



# Parent Resource Guide





## Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS): Engaging Families in Education

<http://www.florida-rti.org/index.htm>

### Meaningful

family engagement is important for student success, and is required by both the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). It is vital that parents are engaged as team members.

At regular intervals, families and educators should engage in discussions regarding how students respond. Parents should be actively engaged in all steps of the problem-solving process, and, particularly, engaged in all decisions regarding adjustments to interventions and related changes to a student's curriculum.

Schools have a responsibility to facilitate parent understanding and engagement in problem-solving efforts. Parental resources are key components for effective problem-solving within a school.

This video for parents introduces the use of problem-solving and how it may affect their child in the context of school-wide implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports, often still referred to as Response to Intervention (RtI).

[http://www.florida-rti.org/  
parentResources/videos.htm](http://www.florida-rti.org/parentResources/videos.htm)



## Additional Resources:

For information on how data are used in an MTSS, see this informational brochure:

English:

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/MTSS\\_Family\\_Brochure-English.pdf](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/MTSS_Family_Brochure-English.pdf)

Spanish:

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/MTSS\\_Family\\_Brochure-Spanish.pdf](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/MTSS_Family_Brochure-Spanish.pdf)

Creole:

<http://www.florida-rti.org/parentResources/RTLHC%20haitiancreole.pdf>

A PowerPoint presentation providing an **overview of using RtI data** within an MTSS, presented to family- and community-member audiences to increase the awareness and understanding of an MTSS.

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/PresentationParentAudiences-MTSS.12.21.11.ppt](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/PresentationParentAudiences-MTSS.12.21.11.ppt)

A PowerPoint presentation designed to increase educators' knowledge and understanding of **how to engage families** as planning/problem-solving team members within an MTSS.

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/ParentEngagementEducatorAudiences-MTSS.12.21.11.ppt](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/ParentEngagementEducatorAudiences-MTSS.12.21.11.ppt)

A website providing parents with information about the **standardized, statewide assessments**, and the Florida Department of Education.

<http://www.floridapathtosuccess.org>

An informational resource “**Increasing Engagement with Mobile Technology**” offers supports in the areas of academic, psychological, and social engagement. Providing apps that are specifically designed to help build their child’s levels of academic, social, and psychological engagement.

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/AppsforEngagementAllGradesHandout.pdf](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/AppsforEngagementAllGradesHandout.pdf)

Schools are now using a problem-solving process to organize and provide academic and/or behavioral supports to all students. RtI refers to the fourth step of the problem-solving process. During this fourth step, teams use data to determine how the student is “responding” to the intervention. To review the **real “truths” behind common myths of RtI and MTSS**, visit the following link:

<http://www.florida-rti.org/parentResources/myths/index.htm>.

## Family Involvement, Participation, and Positive Behavior Support

An effective student support system includes families as full participants in the educational process for their children. Families participate as planners, contributors, leaders, teachers, learners, and colleagues.

For information regarding Positive Behavioral Support, including trainings and PowerPoint presentations for families, visit [http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu/resources\\_family.cfm](http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu/resources_family.cfm).

## Evaluation for Special Education

A brochure clarifying the role of Special Education evaluation as part of Florida's MTSS. The process for requesting an evaluation, along with a description of what the evaluation might look like and what parents can expect from a special education evaluation are provided.

[http://www.florida-rti.org/\\_docs/EvaluationsSpecialEd.pdf](http://www.florida-rti.org/_docs/EvaluationsSpecialEd.pdf)

## Student Support Services Project

Develops and promotes the implementation of a statewide system of comprehensive, multi-tiered supports for social, emotional, behavioral, mental, physical health, and safety so that all students engage in effective academic and behavioral instruction and interventions.

## Bureau of Family and Community Outreach

The "Just For Parents" monthly newsletter provides current information and tools to families related to academic standards, assessments, and other relevant educational topics and issues. It is sent via email to those subscribed to the "Just For Parents" online community (<http://data.fldoe.org/listserv/allfloridaparents/default.cfm?hdr=n>) or visit <http://www.fldoe.org/family/newsletter.asp>.



For additional information, please contact the Student Support Services Project/USF at (850) 245-7851 or visit <http://sss.usf.edu>.

To download a copy of the Parent Resource Guide, visit <http://www.florida-rti.org/>