



A2: Strengthening Your School's Response to Problem Behavior

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Agenda and Objectives

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Behavioral Response System Features within a 3-Tiered RtI/PBIS Framework

Objective:

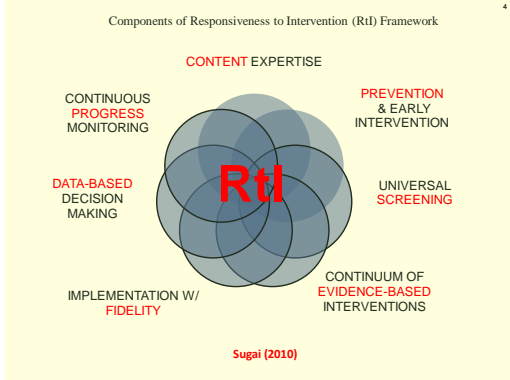
- Learn the essential features of an effective school-wide response system within an RtI/PBIS framework.



Responsiveness to Intervention (RtI) Batsche et al. (2006)

"RtI is an operational framework for:

- Ensuring high-quality instruction with interventions matched to student need*
- Applying frequent progress monitoring*
- Using child response data to guide important educational decisions."*



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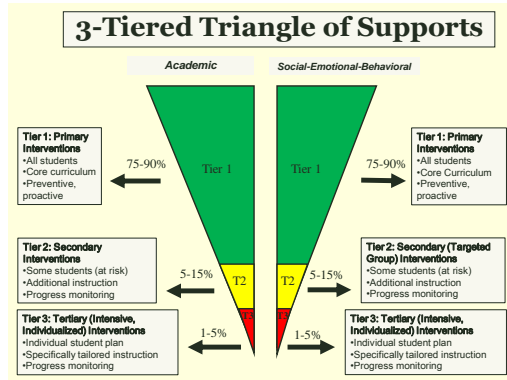
Three-Tiered Model:
Generally speaking, there are three types of students in schools with regard to support needs:


1. Students who experience success every day supported exclusively by universal systems and practices.
2. Students who are at-risk for disengagement or failure who need added support to build skills.
3. Students who need comprehensive or intensive individualized support in order to make progress.

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Since there are Multiple Tiers of Need...

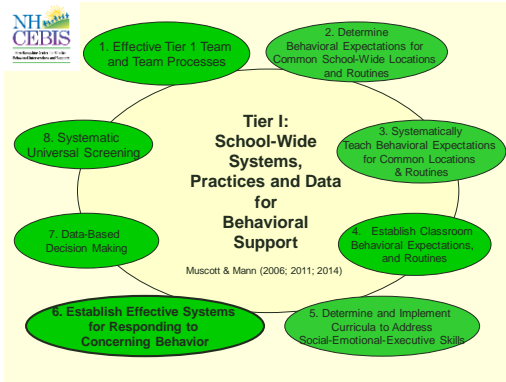
Effective Schools Need a Multi-Tiered Approach





Tier 1:

School-Wide Systems, Practices and Data



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**Preventing Behavioral Concerns:
Tier 1 Prevention Features:**

1. Common Behavioral Expectations
2. Common Behavioral Routines
3. Strategic Teaching of Behavioral Routines in Classroom and Non-Classroom Settings
4. Assessment of Fidelity of Implementation and Effectiveness of Strategies

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**Response to Behavioral Concerns:
Response System Features:**


1. Common Behavioral Definitions: Major and Minor.
2. Common School-wide Process for Responding to Concerning Behaviors.
3. Classroom Behavioral Prevention & Response systems.
4. Efficient Office Referral Form.
5. Consistent Office (Behavioral Support) Response Process.
6. Commitment to:
 1. accurate data gathering
 2. summarizing and reviewing data
 3. using data for decision making



Defining Concerning Behaviors


Define important concerning behaviors in 2 categories:

1. Major (Office-Managed)
2. Minor (Staff-Managed)



Review of Draft Behavior Definitions

Minor Inappropriate language	Low intensity inappropriate verbal language not directed toward an individual or group that does not interfere with the class, and that stops upon adult request (e.g. "This sucks," said softly).	Major Abusive language	Verbal or written messages or gestures overtly directed toward someone (e.g., swearing, name calling and defaming language, drawings). OR Minor inappropriate verbal language not directed toward an individual that does not stop after adult requests and at least 2 additional classroom response strategies
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Review of Draft Behavior Definitions

Minor Physical contact	Inappropriate contact such as kissing, hugging, or physical behaviors that potentially cause minor harm or non-serious injury (e.g., horseplay; tagging too hard) that continue despite a reminder.	Major Fighting / Physical Aggression	Actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur, such as hitting, punching, hitting with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, etc. OR Minor Physical Contact that does not subside despite 2+ response strategies.
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Behavior Definitions

Behavior	Minor	Major
Physical Aggression/Fighting	An incident of low intensity physical contact with another person that does not result in injury to self or others (no visible injury.)	Any high intensity physical contact with another person that is delivered with intent to harm that may or may not leave marks. Any physical behavior or activity that results in injury to self or others.
Disruption	Repeated behavior that causes interruption in a class activity or direct group instruction that makes it difficult for the teacher to teach or students to learn.	Repeated or sustained minor disruption after teacher's use of prevention and at least 2 classroom response strategies. Single incident of purposeful high intensity disruption that makes it impossible for teacher to teach or students to learn.
Property Damage/Vandalism	Causing harm to materials/items that can be repaired. Causing damage to low value items (pencils). Repeatedly not using materials/items for their intended use.	1 incident of intentionally causing damage to high value classroom materials/items or items of personal value. Repeatedly causing damage to low value items.

