

Response to Intervention

If and when the district decides to use a process based on a student's response to scientific, research-based intervention for the identification of students with specific learning disabilities, the district will implement the response to intervention (RTI) procedures listed below with respect to certain individual students, or in some or all of its classes and/or schools, and at some or all grade levels.

The district will provide information about its RTI policy and procedures to affected individuals through any of the following methods: Fall letter from the superintendent, district website, school website, student handbooks, quarterly newsletters, and parent brochures, which includes a description of parents' rights under a RTI process consistent with WAC 392-172A-03055(4)(b) and WAC 392-172A-03080(1)(g)(ii)(A) through (C).

Tier I: Core Classroom Instruction

High quality, effective and engaging Tier I instruction is delivered in the general education setting, by a general education teacher and is designed to meet the needs of all students. Tier I includes the research-based core curriculum. Curriculum is implemented and instruction is delivered as planned and intended (i.e., with fidelity), as determined through regularly scheduled monitoring of fidelity by the building principal or designee.

Universal Screening

Universal Tier I instructional screenings in the priority area of reading with secondary implementation areas of writing and math, are conducted at least three times throughout the school year at fixed intervals to identify each student's level of proficiency. Universal screenings are administered and scored by trained staff in fall, winter, and spring. Universal screening results are aggregated at the building grade level, classroom, and student level, and provided to the building principal and the school based team within at least one week from the time the screenings are administered.

Tier I: Intervention

If 80% or more of children in a classroom score below benchmark on any instructional screening, the school based team, including the building principal, will meet to consider the need for additional classroom supports and interventions at Tier I.

Students Below Cut Score

The district's established cut scores, based upon accurate and efficient universal screening measures, identify which students are at academic risk. After confirming that Tier I instruction was monitored and implemented with fidelity, students who score below the district's cut scores shall receive Tier II strategic interventions. Students who score below benchmark, but above the established cut score will be reviewed by the school based team as described below

Students Below Benchmark, But Above Cut Scores

Following each universal screening administration during the school year, the Problem Solving Team (PST) will review the program and progress of any student who does not score at benchmark on any instructional screening, but who does score above the district's established cut

score, to assure the student is receiving differentiated, needs-based instruction. In addition, the team's review will include the fidelity of program implementation, pacing and appropriateness of instructional groupings.

Tier I: Progress Monitoring

For students in Tier I, but within 5% of Tier II cut score, curriculum based measures and/or assessments (CBMs or CBAs), monitoring of the student's progress toward end-of-year benchmarks will occur, at least monthly, until progress monitoring data consistently demonstrates the student is on a trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks. Student progress monitoring at Tier I is administered and scored by the general education teacher. If, after 8 weeks of progress monitoring, the student is not on a trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks, the student shall be provided Tier II strategic interventions, unless the school based team specifically determines and can substantiate based on the progress monitoring data that further progress monitoring is required before Tier II strategic interventions are provided.

For students who have "exited" from a higher level of intervention, general education teachers will monitor the progress of those students monthly for 3 months to ensure they are continuing to make sufficient progress.

Tier II: Strategic Interventions

Tier II strategic interventions will be designed by building staff, to include: teacher and PST and delivered primarily in the general education setting, by a general education teacher, but may be delivered in other or additional settings or by other trained staff as appropriate to the specific intervention. Tier II interventions are scientifically, research-based, matched to student need, and implemented with fidelity, and monitored by the principal or his or her designee. Tier II interventions will be described on a "Tier II Student Intervention Plan".

Tier II interventions are provided in addition to regularly scheduled core instruction in the general education curriculum and will be delivered in small groups, ideally, at least three times each school week for not less than 30 minutes per session. Tier II interventions will be delivered for at least eight weeks, unless progress monitoring data reveals a need for a change in intervention, frequency or duration.

