

READ ACT LITERACY NEWSLETTER

MTSS and Tiers of Instruction

APRIL 2026



What a spring!

Can we really say its spring when it never really felt like we had a winter? This year has taught us it is possible to revel in the unseasonably warm temperatures while simultaneously hoping for the moisture we really need. Warm sunny days definitely make for pleasant playground recesses, in any case!

The April issue of our literacy newsletter [includes a selection of resources that address reading improvement in schools using a strong MTSS framework](#). A highly effective system to support all readers in reaching grade level reading competency is crucial to long term success, and these resources do not disappoint. Whether you are just starting to explore ways to improve your system or just ready for a fresh perspective, you will find something here to pique your interest.

Enjoy!

LISTEN

MELISSA AND LORI LOVE LITERACY PODCAST

[Episode 193: Systems to get Better Reading Results with Stephanie Stollar](#) 53 MIN

In this episode, Dr. Stephanie Stollar refreshes the discussion around tiered instruction and provides clear and innovative approaches to ensuring healthy, thriving systems for reading improvement. This is a must listen for anyone needing a fresh lens to view how reading instruction works for the students front and center.

On the Road to Literacy Success Podcast

[Season 2, Episode 3 - Tier 1 Systems for Strong Public Schools w/Superintendent Tabatha Mires](#) 37 MIN

Join the conversation with Superintendent Mires of Manson School district as she discusses how her work to implement a system-wide approach to reading improvement in a small rural school system has resulted in literacy success. Her insight and reflections on successes and challenges that come with leading literacy change, starting with tier 1 instruction, provides takeaways for anyone leading or supporting literacy initiatives.

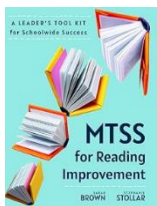
READ

[MTSS Interventions: Increasing Effectiveness at Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3](#) Illuminate Education

This clear and concise guide is an excellent resource for using data to implement effective interventions at every tier of instruction, beginning with tier 1. It includes a valuable section on evaluating effectiveness at the student level, by intervention and by overall intervention program.

[Differentiation Done Right: How "Walk to Read" Works](#) *Reading Rockets* Margaret Strong, *Right to Read*

Tier 1 instruction is the most critical to “get right,” and that requires a close look at the needs of all students and how we can meet them through carefully designed instruction. This article explains one approach to tier one instruction that can be effective to improve literacy outcomes when implemented well.



MTSS For Reading Improvement: A Leader's Toolkit for Schoolwide Success Sarah Brown and Stephanie Stollar ISBN-13 978-1962188814

MTSS can be a complex framework, and utilizing it effectively for reading improvement specifically is a timely topic. Stephanie Stollar and Sarah Brown tackle the topic with clarity, specificity and a variety of ready-to-use templates and resources to help leaders take big steps

toward success. This is a great resource for any school leader, or anyone interested in driving literacy change.

WATCH - WEBINARS

[PaTTAN Literacy Resource Hub – MTSS Literacy Assessment/Intervention Strand](#)

PaTTAN Literacy Symposium 2022

The 2022 PaTTAN Literacy Symposium contained a whole strand of presentations addressing MTSS, Assessment, and Intervention! Take some time to peruse the webinars by well-known presenters and the useful handout links that go with them. While you are there, take a look at all the other goodies too! This is a fan favorite site for a reason.

[Building Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading Success – Workshop Part 1](#)

[Building Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading Success – Workshop Part 2](#)

Stephanie Stollar (For the International Dyslexia Association Ontario Branch)

There is a reason several of the resources listed in this newsletter come from Stephanie Stollar. She is a leading voice in the field on the topic of MTSS and reading improvement, and this two-part workshop is not to be missed. Dr. Stollar clearly explains the science of reading, the tiers of instruction, and how to most effectively use data to design structures that lead to better reading outcomes.

ENGAGE/IMPLEMENT

[Continuous Improvement for a Multi-Tiered System of Support in Reading](#)

The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Program, 2024

Originally developed for Montana school districts, this facilitator's guide, slide decks, and handouts are free to download and use for professional learning. Schools and districts engaging in improving their MTSS framework can benefit from this excellent tool.

[A Practitioner's Guide to Improving Literacy Outcomes for Students by Using Evidence to Strengthen Programs and Practices](#)

The Institute of Education Science (IES)

This resource outlines the steps of a continuous improvement cycle and is CHOCK FULL of links to evidence-based materials, handouts, slides, and tools. You could spend days exploring everything embedded in this one, handy guide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Do you have a colleague with whom you would like to share these resources? Feel free to forward the newsletter, or have them [sign up to receive the newsletter here!](#)

If you have general questions or need assistance, find our contact information here:
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/contactus>

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