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Common Problem Behavior Labels

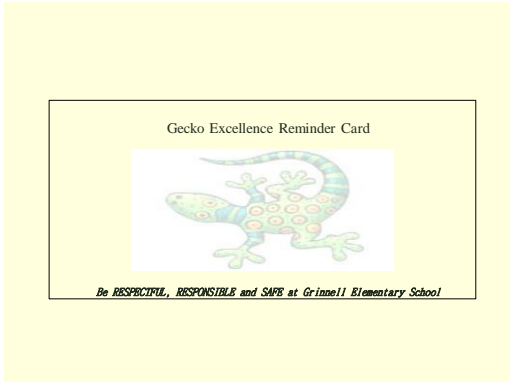
- Defiance
- Disrespect
- Non-compliance
- Disruption
- Dress Code Violation
- Inappropriate Language
- Physical Contact
- Physical Aggression
- Property Misuse
- Tardy
- Technology Violation
- Abusive Language
- Profanity
- Bomb Threat
- False Alarm
- Insubordination
- Fighting

- Gang Affiliation Display
- Harassment/ Bullying
- Inappropriate Display of Affection
- Inappropriate Location/ Out of Bounds/ Out of Area
- Lying/ Cheating
- Property Damage/ Vandalism
- Skip Class
- Truancy
- Technology violation
- Use/ Possession of Alcohol
- Use/ Possession of Drugs
- Use/ Possession of Tobacco
- Use/ Possession of Weapons



Behavior Definitions

- Who: Team
- What:
 1. Review behavior labels.
 2. Identify three commonly occurring behaviors that it is important for staff to respond to in a common and consistent way.
 3. Are there specific behaviors or specific contexts for which a common response is less important (teacher discretion as opposed to standard practice).
- Timeframe: 5 minutes



Gecko Excellence Classroom Reminder Card

Name _____ Date _____ Time _____ Subject/Teacher _____

This is a kind reminder to get back to work.

◆ If you get back to work --- YAY!!!! I'll check with you in a little while to ask if everything is OK.

◆ Try something from the Quick Strategy List.

◆ If behavior is still not Respectful, Responsible or Safe, these things will happen:

1. I'll ask you to go to the office to talk to someone about what is happening.
2. I'll contact your parent or guardian to check in.
3. I'll check with you later today or tomorrow to ask if everything is OK.

Thank you!

Student get back on track _____

Student did not get back on track _____

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Big Ideas for Responding to Minor Behavioral Concerns

- Be aware of your own thoughts and feelings.
 - Be aware of your own 'temperature'.
 - Be a thermostat (balance the 'heat' in the room)
 - Be a see-saw.
- Develop self-talk strategies:
 - Q-TIP (Quit Taking it Personally)
 - CRQQ (Calm, Respectful, Quick, Quiet;)



Big Ideas for Responding to Minor Behavioral Concerns

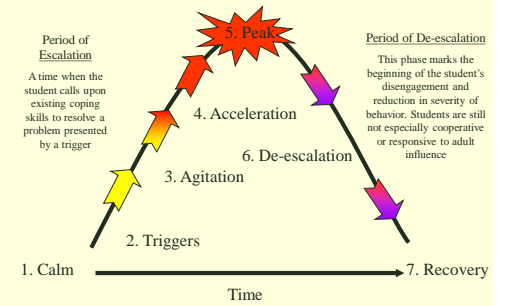
- Handle minor rule violations or behavioral concerns quickly, quietly, neutrally, calmly, and with positive follow-up.
 - Resolve privately when possible.
 - Be respectful, non-critical, non-argumentative, non-judgmental.
 - Focus on behavior, not student's character.
 - Avoid scolding and reprimand.
 - Avoid finger-pointing.
 - Avoid student humiliation (even though this can sometimes get a student to stop).



