Paving the Way for Success in High School and Beyond

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Chandrea Walker, Director of Counseling & Support Services Jenn Trammell, K-8 Counseling Coordinator Kathy Mangum, Counseling Supervisor Angela Kitchens, Student Services Program Supervisor

VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community



State Board of Education Goals FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2016-2020

- 1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
- 2. Every Student Graduates From High School and is Ready for College and Career
- 3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
- 4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
- 5. Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
- 6. Every School and District is Rated "C" or Higher



Elementary Schools



Elementary Counselors

Some things to consider:

- How can we best serve our students?
- What services can we provide to ensure the transition from elementary school to middle school is as smooth as possible.
- What can we do to guarantee that our students are academically and behaviorally ready for middle school?



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

Counselors are key stakeholders in integrating and aligning MTSS to the school counseling program.

Through prevention and intervention counselors support academic achievement and student success.





A framework for effective team-based problem solving that is **data-informed**, evidence-based, and flexible enough to meet the academic and the behavioral needs of all student.



What is MTSS?

IS	IS Not
A framework for effective problem solving to improve academics and behavioral outcomes for ALL students	A single curriculum or program
For ALL students including those who need enrichment	Just for struggling students
Flexible to meet the unique needs of districts and schools	A one size fits all prescription
Data-informed and evidence-based	Based on assumptions or anecdotal info
Collaborative team-based decision making	The responsibility of one person
A framework to make decisions about the need for further services	A pre-referral process



How to make MTSS work





• A well-designed MTSS will have hierarchical tiers of instruction and supports for **EVERY** student in the school.

 Universal (every student) to targeted (some students) to intensive (few students), in order to support the academic and behavioral needs of every student.



Counselor Roles/Responsibilities

- Participate as member of shared leadership team
- Coordinates and facilitates the school's behavior intervention program
- Uses Tier I Behavior Screeners to identify behaviors of students and designs
 behavior interventions
- Provides group and individual counseling to students
- Promotes equity for ALL students



Learning Supports

When MTSS is aligned with the school counseling program counselors may act as:

- Supporter-providing indirect services such as attending TST meetings, reviewing data
- Intervener-providing direct, explicit and systematic supports while working collaboratively with classroom teacher, academic interventionist, administrators, and parents



Tier 1 – Universal Supports

- The core programs and strategies provided to all students within the school
- Agree upon 3-5 broad school-wide behavioral expectations
- Purpose is to maximize achievement and increase positive behavior



Behavioral expectations for all students, all staff, and all settings:

- rules,
- routines, and
- physical arrangements



- Positive school climate fosters academic achievement
- Caring and supportive culture helps students feel safe and secure



Tier 2 – Focused Supplemental Supports

- Typically 15-20% of students
- Students who need additional help
- To reduce current incidents of problem behavior for students identified as "at-risk" for engaging in behavior problems
- May consist of a behavior contract or check-in/check-out



Tier 3 – Intensive Supports

- Targets 1-5% of students
- Intensive programs and strategies for students who need individualized supports
- Complete a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)
- Develop a comprehensive intervention support plan



Examples of Interventions

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
 Behavior Screener 	 Biweekly Check in- Check out 	 Daily Check-in and Check-outs
 Classroom Guidance 	 Behavioral Contract 	 Intensive Behavior Charts
	 Behavior Chart with incentives 	 Small Groups
	 Peer Mentoring 	 Student Conferences



Intervention Guidance

Tier 2	Tier 3
 3-6 students per group 	 1-3 students per group
 2-4 sessions per week 	 4-5 sessions per week
 20-30 minutes per session 	 30-60 minutes per session
 Monitor progress in 2-week intervals at a minimum 	 Monitor progress at least weekly

Note: The number of sessions and length of time per session should be based on the model/design of the prescribed intervention. Fidelity to the intervention model will yield the most success.



Middle Schools



• Students enrolled in grades 7-12 may be awarded a Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is a Carnegie unit bearing course in the current edition of the *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi Manual.*



Middle School Responsibilities

- Helping students select proper diploma endorsements through career explorations.
- Understanding GPA begins with the first Carnegie unit attempted.
- Middle schools and high schools must work together to determine which courses middles schools should offer.
- Establishing math pathways that determine ACT scores and College and Career Readiness.



