

Lakeview Public Schools
Response to Intervention (RtI) /Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)
Parent Notice

Lakeview Public Schools implemented an RtI framework in 2010-11. Since the inception, students have been showing a higher rate of growth in math and reading. The framework for instruction helps teachers, students and parents in understanding individual academic achievement and how to respond to the needs of all learners. An updated term, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, is a better title used to describe the work teachers and support staff are performing with children.

RtI/MTSS commonly works like this: 1) All children receive assessments to identify their current academic performance levels. This is done through the NWEA-MAPs assessment tool and other building-wide assessments. 2.) All students receive core instruction in the classroom. 3) Classroom teachers provide instruction and collaborate with other educational experts to assist with struggling learners. 4) Quality interventions with greater frequency or duration are provided for those students still not attaining benchmark levels. A continuing advantage for all students is to receive instruction that either helps to close a learning gap, or instruction that can help a student to advance to higher level.

For the past several years Lakeview Public Schools' has conducted building-wide screenings utilizing the MAP assessments. The results of the MAPs assessment are used to tailor the learning experiences best suited for each child at the start-up of each school year. Lakeview teachers and administrators will continue to monitor student progress during the school year by administering the MAP assessments three times throughout the year, as well as other building assessments. This data will help teachers to adjust and design instruction based on individual student performance. In addition, each student's data is carried over to the following school year so that principals and counselors can place students into appropriate classes and interventions as the school year begins.

If a child does not make sufficient academic progress, the classroom teacher, along with parents, may initiate the Student Intervention Team (SIT) process. The SIT process will provide additional consultation, a higher level of staff collaboration, and interventions to help the child succeed.

The information generated through the RtI/MTSS procedures becomes part of the evaluation process if a child should be referred for special education. There is not one single test or professional who can determine if a child has a learning disability in the educational setting. A historical examination of a student's individual performance and how a student responds to varied interventions over a period of time is critical to an evaluation team when diagnosing a potential learning disability.

This change in the evaluation process for learning disabilities occurred in Michigan Rules and Regulations approximately 5 years ago and is in accordance with the Individuals with Disability Act (IDEA). While Lakeview Public Schools practices the RtI/MTSS model, parents do have the right, however, to request a formal evaluation for special education programs and services if they suspect their child has a disability.

More information about this topic can be found on the Student Services Website at:
<http://www.lakeview.misd.net/departments/specialeducation.htm>
Or by calling 586.445.4000 x2512