

## **Intensive MTSS Technical Assistance Rationale for Required Assessments**

This document provides information about the measures used within the MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center's intensive technical assistance for MTSS. Each measure has been carefully selected through a review of 1) need for the assessment, 2) fit within the MTSS model and state, 3) supporting research, 4) resources needed to use the assessment well, 5) maturity of the assessment, and 6) the Center's capacity to support its use among partners. All of the measures described below are supported by the MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center in the following ways:

- Training on overview, administration, scoring, installation, and data-based decision making is provided in-person, via webinar, or online module depending on the measure.
- Integration of the assessments into training and coaching content, including examples, tips, and resources.
- Information is provided on the TA Center's website.

### **Fidelity Assessments**

In order to best interpret student outcomes, we need also to understand the extent to which MTSS data, systems, and practices are being implemented with fidelity. These data are used to guide changes in adult behavior that will lead to improved fidelity and improved student outcomes.

#### **School-wide PBIS Tiered Fidelity Inventory**

*Details:*

- Uses PBIS Assessment.
- Cost: free.

*Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Single measure that assesses PBIS implementation at Tiers 1, 2, 3.
- Designed based on the best features of other PBIS fidelity measures (SET, BOQ, BAT, I-SET, SAS, TIC).
- Data integration with PBIS Assessment feeds data nightly to the MiMTSS Data System.

## Reading Tiered Fidelity Inventory

### *Details:*

- **Only required for Integrated Reading and Behavior MTSS district partners, not Promoting Positive School Climate**
- Uses the MiMTSS Data System.
- Cost: free.

### *Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Only assessment of its kind that measures implementation of reading systems using an MTSS framework.
- Elementary-Level and Secondary-Level Editions available.
- Extensive scoring rubric designed to make scoring more accurate and to guide implementation of the reading components of MTSS.
- Initial research support through a rigorous content validation process, and ongoing research being conducted by the MiMTSS TA Center and other research partners.

## Capacity Assessment

Allows Districts to examine and improve their internal systems needed to support schools to implement MTSS with fidelity.

## District Capacity Assessment

### *Details:*

- Uses the MiMTSS Data System.
- Cost: free.

### *Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- District-level assessment of capacity that is aligned with active implementation frameworks, primarily the implementation drivers.
- Initial research support through a rigorous validation process, and ongoing research being conducted by the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN), MiMTSS TA Center, and other research partners.

## Student Assessments

Meets the need to bring together multiple sources of data in a way that can be used efficiently by schools, districts, and ISDs for their unique needs in supporting MTSS

### Discipline Referrals using the School-wide Information System (SWIS)

#### *Details:*

- Uses the Schoolwide Information System (SWIS)
- Cost: \$350 per school per year for SWIS (Tier 1), additional costs for Tier 2 and 3 SWIS applications. Price breaks available for 20+ schools per district

#### *Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Designed in 1999 to support school-level decision-making with discipline referral data (as opposed to individual student, class, grade, or state levels).
- Dashboard puts the most critical visualized data in front of each user immediately upon login.
- Reports and graphs are designed specifically to support implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).
- In addition to a set of core reports, schools can also use the drill down feature to do systematic problem solving, starting with precise problem statements.
- Data entry is brief, approximately 30 seconds per referral.
- SWIS is integrated with Check-In Check-Out (CICO) SWIS and Individual Student Information System (I-SWIS) to support data-based decision making at Tiers 1, 2, and 3.
- Graphs and reports available to support systematic problem solving around equity in discipline by race/ethnicity.
- Active work on the part of PBIS Applications and the Michigan DataHub to develop SWIS data integration capabilities with student information systems.
- Current capabilities to 1) integrate staff and student records between student information systems and SWIS and 2) enter data into SWIS and then load into student information systems (SDEX) via MiDataHub.

### Acadience Reading K-6

#### *Details:*

- **Only required for Integrated Reading and Behavior MTSS district partners, not Promoting Positive School Climate**
- Uses Acadience Data Management or Acadience Learning Online
- Cost: \$1 per student for data system, plus cost of printed assessment materials

*Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Direct assessment of students' foundational reading skills at the early grades.
- Results can be used to plan instruction and intervention aligned with the Big Ideas of Reading.
- Predictive of future reading success on other reading measures, including state summative assessments.
- Sensitive to change/growth.
- Reporting system (i.e., Acadience Data Management) is designed specifically to support effective decision-making within an MTSS framework at the district, school, grade, class, and student levels.
- Built on decades of research designed to link with scientifically-based reading instruction.
- Can be used for both universal screening and progress monitoring purposes.

### Early Warning Indicators

*Details:*

- **Only required for Integrated Reading and Behavior MTSS district partners, not Promoting Positive School Climate**
- Uses the Michigan Early Warning Intervention and Monitoring System (MiEWIMS) platform.
- Cost: free

*Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Leverages student data already being collected by schools (attendance, behavior, course performance).
- Based on research conducted by Robert Balfanz and colleagues and supported through the National High School Center to prevent students from dropping out of school.
- Meaningful indicators for secondary schools that can engage all staff in decision-making.
- MiEWIMS leverages the use of a district's existing student information system and data integration using MiDataHub and MiDataExchange, as well as strategies available in MiStrategyBank.

### School Climate Survey

*Details:*

- Uses PBIS Assessment
- Cost: Free

*Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Supported through PBIS Assessment, the same system that houses other fidelity measures, and the same organization that supports the SWIS Suite.
- Aligned editions available for students, teachers, parents.

- Brief, online surveys that aggregate scores by respondent group, can also be administered paper-pencil and hand entered.
- Questions align with PBIS implementation and ask about equity in education.

## **MTSS Data Tool**

Meets the need to bring together multiple sources of data in a way that can be used efficiently by schools, districts, and ISDs for their unique needs in supporting MTSS

### **MiMTSS Data System**

#### *Details:*

- Supported in collaboration with Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Collaboration Hub (MiCH), MiMTSS Technical Assistance Center, and Ottawa Area ISD.
- Cost: free.

#### *Unique features and how the measure supports effective decision making:*

- Only system of its kind in Michigan that integrates reporting for student reading outcomes, student behavior outcomes, school-level implementation fidelity, installation activities, training effectiveness, district and ISD capacity, and reach (stages of implementation).
- Simple data entry.
- Once entered, data immediately load into school dashboard, district dashboard, ISD dashboard, and additional reports, all of which are designed to be used as part of a continuous improvement process for MTSS.
- The MiMTSS Data System was designed based on the principles of effective data visualization to make the graphics consistent, easy to interpret, and clutter-free.
- All aspects of the MiMTSS Data System have undergone multiple cycles of usability testing.
- Data collected here are also used to support the MiMTSS TA Center grant reporting to the Michigan Department of Education and the federal Office of Special Education Programs, without requiring districts to submit additional data elsewhere.

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