Tier II: Progress Monitoring

Using CBMs and/or CBAs, progress will be monitored at least every 4 weeks, or more frequently as determined by the school based team, against established benchmarks. Tier II progress monitoring measures are administered, scored and results are charted by staff trained to administer progress monitoring measures at this level including: general education teachers; para-educators; reading specialist. The student's parents will be provided results of these repeated assessments of achievement at regularly scheduled school reporting periods.

Responsiveness and Non-Responsiveness to Tier II Intervention

If, after a maximum of eight school weeks of Tier II intervention, the student has made no progress toward benchmarks based on at least three progress monitoring data points below the aim line, or has made progress, but is not on a trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks, the

PST will meet to review the student's program and progress, to assure the student is receiving differentiated, needs-based instruction. In addition, the team's review will include fidelity of program implementation, pacing and appropriateness of instructional groupings. Based on its review, the team will determine whether:

- A. Additional diagnostic assessments are warranted, and if so, in what areas and by whom;
- B. Additional changes to the instructional or behavioral interventions are required;
- C. The Tier II intervention should continue because progress monitoring data indicate the intervention is working even though the student has not yet met benchmarks;
- D. The student should return to Tier I core instruction with continued progress monitoring because the student has met benchmarks; or
- E. The student requires Tier III intensive intervention.

If, after a maximum of eight weeks of Tier II intervention using the same, modified or different strategies (or up to a total of 16 school weeks of Tier II intervention) the student has made no progress toward benchmarks, the student shall begin receiving Tier III intensive interventions. If not yet administered, diagnostic assessments will be conducted by staff, which may include: reading specialist, speech and language pathologist, school psychologist, and results will be utilized in designing the Tier III intensive intervention.

If the student has made progress, but is not on a trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks, (a) through (e) above shall be revisited by the school based team accordingly.

Tier III: Intensive Interventions

Tier III intensive interventions will be designed by the building staff to include: reading specialist and/or PST and delivered primarily in the general education setting, by a general education teacher and additional staff, but is likely to be delivered in other or additional settings, or by other trained staff as appropriate to the specific intervention. Tier III intensive interventions are scientifically, research-based, matched to student need, and implemented with fidelity, as monitored by the principal or his or her designee. Tier III interventions will be in addition to regularly scheduled core instruction in the general education curriculum, and will be delivered in settings tailored to the students needs and with an increased frequency, duration, and/or intensity than provided within Tier II. Tier III intensive interventions will be described in the student's intervention plan.

Tier III: Progress Monitoring

Using CBMs or CBAs, progress will be monitored bi-weekly against established benchmarks. Tier III progress monitoring measures are administered, scored and results are charted by staff, which may include: reading specialist, speech and language pathologist, and school psychologist. The student's parents will be provided results of these repeated assessments of achievement at regularly scheduled school reporting periods or upon request.

Non-Responsive to Tier III Intensive Intervention

If, after a maximum of eight school weeks of Tier III interventions, the student has made no progress toward benchmarks PST will consider a referral for an initial evaluation for special

education services or other long-term planning, such as an evaluation for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If appropriate, the Tier III intervention will be continued after any necessary modification during the evaluation process, if the student has not received at least two phases of Tier III intensive interventions.

Responsive to Tier III Intensive Intervention

If, after a maximum of eight school weeks of Tier III interventions the student has made progress toward benchmarks, but is not on a trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks, the PST will meet to review the student's program and progress, to assure the student is receiving differentiated, needs-based instruction. In addition, the team's review will include fidelity of program implementation, pacing, and appropriateness of instructional groupings. Based on its review, the team will determine whether:

- A. Additional diagnostic assessments are warranted, and if so, in what areas and by whom;
- B. Additional changes to the instructional or behavioral interventions are required;
- C. The Tier III intervention should continue because progress monitoring data indicate the intervention is working even though the student has not yet met benchmarks;
- D. The student should return to Tier I or Tier II with continued progress monitoring, as prescribed above, because the student has met or is on trajectory to meet end-of-year benchmarks; or
- E. A referral for an initial evaluation for special education is required.