



MTSS MINUTE



A GOSHEN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 NEWSLETTER

NOTABLE DATES

SEL Universal Screening



Sept. 29 – Oct. 9

SAEBRS is the new GCSD social-emotional learning screener. SEL screening data, for students who were not opted out, is now available for teachers on Branching Minds.

District Literacy Team Meeting

Oct. 27

District literacy leaders will have their second meeting of the year.

Leader in Me District Lighthouse Team Meeting

Nov. 5

District lighthouse team members will meet with Gwen to continue strengthening LiM across the district.

Guiding Coalition

Nov. 5

District Guiding Coalition members will meet to continue their work leading PLC work district-wide.



MTSS: Powered by Teams

At GCSD, MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) is more than a framework. MTSS is a commitment to every learner's success. This month, the spotlight shines on teaming structures. Teams across the district are using data-driven decision making, collaborative problem-solving, and inclusive practices to meet students' academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs.

Through shared leadership and strong teaming structures, educators are working together to ensure that support systems are sustainable, responsive, and rooted in collective responsibility.

Message from Leadership

I want to acknowledge the effort and collaboration happening across our school district. Teaming takes time, trust, and a shared commitment to doing what's best for students. I've seen staff leaning into this work with honesty and care, and it's making a difference.



Jim English, TMS Vice Principal

MTSS Myth

Myth: MTSS is the interventionist's job.

Fact: *Effective MTSS relies on collaborative teams including classroom teachers, counselors, administrators, and support staff working together. These teams work to identify needs, design supports, and monitor progress. Shared leadership ensures that decisions are informed by multiple perspectives and that every student benefits from a coordinated system of support.*



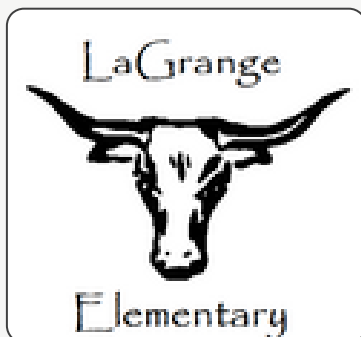
MTSS in Action



Secondary teachers at Southeast had a refresher on Branching Minds with instructional coaches.



TMS math and ELA teachers reviewed Q1 intervention data & are beginning Q2 STRIVE intervention groups.



The teachers at LaGrange continue to focus on improving Tier 1 by spiraling skills for students to recursively practice with continual feedback.



THS students in need of extra learning support are enrolled in math, science, and/or ELA interventions. Interventions are a semester-long course.

FAQ Corner



Question: Who is responsible for MTSS in our school?

Answer: *MTSS works best when all staff, including teachers, specialists, administrators, share responsibility for student success through collaborative teaming.*

Question: What does "shared leadership" mean in MTSS?

Answer: *It means decision-making is distributed across teams, not just led by one person. Each member contributes insights to guide supports and interventions.*

Question: How do teams stay aligned in MTSS?

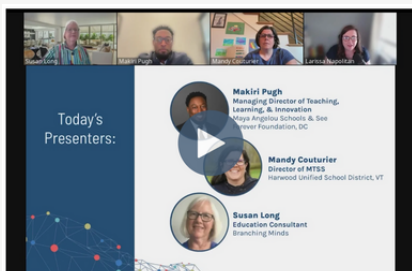
Answer: *Through regular meetings, clear goals, and data-informed collaboration. Strong teaming structures help ensure consistency and responsiveness.*

Question: What if I'm not on an MTSS team?

Answer: *You're still part of the system. Every staff member plays a role, whether it's implementing Tier 1 strategies, sharing observations, or supporting interventions.*

MTSS Resources & Learning Opportunities

This webinar from Branching Minds takes an in-depth look into MTSS teaming structures.



Tips & Strategies

Strong teaming is essential to the successful implementation of an MTSS framework. Here are some practical tips to strengthen your MTSS teams:



Tip #1: Define Clear Roles and Responsibilities

Ensure each team member knows their role whether it's data analysis, instructional support, or progress monitoring. Clarity prevents overlap and builds trust.



Tip #2: Use Structured Agendas

Keep meetings focused and efficient with consistent agendas that include data review, student progress, and action planning.



Tip #3: Prioritize Data Informed Decisions

Use multiple data sources (academic, behavioral, SEL) to guide discussions. Make sure decisions are based on evidence, not assumptions.



Tip #4: Foster Psychological Safety

Create a space where all voices are valued. Encourage open dialogue, questions, and shared problem-solving without fear of judgment.



Branching Minds

Goal outcome

Q1 has ended, so remember to determine the goal outcome for your Branching Minds intervention groups. SSTs review goal outcomes to monitor which students may need to enter into the intensive level.

In your to-do list, you will be prompted to determine a goal outcome:

Select Goal Outcome

- Met Early
- Met
- Not Met/Improving

MTSS Support or Coaching

Do you want to take a deeper dive into any of the topics within this newsletter? I'd be happy to help! Whether it's a quick question or an in-depth meeting, reach out to schedule a time for us to chat.



Dr. Kelsey Walker

**K-12 Instructional
& MTSS Coach**

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