

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support What is This?

All parents and educators want to see their children succeed. It can be very frustrating when a child either falls behind or is not challenged enough academically; or has social, emotional, or behavioral challenges. Multi-Tiered Systems of support (MTSS) allows for early intervention by providing academic and behavioral supports rather than waiting for a child to fail or become bored before offering help.

The Michigan Department of Education defines MTSS as an integrated, multi-tiered system of instruction, assessment, and intervention designed to meet the achievement and behavioral needs of ALL learners. At Wayland Union Schools, all of our teachers belong to a Professional Learning Community (PLC). PLC teams meet on a regular basis and center their work on four guiding questions:

- What is it that we want our students to learn?
- How will we know if our students are learning?
- How will we respond when students do not learn?
- How will we enrich and extend the learning for students who are proficient?

These questions are used to progress-monitor student assessment results, and in turn, develop appropriate instructional techniques and learning experiences for classrooms. In addition to this, students might be grouped for more specialized instruction at various times during the week for academic intervention or enhancement. All student progress is continually monitored, and instruction is adjusted accordingly to assure student success.

Wayland Union Schools has been using a variety of MTSS strategies over the past several years, and will continue to develop even stronger systems of support for all students as the professional staff receives more specialized training during the 2014-15 school year. Our goal is to address the needs of all of our students within the school and classroom setting, and collaborate with parents during this process. Please talk with your child's teacher(s) to learn more about how your child might benefit from MTSS.