

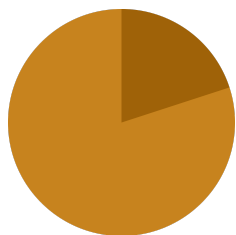
Dripping Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS (MTSS) A PARENT'S GUIDE FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

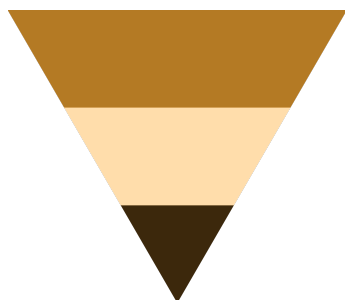
DSISD utilizes the Multi-Tiered System of Support framework to help students of varying abilities learn and perform at grade level. The MTSS framework goes beyond a student's academic needs by providing social and emotional supports, as well as professional development for teachers to support struggling students.

MTSS FACTS



20%
Number of students receiving intervention support across the country

Many schools use the term RtI, or Response to Intervention to describe their academic support system. DSISD prefers the MTSS framework in order to support the whole child.



Tier 1 - Quality instruction that all students receive in the general education classroom

Tier 2 - Small group instruction provided by the classroom teacher for students needing additional support on current grade level skills

Tier 3 - Evidence-based instruction provided by an expertly trained staff member for students falling significantly behind classmates

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What skills does the MTSS framework support?

Skills critical to student success include decoding and comprehending grade-level text, writing effectively, applying number sense, comprehending the English language, and consistently demonstrating social, emotional, and academic behavior.

Is intervention a special program?

No, it is not a specific program or type of teaching method. It's a proactive approach to identifying and helping struggling learners. DSISD utilizes evidence-based instructional programming which is provided with fidelity per the program's guidelines for Tier 3 Academic Intervention.

Will my child always need intervention?

MTSS is a fluid support process where students move in and out of tiers, based on student performance data. Students who are not making progress with Tier 3 supports should be referred for a 504 or Special Education evaluation. More information regarding Aiding Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education or Section 504 Services can be found in the DSISD Student Handbook:

<https://www.dsisdtx.us/cms/lib/TX02204855/Centricity//Domain/143/2022-2023%20Student%20Handbook%20Final.pdf>

Who makes decisions about my child's level of support?

Each campus has an MTSS Team made up of an administrator, interventionists, and the classroom teacher(s). The best place to start with questions would be your child's classroom teacher(s).

When Will My Child Receive Tier 3 Services? How Often (Frequency and Minutes)?

Students will be on a block schedule in middle school and high school. A days are periods 1-4, B days are periods 5-8. Fridays alternate A/B days. Students choose three electives in 6th grade, one of which will be Tier 3 Academic Intervention either for math or reading based on the MTSS committee decision. Students have four core classes, and all classes are roughly 90 minutes. Below is sample schedule for a student receiving Tier 3 Academic Intervention:

Sample (Alternate A/B on Fridays)

A Day Courses (Monday & Wednesday)	Class Period	Period Time*
Science	1st	9:00 am-10:25 am
Advisory	Advisory	10:30 am-11:15 am
Dance	2nd	11:20 am-12:50 pm
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Tier 3 Academic Intervention (Elective)	3rd	1:20 pm-2:45 pm
Social Studies	4th	2:50 pm - 4:15 pm
B Day Courses (Tuesday & Thursday)	Class Period	Period Time*
Math	5th	9:00 am-10:25 am

Advisory	Advisory	10:30 am-11:15 am
Art	6th	11:20 am -12:50 pm
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Huddle (6th grade only)	7th	1:20 pm-2:45 pm
ELA	8th	2:50 pm - 4:15 pm

**Period times are not exact matches to the campus bell schedules*

My Child Came Home With An Elective Choice Sheet But I Don't See Tier 3 Academic Intervention As An Option. How Does She/He Sign Up?

The decision to participate in Tier 3 Academic Intervention either for math or reading is based on the MTSS committee decision and is not included on the middle and high school choice sheet. The campus's team of professionals, which may include the administrator, interventionists, and the classroom teacher(s) will work with the counselor to ensure the intervention course is reflected in your child's schedule.

What Happens If My Child Completes Tier 3 Academic Intervention Mid-Year?

A decision to dismiss a student is made by the MTSS Committee using the performance data. When this decision is made mid-year, your child will receive a schedule change. Careful considerations are made to schedule changes to ensure an easy transition.

Can I Request A Change in Services?

A parent can request, at any time, a change in or dismissal from Tier 3 Academic Intervention. It is recommended to review your child's progress with the interventionist and the MTSS Committee prior to a removal request.

For more information about the district's MTSS framework, email peggy.simmons@dsisdtx.us