

Statewide Implementation of Kansas Multi-Tier System of Supports

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We examined:

- Scope of MTSS across the state
- Stage or level of implementation
- Student performance

Evaluability Assessment:

- Conducted prior to final evaluation design
- Informed availability of data and feasibility of new data collections

Data Collection:

- Data on training participation
- Survey of school practices
- Case studies of 3 schools and 1 district selected based on survey responses
- Universal screening assessment data

Survey Design:

- Distributed statewide to principals of all public schools
- Asks about practices in leadership, assessment, instruction, interventions and more
- Responses to set of 36 questions of practices designed to classify schools into stage of implementation
- Response rate of 49%

The MTSS Framework



Stages of Implementation:



Initial findings:

- Looks different in every school but key features of model are there
- Schools report training and support is necessary
- Staff buy-in and school leadership for practices are necessary
- Common language around instruction, assessment, and interventions

Challenges:

- Defining the “it” of MTSS so that it could be evaluated
- Obtaining valid and reliable data on student growth/performance
- Survey design: How to program the survey to categorize responses by stage of implementation
- Achieving a high enough response rate for the survey
- Selecting case study sites to ensure the schools were in fact “fully implementing.”
- Common language around instruction, assessment, and interventions

Working Hypotheses:

- School and district level leadership support for MTSS is necessary for successful implementation.
- Having a building-based MTSS facilitator or coordinator supports implementation with fidelity.
- Schools that are successfully implementing have a common language around assessment, instruction, outcomes, and behavior.
- Schools that have the ongoing support of a high quality Recognized MTSS Facilitator are more likely to implement MTSS with fidelity and sustain implementation over time.

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