

Behavioral Health Resources for Schools

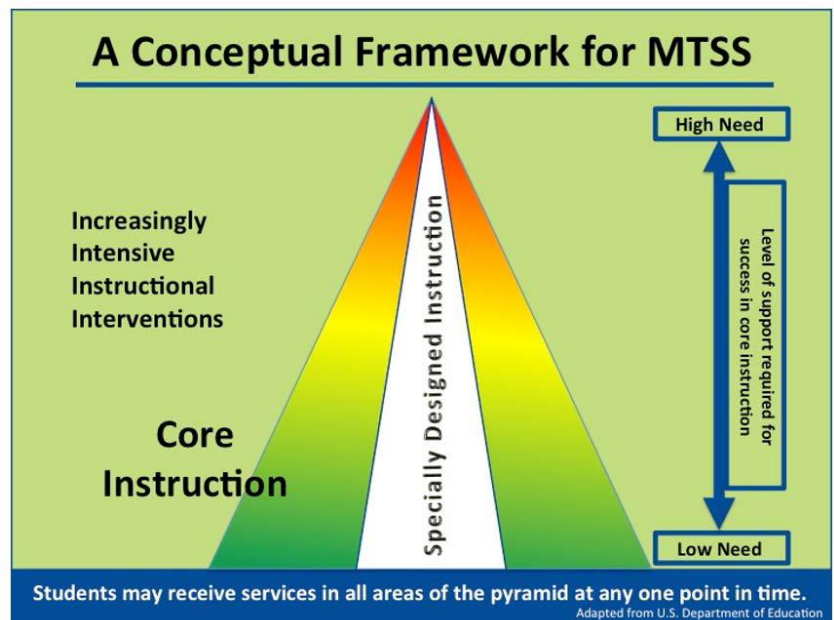
Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) and Response to Intervention (Rtl)

MTSS is defined as an instructional system based on the concept that ALL students require early and powerful academic and behavioral core instruction with the potential for high-quality interventions of increasing intensity.

Rtl is defined as practices used to determine eligibility for special education.

Rtl is an integral part of MTSS but MTSS is more cohesive and comprehensive in the goal of meeting the needs of all learners. Some of the ways that MTSS differs from Rtl include:

- MTSS encompasses Rtl and then some.
- MTSS addresses academic as well as the social, emotional, and behavioral development of children from early childhood to graduation.
- MTSS provides multiple levels of support for all learners (struggling through advanced).
- MTSS aligns resources and support for students receiving instruction AND for teachers and other support staff who are delivering the instruction.
- MTSS framework is an educational systems change paradigm continuously focused on overall school improvement that is sustainable.



Benefits of MTSS:

- MTSS provides specific types of support for teachers (professional development, technical assistance, instructional coaching).
- MTSS outlines clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountability for teachers, building leaders, and district personnel.
- MTSS provides a coherent system for continuous improvement.
- MTSS ensures that a common understanding/language exists when discussing implementation and expected outcomes.
- MTSS allows district policies to remove barriers to effective implementation.



In Nebraska every district's and even school's implementation of MTSS will differ based on the students, needs, and resources available. MTSS implementation is supported by the Department of Education (NDE) and a team that is housed within the

Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families & Schools (CYFS) .

The collaborative efforts between NDE and CYFS;

- provide information to educators in Nebraska and beyond on Multi-tiered System of Support,
- provide information about available professional development for MTSS in Nebraska, and
- provide a place for partners in training to house data, analyze their current practices, and develop action plans.

For more information on MTSS in Nebraska and the Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools go to: <http://nemtss.unl.edu/>