



# Wyoming Primary Schools

Elm • Hilltop • Vermont

September 27, 2024

Dear WPS Families,

At Wyoming Primary Schools, we use the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to ensure that every child gets the help they need to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. MTSS is a framework that allows us to provide personalized support based on the unique needs of each student, whether they need extra help to master foundational skills or are ready for more challenging work.

## How MTSS Works

MTSS is a tiered system of support with three levels of intervention:

- **Tier 1** – High-quality instruction for all students in the classroom. Teachers use strategies and practices that are proven to be effective, ensuring that every child receives strong foundational instruction in reading, math, and social-emotional learning. All students are a part of Tier 1 instruction.
- **Tier 2** – Targeted small group interventions for students who need additional support beyond what is provided in the classroom. These interventions are more focused and help address specific gaps or challenges.
- **Tier 3** – Intensive, individualized support for students who require more specialized instruction or interventions to meet their needs.

## How We Use MAP, Acadience, and Social-Emotional Wellbeing Assessments in MTSS

Our MTSS process starts with understanding where each child is in their learning journey, and this is where our NWEA MAP, Acadience, and Social-Emotional Wellbeing assessments play a key role:

- **MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)** provides us with detailed information about each student's performance in reading and math for students in grades 1-4. The test adjusts to each student's ability level, giving us a clear picture of their strengths and areas that may need more focus.
- **Acadience** is used for K-2 students (and for diagnostic purposes in grades 3 and 4) to measure early reading and foundational math skills. This assessment helps us identify students who may need more support with key literacy or numeracy skills.

- **DESSA Mini** is a universal benchmark assessment conducted twice yearly to measure our K-4 students' social-emotional well-being. This year, we are also using **Terrace Metrics**, a student-reported rating scale, to further understand students' needs. The data collected helps us partner with parents to provide small group and one-on-one supports for social-emotional well-being.

These assessments give us a starting point for understanding where each student is, helping us place them in the appropriate tier within our MTSS framework. From there, we can monitor their progress over time to ensure they get the support they need, whether through classroom instruction, small group work, or more intensive interventions.

## Rationale for MTSS

MTSS helps us meet the diverse needs of all students, ensuring that no child falls behind or is left without a challenge. Here's why it's important:

- **Personalized Learning** – Every child is unique, and MTSS allows us to provide the right level of support for each student. Whether your child is excelling or needs more time to grasp certain concepts, MTSS ensures their needs are met.
- **Early Intervention** – By using tools like MAP and Acadience, we can quickly identify students who may need extra help and intervene early before learning gaps become larger.
- **Ongoing Progress Monitoring** – MTSS is a flexible system that adapts to your child's growth. We regularly check in on their progress, adjusting the level of support as needed to ensure they continue moving forward.
- **Whole Child Approach** – MTSS doesn't just focus on academics. We also use it to provide social and emotional support, ensuring that students have the skills they need to succeed in all areas of life.

At Wyoming Primary Schools, MTSS is a critical part of our commitment to helping every child reach their full potential. By using data from MAP, Acadience, and our Social-Emotional Wellbeing assessments, we can better understand and support your child's learning needs, providing the right interventions at the right time to help them succeed. Parents will receive the results of our fall benchmark assessments with first-trimester report cards on October 24th.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gina Kirchner

Principal, Wyoming Primary Schools

## Counselor Corner

This week's Cowboy TV lessons focused on the topic of cooperation, which is being willing to work with others. One way students can demonstrate cooperation with their teacher is by doing their best on tasks and assignments in the classroom. Students can also show cooperation at

school by listening to others, being open to their views, and considering their way of doing things. Students can cooperate during group work by doing their share of the work. Generally speaking, students need to think about others and consider their thoughts and feelings in order to be cooperative. Parents can support the development of cooperation at home by pointing out and praising ways that their child displays cooperation, and children can be encouraged to be involved in activities where cooperation is necessary and then taught how to demonstrate cooperation while participating.

## **Social-Emotional Screening**

As part of our commitment to supporting the whole child, we will be using the **DESSA Mini** (Devereux Student Strengths Assessment Mini), which is a teacher-reported tool designed to assess students' social-emotional competencies again this year. This assessment is based on teachers' observations and will not be shared with the students themselves. The information gathered through the DESSA Mini helps us understand each child's strengths and areas where additional support may be needed. If the DESSA Mini flags any concerns, we will inform you and request your written permission to complete a more in-depth survey. This additional information will help us tailor supports to better meet your child's educational needs.

## **Halloween Costume Upcycle - Sponsored by Primary PAC**

Bring your gently used and clean or new Halloween costumes of all sizes to any Wyoming Primary School 9/23 – 10/11. Collection bins will be inside the front entrances and costumes will be donated to the Findley Market Costume and Candy Drive.

Annually Findley Market has a costume and candy drive to help make the day special for kids in the community. Costumes are handed out on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> and then everyone is invited back to the market for trick or treating on the 31<sup>st</sup>. By participating, you help conserve our environment while also assisting our local community to ensure every child has the chance to enjoy this Halloween!

For any questions, please email Kelly Carrier ([kellyhill01@gmail.com](mailto:kellyhill01@gmail.com)). Further information about the Findley Market Costume and Candy Drive can be found at <https://www.findlaymarket.org/marketevents/costumecandydrive24>.



## Upcoming Dates

- **Conference Scheduling Email Delivery** - Sunday, September 29, 2024 - at 8:00 p.m.
- **Board Holiday** - Thursday, October 3, 2024 - No School
- **Professional Development Day** - Friday, October 4, 2024 - No School for Students
- **Third Grade Ohio State Test in Reading** - Tuesday, October 22nd and Wednesday, October 23rd
- **Halloween Parades & Parties** - Thursday, October 31st - (details were in yesterday's Thursday Folder)
- **Conference Day** - Friday, November 1 - No School for Students - (details were in yesterday's Thursday Folder)

## News from Around Wyoming

[Click here for more Events and Information from around WCS & the community](#), including:

- Finance Friday: We're 1st in the County for Percent Spent on Classroom Instruction
- Upcoming Events
- WSMA's Porchfest on September 28
- Join PSA Today!

- Spirit Wear Shop Hours

## **Photos from the Week**

Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the week at WPS!