



MTSS MINUTE



A GOSHEN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 NEWSLETTER

NOTABLE DATES



Winter Benchmark Testing Training

Nov. 17 - 25

The instructional coaches will conduct a test administration training at all schools before the winter assessment window opens. This training ensures our assessments are reliable and valid.

Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 26 - 28

Winter Benchmark Assessment Window

Dec. 2 - 18

Elementary students will take Aimsweb+ reading & math. Secondary students will take Star reading & math assessments.

Guiding Coalition

Dec. 3

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

Winter Break

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2



Believing in Every Learner: The Power of Collective Efficacy

Collective efficacy is the shared belief among educators that, through collaboration and effective practices, we can positively influence student outcomes. Research shows this is one of the strongest predictors of student achievement. In MTSS, this belief comes to life through teaming, data-based decisions, and a commitment to doing what's best for every learner. When we work together, we amplify our impact.

Message from Leadership

At Torrington High, our staff has been able to become collective with instruction and it's a real tribute to them. We chose turn & talk as our 2nd semester staff instructional focus last school year and we've continued on that path during 1st semester this school year. It is so refreshing to walk into each classroom when doing walk throughs and watch all of our teachers use this high-impact instructional strategy. The impact on student engagement with this strategy has been enormous!



Alan VanTilburg,
THS Principal

MTSS Myths



Myth: One teacher can't make a big difference.

Fact: *When educators believe in their collective ability to improve learning, student achievement soars. MTSS thrives on teamwork and shared responsibility.*

Myth: Collective efficacy happens automatically.

Fact: *Collective efficacy is built intentionally. It grows when teams set shared goals, celebrate progress, and trust that their combined efforts make a difference for students.*

Myth: Collective efficacy is just positive thinking.

Fact: *Collective efficacy is grounded in action. Collective efficacy grows when teams use evidence-based practices, share responsibility, and celebrate progress together.*

MTSS in Action



Special education teachers district-wide are working together toward a shared vision in ongoing Intensive Reading Intervention Trainings (IRIT).



Title I teachers recently had their own Intensive Reading Intervention Training (IRIT). They collectively grew their knowledge in data-based individualization.

FAQ Corner



Question: What is collective efficacy in MTSS?

Answer: *It's the shared belief that, through collaboration and effective practices, educators can make a significant difference in student learning and well-being.*

Question: How do we build collective efficacy as a team?

Answer: *Start by setting clear, shared goals, using evidence-based decisions, and celebrating progress together. Trust and collaboration grow when success is visible.*

Question: Does collective efficacy mean everyone agrees on everything?

Answer: *No. Collective efficacy is about believing that, despite challenges, our combined efforts will lead to student success.*

Question: What role does data play in collective efficacy?

Answer: *Data provides proof that our strategies work. When teams see measurable progress, confidence in their impact grows.*

MTSS Resources & Learning Opportunities

This guide from Branching Minds outlines the benefits & strategies of teacher collaboration within an MTSS framework. Teaming structures & shared leadership are high-impact vehicles to build collective efficacy.



Tips & Strategies

Collective efficacy does not happen magically. Use these tips & strategies to intentionally build collective efficacy.



Tip #1: Celebrate Small Wins

Share student progress and team successes regularly to reinforce the belief that efforts matter.



Tip #2: Use Structured Agendas

Keep meetings focused on data and action steps to maximize time and impact.



Tip #3: Rotate Leadership Roles

Give different team members opportunities to lead discussions and facilitate meetings.



Tip #4: Create Shared Norms

Establish agreements for communication, decision-making, and conflict resolution.



Tip #5: Connect Actions to Outcomes

Use data to show how team decisions lead to measurable student growth.

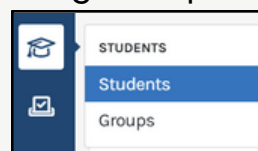


Branching Minds

How to find missing plans

Step 1

Find “students” on left-hand global navigation pane



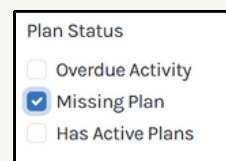
Step 2

Find “filters” on right-hand side of the webpage



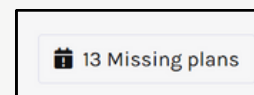
Step 3

Select “missing plans” within the filters & “apply”



Step 4

Locate # of missing plans on top of page



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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