

September 2010

Enlighten

Empower

KEYSTONE CHRONICLE

WWW.KEYSTONELEARNING.ORG

The Latest In Buzz-Words: MTSS or Tier Three Interventions

In tier one of MTSS approximately 80% of students in a typical classroom setting are successful with the instruction provided to all students. Of the remaining 20%, around 75% of those students will respond and be successful with strategic interventions. The power of MTSS is the diagnostic and prescriptive nature of those interventions. The right assessments given at the right intervals tell us what specific skills need work, how the intervention is progressing, and keeps the intervention flexible. Students aren't "stuck" in a program or group forever; only for the time needed to fill the skill gaps. The final 5% of students who are not successful with the strategic intervention are provided intensive interventions. These interventions are very specific, done individually or with one or two other students, and are in addition to the core teaching.

Not Just For Special Education Anymore

Special Ed. Calendar

September

PDC Mtg. 1st
Social Workers Mtg. 3rd
Keystone Closed 6th
Super's Mtg. 7th
403b enrollment 9th
Board Mtg. 15th

October

Social Workers Mtg. 1st
PDC Mtg. 6th
Speech Paths Mtg. 6th
New Para Inservice 7th
Psych's Mtg. 11th
Super's Mtg. 12th
Board Mtg. 20th

Things Due

To Carol:

To Krystal: Current Address/Telephone #
Para Schedules

To Robin: Past due-Para Confidentiality
& Bloodborne paths. inservice
New Teachers-Inventory &
IDP Form

To Lisa: By Sept. 23rd Health Insurance
101 & Wellness registration

Announcements

Births: Sierra Rice - Boy

Deaths: Julie Satter - Dad

Nicole Hill - Grandfather

Pam Rees - Brother

Marriages:

Check out all Keystone Learning Services has to offer at our web site: www.keystonelearning.org.

DIRECTOR'S DIALOG FROM TIM MARSHALL

I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT IT, AND MANY OF YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT, BUT WHAT IS MTSS AND WHAT IS THE STATE'S PLAN? MTSS, OR MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT, IS THE STATE'S "BRAND" OF RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION.

CLASSROOM TEACHERS HAVE ALWAYS HAD A "CORE" CURRICULUM THAT EVERY STUDENT RECEIVES. STUDENTS WHO WEREN'T SUCCESSFUL WERE PROVIDED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT THAT MIGHT INCLUDE ADDITIONAL TIME AND ALTERNATE METHODS. PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY FEDERAL OR STATE FUNDS MIGHT BE USED FOR STUDENTS WHO CONTINUED TO STRUGGLE. FINALLY, STUDENTS WHO HAD CONTINUED PROBLEMS WERE REFERRED TO SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR TESTING AND POSSIBLE PLACEMENT. DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS, THIS PROCESS DOESN'T ALWAYS PROVIDE THE BEST SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS. THE STRUCTURE OF MTSS PUTS SEVERAL SAFEGUARDS IN PLACE TO MAKE A MUCH MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE PROCESS.

THE IDEA OF DATA-DRIVEN, RESEARCH-BASED INTERVENTIONS IS NOTHING NEW TO SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS. THE POWER OF MTSS HOWEVER, IS THAT IT PUTS THAT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN THE CLASSROOM TEACHERS' HANDS. MANY TIMES

STUDENTS ARE REFERRED TO SPECIAL EDUCATION BECAUSE TALENTED, HARD-WORKING REGULAR EDUCATION TEACHERS RUN OUT OF TOOLS. IF THE MTSS PROCESS CAN GIVE THOSE TEACHERS THE DATA AND PROVEN STRATEGIES, STUDENTS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION MAY NOT BE NEEDED. MTSS IS A KANSAS INITIATIVE, WITH ROOTS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION. THE LOFTY GOAL OF MTSS IS TO MAKE SPECIAL EDUCATION UNNECESSARY!

