MTSS Infrastructure and Support Mechanisms Series

Leadership Personnel

Decisions by school and district leadership personnel support implementation of the essential components of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS). Leadership personnel can include, but are not limited to, state and district personnel, school administration, teacher leaders, and instructional specialists.

What Do Leadership Personnel Look Like at the School Level?

At the school level, leadership personnel ensure that MTSS implementation is a high priority through the development of the vision, using processes such as Leading by Convening or other visioning activities, and their ongoing decision making about resources and the school schedule. They actively participate in school-level MTSS meetings and support monitoring and continuous improvement activities. They are responsible for ensuring that staff have the necessary time and resources to effectively and efficiently implement the essential components of MTSS.

Tips for Implementation

- Create a school environment that encourages ongoing communication and teaming.
- Focus on the right questions:
  - What do we want for our children, educators, and schools?
  - What is our current reality, and who are the players?
  - What do our children, educators, and schools need to be successful?
  - How can we maximize our resources to support students, teachers, and schools?
- Frequently highlight successes and ensure stakeholder buy-in, especially during initial implementation.
- Allocate the necessary resources—budget, staffing, schedule, and professional learning—to demonstrate that MTSS is a priority.
- Engage in continuous improvement activities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of MTSS implementation.

Resources

- Literacy Leadership Briefs (Lead for Literacy): Read research briefs, infographics, and guides with essential information that can be applied to your school or district.
- Why Inclusive Principal Leadership Matters (Council of Chief State School Officers): Learn about high-impact strategies and resources for supporting inclusive leadership.
- Leading by Convening: Learn about using authentic engagement as a strategy to enhance leadership practices.