



A Family Guide

ALABAMA MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS

AL-MTSS

Alabama Multi-Tiered System of Supports (AL-MTSS):

AL-MTSS is a way schools help all students succeed, whether they need extra help or are doing well. It's like a ladder with different levels of support for your child. The school starts with general support for everyone, but if your child needs more help, they get extra support in small groups or individually, depending on what they need.

Purpose

The purpose of this brochure is to provide you with a clear understanding of Alabama's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), how it benefits your child, and how families can actively engage in supporting their child's learning and success.

RTI- PBS- PST

Response to Intervention (RTI):

RTI is a part of MTSS that focuses on students who might need more help with academics, like reading or math. If a child is struggling, the school will provide additional teaching or practice, monitor their progress, and make adjustments based on how they're doing. The goal is to catch learning difficulties early and give the right help at the right time.

Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS):

PBS focuses on behavior. It helps create a safe, positive learning environment where all students know what's expected of them. The school teaches good behavior, recognizes when students follow the rules, and helps those who need more guidance with behavior. It's like teaching your child how to be successful in school, not just in learning but in how they act.

Problem Solving Team (PST):

PST is a group of teachers and staff that come together to figure out the best way to help a student who's having trouble with learning or behavior. They look at what's working and what's not, come up with new ideas, and keep checking to see how the student is doing. It's all about finding solutions that help your child do their best.



Tiered Instruction

Tiered instruction is like a step-by-step way schools give support to help every student succeed. Think of it as three levels or "tiers" of help:

1

Tier 1: This is the first level, where all students get the same basic instruction in the classroom. The teacher uses strategies that work for most students, and everyone has the chance to learn.

2

***Tier 2:** If a student needs extra help beyond what's provided in the classroom, they move to Tier 2. This level includes small group instruction or extra practice in areas where they might be struggling, like reading or math.

3

Tier 3: For students who need even more support, Tier 3 offers individualized help. This is more focused, often one-on-one, and aims to give students the intensive assistance they need to catch up or improve.

The idea is to provide the right help at the right time so all students have the best chance to succeed. If your child needs extra help, the school adjusts the level of support based on what works best for them.



How Can I Help?

As a parent, you play a crucial role in supporting your child's success. Here are some ways you can help:

****Stay Informed:****

Understand the support your child is receiving through PST. Talk to their teacher or school staff about the different strategies or interventions being used. Ask questions if you're unsure about anything.

****Communicate Regularly:****

Keep an open line of communication with your child's teacher. Share what you notice about your child at home and ask how they're progressing in school. Work together with the school to address any challenges early.

****Support Learning at Home:****

Reinforce what your child is learning at school by helping with homework or practicing skills at home. This could mean reading together, practicing math facts, or encouraging them to use good behavior strategies learned in class.

****Encourage a Positive Mindset:****

Support your child emotionally by encouraging them to keep trying, even when things are tough. Let them know that it's okay to ask for help and that everyone learns at their own pace.

****Attend Meetings and Be Involved:****

If your child is receiving extra support, you may be invited to meetings with their teachers or the Problem Solving Team (PST). Your input is valuable in making decisions about the best ways to help your child. Be sure to attend and stay engaged.