ON THE PRACTICAL SIDE, MTSS IS A WORK IN PROGRESS. THE INITIAL MTSS TRAINING FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND ON READING INTERVENTION. TRAINING IS NOW IN PLACE FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS TO CHOOSE FOCUS AREAS ON READING, MATH, OR POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS. EVEN THOUGH MTSS IS DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION, SPECIAL EDUCATORS ARE VITAL TO THE PROCESS. THEY POSSESS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIAGNOSTIC AND PRESCRIPTIVE NATURE OF STUDENT INTERVENTIONS. THERE IS NO HIGHER COMPLIMENT FOR A SPECIAL EDUCATOR THAN TO IMPROVE THE LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS.



KEYSTONE
LEARNING SERVICES

KEYSTONE CHRONICLE

September 2010 Page 2



JDLA Service Learning

JDLA Open House

Everyone is invited to visit with JDLA faculty and tour the building on October 20th, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m..

JDLA students will be continuing their service learning by participating in events on September 27th at the Topeka Rescue Mission serving lunch to the homeless and on September 30th at the Water Festival at Perry Lake.



KISN Webinar Announcement

Webinars will be held on Tuesdays at 3:15-4:00 p.m.. There is room for 100 participants on a first come - first serve basis. Certificates will be provided to the "live audience". To register go to www.KansasASD.com training calendar.

Dates and Topics:

Sept. 28: Boardmaker Introduction
 Oct. 12: Boardmaker Visual Supports
 Oct. 26: Boardmaker Schedules
 Nov. 9: Boardmaker Interactive Features
 Nov. 23: Incredible 5-Point Scale Introduction
 Jan. 11: Developing 5-Point Scales
 Jan. 25: Social Narratives (Stories)
 Feb. 8: Social Narratives Powerpoint w/ voice
 Feb 22: Video Modeling Introduction
 March 8: Video Modeling - Editing Video
 March 22: PECS - Intro., Reinforcer Assessment, Phase 1
 April 12: PECS Phases 2-4
 April 26: Behavior Mapping
 May 10: Reinforcement Systems

Contact Katie Thomas w/questions at kthomas3@kumc.edu

For any technology questions

you may have please contact Dan Hinrichsen at 785-550-7803 or daniel@keystonelearning.org. Repairs to computers and printers should be directed to him.

Rhonda's Writings

Rather than a lengthy note, I am going to write some quick reminders:



1. Remember to use your paras to collect data on the actual amount of time students need service during an inclusion setting.
2. Please remember to send in your schedules - they were due September 15th.
3. Send a positive note home to the student that is already trying your patience. The parents will appreciate a kind word.
4. Rotate your job at least once a month with your paras so that you can see your students in the regular education setting.
5. Make sure that you are cleaning up your IEP's. If the IEP states that there are errors. The errors are listed so that you can quickly go back and clean up mistakes or missing information.
6. Please do not hoard materials. If you have not been using something, please send it back to the media center. Money is tight and we hate to make someone do without when there is an item in someone's closet or on a shelf.
7. Take a breath. You have made it through one month of school.

I want to take a moment to thank you for the work you are doing. Going into the schools, I have witnessed great teaching occurring. Students are actively engaged, and they are excited about being in your classes. I envision great things occurring this year.

We're Proud Of You!

Recently Diane Liebsch along with two of her paras, Brenda Bertels and Tanya O'Neill, spoke about special education students to pre-service teachers ready to embark on their student teaching journey at Benedictine College.

Way to advocate for children and represent Keystone Learning Services ladies!

Upcoming Lecompton Conference Room Calendar

Sept.

20th- Tiny K Meeting
 24th- KISN Meeting
 27th- Tiny K Meeting
 28th- Kaw Valley Superintendents Meeting

Oct.

1st- PAT Meeting
 11th- Tiny K Meeting
 15th- KISN Workshop
 20th- KASA Superintendent Council
 25th- Tiny K Meeting
 26th- KAW Valley Coop Meeting
 27th- WebKIDDS Training
 28th- WebKIDDS Training
 29th- WebKIDDS Training

