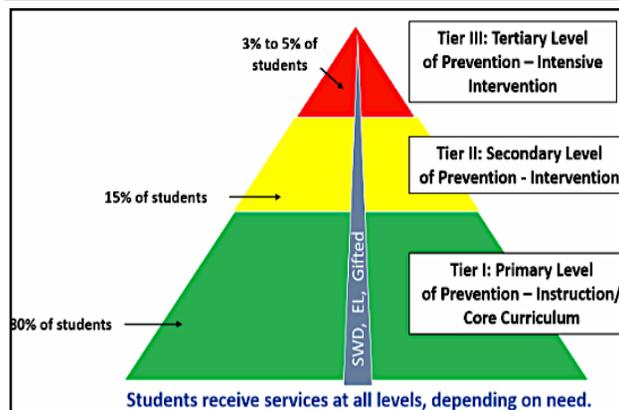


MTSS is a General Education framework that has three tiers that address academic and behavioral growth needs (including social and emotional).

Tier 1: Standards-based core instruction

Tier 2: Targeted skill-specific moderate intensity support

Tier 3: Intensive skill-specific support



What is Tier 1?

- Grade-level classroom instruction
- Standards based curriculum
- Universal screening to identify academic strengths and needs
- Ongoing monitoring of student growth in response to instruction
- Differentiated instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners
- A wide array of strategies to help students master content

What is Tier 2?

- For students that need more than Tier 1 support to keep up with peers or close gaps in their learning
- Provided in addition to Tier 1
- Moderate-intensity support given 1-3 times per week
- Includes evidence and research-based interventions that target specific skills for growth
- Includes ongoing systematic progress monitoring on the targeted skills to inform instructional decision-making
- Includes small group instruction, typically 1-6 students

What is Tier 3?

- For students that need more than Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports to keep up with peers or close gaps in their learning
- Provided in addition to Tier 1
- Intensive support given 3-5 times per week
- Includes evidence and research-based interventions that target specific skills for growth
- Includes ongoing systematic progress monitoring on the targeted skills to inform instructional decision-making
- Utilizes individual and small group instruction, typically 1-3 students
- For General Education students, Tier 3 intensity supports are reviewed during Student Support Team (SST) meetings. Parents are invited to Student Support Team meetings

How can I support my child?

- Talk with your child's teacher frequently about what they are learning in class
- Make reading a habit in your home
- Read with your child for 15 minutes per day
- Help your child to set goals and to monitor his or her progress
- Provide encouragement when your child struggles and reinforcement when your child shows growth
- Attend parent-teacher conferences or other school related meetings
- Always feel welcome to ask your child's teacher what you can do at home to help

What if my child is not responding to instruction and intervention?

All children can learn, but some children learn at a different pace or in a different way. If your child is not keeping up despite interventions at Tier 3, you can request a comprehensive evaluation to determine eligibility for Special Education services. Requests for comprehensive evaluations to determine Special Education eligibility cannot be denied due to lack of intervention data.

- Discussion about the evaluation occurs in a Student Support Team (SST) meeting
- Your consent is required for the evaluation
- After the evaluation, there will be a meeting to discuss the results and determine eligibility
- If eligible, Special Education services will be offered to your child
- If you consent to Special Education services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be created for your child