

## **Response to Intervention (RtI)**

Alkali Creek Elementary School participates in the Response to Intervention (RtI)/ Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) process with the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and Region III CSPD (Comprehensive System of Professional Development). RtI is the practice of providing high-quality instruction/intervention matched to all students' needs, using assessment to determine a student's learning rate and level of performance, to make important educational decisions to guide instruction. RtI is a proactive process that enables learning for all students by providing both prevention and intervention services. There are eight non-negotiable, essential components of RtI:

1. Strong Leadership
2. Evidence-based Curriculum and Instruction
3. Ongoing Assessments
4. Collaborative Teaming
5. Data-Based Decision Making
6. Fidelity of Implementation
7. Ongoing Training and Professional Development
8. Community and Family Involvement

Each element is part of an interrelated process which will be applied to every student. Essentially, instructional practices are evaluated and adjusted based on results of reliable and valid student data. If any component is missing, the process breaks down.

The RtI process is an instructional, assessment, intervention, and extension process for systematically delivering instruction, monitoring student progress, and making decisions about the need for intensifying instruction. The fundamental question that RtI addresses is: "Under what conditions will a student successfully demonstrate mastery of our standards?"

A multi-tiered system of support provides guidance for delivering comprehensive, quality instruction for all students. It ensures prevention as well as remediation. It provides for whole group instruction, small group instruction and/or individualized instruction based on student need. RtI is based on the assumption that most students will respond to general education curriculum and instructional practices without any additional supports. It also supports those who will need supplemental and/or intensive levels of instruction or enrichment to make benchmark goals. Alkali Creek Elementary School will use a three tier model.

To assure that the RtI process is followed and that parents are involved in this educational process for their children, the following activities will be completed:

1. All K-6 students will be given universal screenings in reading and math three times per year (Fall, Winter, Spring).
2. Students who do not meet the benchmark criteria set forth by the district will be progress monitored to ensure adequate progress is being made.
3. All K-6 students may receive diagnostic testing (as needed) to help determine appropriate levels of intervention.
4. All students will be instructed using an evidence-based core program. All intervention programs available to students will also be evidence-based.
5. Fidelity checks will be implemented. This will encompass the RTI process, assessments, and all core and intervention programs.
6. Written documentation will be kept and made available (upon request) on all students throughout the RTI process.
7. For students who do not make adequate gains after extensive intervention opportunities have been provided, the referral process for special education can be started with signed parental consent.
8. Parents will be contacted throughout the school year explaining their child's educational program, current intervention, and/or progress. Contact will be made via conferences, phone calls, and/or written reports. Parents may comment, and suggestions will be made if student improvement is needed.
9. When requested, or as need arises, RTI related workshops will be offered for K-6 parents and students, as well as the public. They will be invited to learn about the RTI program, student selection, and evaluation processes. Suggestions and recommendations for the RTI program will be encouraged at this time.

RtI is evolving and we are privileged to take part in this process.