



GCS MTSS is committed to partnering with families and guardians to support all children.

Fall 2021

MTSS For Families

What is MTSS? A multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) is a framework for whole-school improvement. MTSS is designed to help schools identify the needs of all students early and to provide targeted instruction. MTSS is a framework adopted by NC DPI and implemented across North Carolina. You may have heard the terms RtI or PBIS. MTSS integrates both approaches to provide seamless support to students. This is not a framework that is unique to Guilford County Schools. MTSS proactively supports academic growth and achievement, as well as behavior, social and emotional needs, and absenteeism for all students.

MTSS provides a framework for all students to receive multiple levels of support across three tiers. These tiers of support increase in intensity from one level to the next. For example, some students receiving small-group interventions might also receive one-on-one instruction. All students receive robust, differentiated core instruction in the areas of academics, SEL, behavior, and attendance. The MTSS model ensures all students receive holistic support.

Four Essential Elements of MTSS. The North Carolina model of MTSS recognizes four essential elements, which are outlined below.

- 1. Universal Screening**
 - a. In GCS, this includes DIBELS in grades K-3 reading and NWEA map.
- 2. Three-Tiered Instructional Model**
 - a. This model is built around a strong Tier 1/Core across academics, SEL, behavior, and attendance for every child in GCS. Tier 2/Supplemental supports target small groups, while Tier 3/Intensive support may be layered in addition to core and supplemental support as needed. Parents/guardians can expect to receive notification any time a child is identified to receive Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 supports.
- 3. Progress Monitoring**
 - a. In GCS, this includes DIBELS in grades K-3 reading and FastBridge. Parents/guardians can expect to receive notification of student progress as indicated by progress monitoring data.
- 4. Data-Based Decision Making**
 - a. Data across multiple sources and areas are used to make informed decisions to ensure all students receive appropriate support.

What is MTSS NOT? MTSS is not a curriculum, a form, an intervention or only for some students. MTSS is never used to delay evaluation if a disability is suspected. For more information regarding Child Find or services for students suspected of a disability, please review the district's website at <https://www.gcsnc.com/domain/2414>



What does MTSS mean for my family?

For most students, MTSS will be most visible in the ways that teachers and staff provide evidence-based, differentiated classroom instruction. Some students may need extra support with academics, and might meet with interventionists to work on skills and concepts they haven't yet mastered. Some families may need support with helping their students continue learning at home, or understanding how a student's support team is coming together to help that student reach their highest potential. No matter what students need, MTSS is there to ensure that our schools are transforming learning and life outcomes for all children.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

What is MTSS?
A short video overview for families, created by NCDPI.

MTSS for Families
An infographic of MTSS for families, created by NCDPI.

Integrated Academic & Behavior Systems
IABS, the division of DPI that supports MTSS, offers additional information for families here.



Scan this code to visit the NC MTSS Livebinder

Questions?
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