The ISP is a process NOT a document

Five year career exploration plan

Process Standard 14.1.4: Beginning in school year 2018-2019, all seventh-grade students are required to have an individual Success Plan (ISP) prior to exiting the seventh grade.

Counselors and students will revisit and revise their ISPs



Course Sequencing



Course Sequencing

- The course sequencing is designed to prepare students to meet the College and Career Readiness ACT/SAT benchmarks in the junior year.
- The recommended minimum course sequencing for ELA, math, science and social studies are located in the Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi Manual and the Mississippi Career Development Resource Document



Transition to 9th Grade



Why is the transition to high school so important?

- How well prepared a middle school student is for high school has a significant impact on whether he or she graduates
- A smooth transition greatly impacts the likelihood of graduating high school and staying in college until graduation
- Students who drop out of high school typically have not recovered from the decline in grades in ninth grade



What makes the transition difficult for so many students?

- Changes in the educational environment
- Feeling disconnected from the new school
- Size
- Existing social relationships may shift
- Moving from the top to the bottom
- More impersonal teachers
- Heavier workload



What are the traits of a successful transition?

- Strong academic achievement, school attendance
- Strong-time management, planning, problem-solving and study skills
- Healthy strategies for coping with problems
- Accurate expectations about high school and what is needed to succeed there
- Effective strategies for a balanced academic and social



What can schools do to ease the transition to high school?

- Coordination between middle school and high school
- Ninth grade orientation, summer academy
- Ongoing support during ninth grade





- Guide to assist districts in identifying at-risk students
- Provide supports that lead to early successful engagement in schools
- Identify students at risk of missing key educational milestones
- Recognize factors that are negatively impacting their learning and behavior
- Provide supports and interventions that help get students back on track for success in school, ultimately, graduation



Strongest predictors of high school graduation are:

- School attendance
- Behavior
- Course performance



• On track for graduation

Similar to Tier I in MTSS

Sliding off track

Similar to Tier II in MTSS

• Off track

Similar to Tier III in MTSS



Early Release Requirements



Early release is a term referring to the practice of students who have earned most of their graduation credits being allowed to leave campus for part of the school day to work in the community during their senior year.



- For early release, students must have met MS IHL and Community College readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores 17 English and 19 Math or SAT equivalency) or earned a Silver level on ACT WorkKeys.
- Alternately, a student must meet ALL of the following:
 - Have a 2.5 GPA
 - Passed or met all MAAP assessments requirements for graduation
 - On track to meet diploma requirements
 - Concurrently enrolled in Essentials for College Math and/or Essentials for College Literacy



Reasons for Changes in Early Release

- Goal #2 of the SBE
- Responsibility to prepare all students to exit high school ready for post-secondary work without remediation and/or the necessary skills to enter the workforce in a job with a sustainable wage.
- Districts are allocated funds based on a student's enrollment as a fulltime student.
- Making students aware of the readiness requirement will encourage initiative and involvement in meeting standards by the student and parents.



Early Graduation



Early graduation is when a student earns all the credits needed for graduation before his or her senior year and chooses to receive the diploma early and exit high school.



Recommendations for All Students

• For early graduation, a student should successfully complete an area of endorsement.

• Students should take a math or math equivalent course during their senior year.



Diploma Option Resources



College and Career Development Resources



How to Access Career Development Resources:

- Go to www.mde.k12.ms.us
- Scroll to bottom and click "Graduation Ready Options"

Resources

<u>Diploma Endorsement Option</u> Resources





Contact Information

Chandrea Walker, Director of Counseling & Support Services Office of Secondary Education CSWalker@mdek12.org

> Jenn Trammell, K-8 Counseling Coordinator Office of Secondary Education JTrammell@mdek12.org

Angela Kitchens, Student Services Program Supervisor Office of Secondary Education <u>Akitchens@mdek12.org</u>

> Kathy Mangum, Counseling Supervisor Office of Secondary Education <u>KLMangum@mdek12.org</u>

