

PBIS: AN OVERVIEW

Our goal at Strath Haven Middle School is a student-centered community where meaningful personal connections foster engagement and motivate students to become independent learners. One way we are working to achieve this goal is by using Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

- PBIS is a tiered system to promote students' behavioral, academic, social and emotional success.
- The PBIS framework is evidence-based and helps to foster a safe, equitable, and positive school culture where all students can thrive.

PBIS TIER 1: UNIVERSAL SUPPORTS

Tier 1 systems, data, and practices support everyone – students, educators, and staff – across all school settings. They establish a foundation for positive and proactive support. Tier 1 practices include:

- Providing consistent school wide expectations: Stay safe. Stay responsible. Stay respectful. Stay kind.
- Explicitly teaching expectations and skills to set all students up for success
- Aligning classroom expectations with school/program-wide expectations
- Encouraging and acknowledging expected behavior
- Preventing and responding to unwanted behavior in a respectful, instructional manner

TIER 2: TARGETED SUPPORT

Tier 2 provides targeted support for students who are not yet successful with Tier 1 supports alone. The focus is on identifying students who are at risk for developing more serious problem behavior before they start. Essentially, the intervention at this level is more focused than Tier 1 and less intensive than Tier 3. For example, students might find it difficult to meet the school-wide expectations. In these situations which are identified using data and feedback from stakeholders throughout the community, the Tier 2 team creates a targeted plan for additional interventions to support the student.

PBIS TIER 2 SUPPORTS MIGHT INCLUDE:

MENTORING

Mentoring provides students with a personal connection within the school community. Mentors help by engaging, motivating, and advocating for their mentees. Students are identified by existing school data, universal screeners and nominations. Students receiving mentoring, will be assigned a staff member to check-in with them briefly, once a week. During this intervention:

- The Tier 2 team will create a goal based on a variety of data points.
- The mentor will review the goal with their mentee and will discuss progress.
- The mentor will provide guidance and support on helping their mentee achieve their goal and reinforcing the expectations of being safe, responsible, respectful, and kind at SHMS.
- Mentor meetings will take place for 6-8 weeks.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Social skills groups help students learn and practice the necessary skills to have more positive interactions. The ultimate goal is that students will be able to independently use the targeted strategies and skills when situations arise within the school community and beyond. Students are identified by existing school data, universal screeners and nominations. During this intervention:

- Students will have more explicit instruction in the areas of coping strategies, executive functioning skills, or friendship skills.
- Students will have opportunities for guided practice to help them apply the skills.
- Students will receive specific feedback about their progress.

PBIS TIER 2 GOALS

Increased opportunities for positive reinforcement ✓

Increased positive connection with adults in our community ✓

Additional instruction and practice for behavioral, social, and emotional skills ✓



MEET THE PBIS TIER 2 TEAM

- Team Lead: Morgan Segal (MTSS Secondary Coach)
- Data Coordinators: Joseph Buecheler (Assistant Principal), Heather Burns (8th grade math teacher)
- Mentoring Coordinators: Kaitlyn Clark (Special education teacher), Avril Takiff-Weiner (Behavior Health Counselor)
- Social Skills Coordinator: Jenelle Thomas (School Social Worker)
- Back up Coordinator- Danielle Bertoni (School Counselor)
- Administrative Team Member: Dr. Megan McCullough (Director of Student Services- Behavioral Health)

FAMILY/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Forming a partnership between home and school will ensure the success of our PBIS system. Throughout the school year, the school staff will send updates and information to families. We invite you to share comments, concerns, and ideas to help us make PBIS work at our schools. Please support PBIS by:

- Reviewing your school's behavioral expectations with your child
- Recognizing and praising your child's efforts when you notice improvement
- Staying positive and encouraging
- Sharing comments with or asking questions of teachers, school teams, and PBIS coaches



PBIS @ SHMS

AN INTRODUCTION TO

TIER 2 SUPPORTS

**STAY SAFE.
STAY RESPONSIBLE.
STAY RESPECTFUL.
STAY KIND.**