Early Responses to Concerning Behavior

- Self-Talk
- Proximity Control
- Signal for Attention
 - Verbal or non-verbal; Practiced
- Prompt use of taught 'quick strategies':
 - Prompt an Engine Check
 - Prompt a Calming Breathe
 - Prompt Frustration Journal (writing or drawing)
 - Prompt Positive Thinking list
- The 4 Rs
 - Reminder
 - Redirection
 - Re-teaching
 - Strengthen Relationship
- Validation

Escalation Paradigm: The Acting-Out Behavior Process



Sources: Colvin (1992); Walker, Colvin, & Ramsey (1995)

Differences in Psychological Worlds:
A Student in Stress and a Helpful Adult

	Student in Stress:	Helpful Adult:
Perceptions	Concrete One-dimensional Sees Only One Perspective	Diverse Able to Consider Multiple Perspectives
Thoughts	Negative Thinking Stuck (Options Limited) Fight, Flight or Freeze Irrational/ Illogical	Logical Cognizant of Options Positive Self-Talk How Do I Validate the Child's Experience?
Feelings	Flooded Volatile Defensive; Self-Protective	Accepts & in Control of Feelings Calm
Behaviors	Aggressive; Passive-Aggressive; Passive-Resistant	Models Self-Control Responds to Student Needs Rather than Behavior



An RtI Basic:

ALWAYS consider
desired *outcomes* in
advance of developing
or implementing a
strategy



Discussion: Goals of Responding to
Minor Behavior Concerns

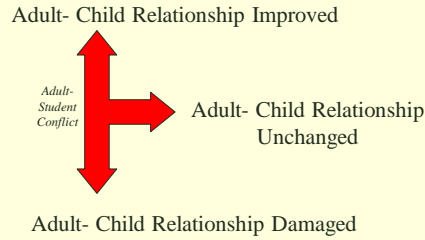
- Who: Team or with Neighbors
- What: What do you hope to achieve (what are your goals or outcomes) when responding to a behavioral concern?
- Timeframe: 5 minutes



Possible Goals of Responding to Behavioral Infractions

1. To teach students which behavioral concerns will be noticed and reacted to consistently in a school context.
2. To increase the likelihood that the behavior will stop (or de-escalate).
3. To increase the likelihood that the behavior will not happen next time in a similar context.
4. To increase likelihood that pro-social behavior and positive engagement will occur next time in a similar context (i.e., next time).
5. To teach students a 'correct' pro-social behavior that would replace the concerning behavior.
6. To improve rather than damage teacher:student relationship.

Life Space Crisis Intervention *Three Possible Outcomes of a Conflict*





Response System Outcomes in an RtI Model

1. All staff commit to implementing agreed to common responses to specific concerning behaviors.
2. Response strategies are thoughtfully selected because they are more likely to work.
3. Strategies are assessed for:
 - Fidelity of implementation
 - Effectiveness
4. Effective strategies continue; ineffective strategies are eliminated.
5. Students for whom generally effective strategies do not work are considered for different strategies.



Response Outcomes Activity

- Who: Teams or Individuals
- What:
 1. List common response strategies used at your school (strategies you or others use whether effective or not).
 2. In your opinion, which response strategies offer the best likelihood of effectiveness (i.e., effective to achieving your school's response outcomes)?
- Timeframe: 5 minutes



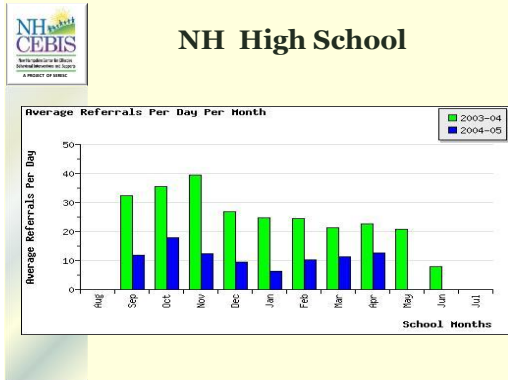
Office Referral Form

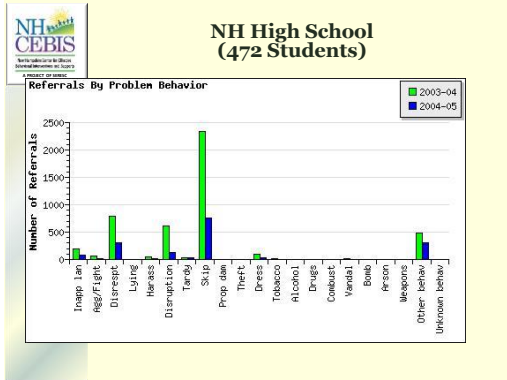
1. ODR Form
2. Using Behavioral Data for Decision-Making

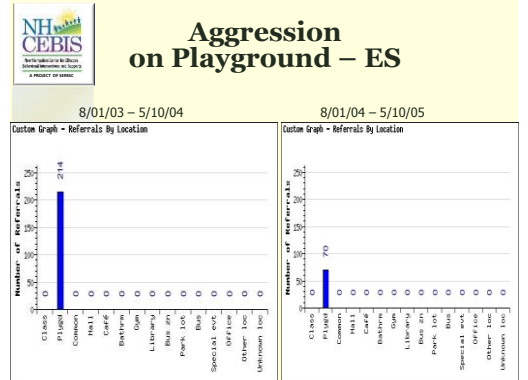


Office Referral Form

- An **efficient** Office Referral form is completed at the time of office referral (major) to:
 - Provide practical information that an administrator needs for working effectively and efficiently with the referred student.
 - Provide data that can be easily entered into a behavior information system that summarizes school-wide and student data.
- An **effective** form provides the types of data that are important for making sound educational decisions.









Office Referral Protocol

Big idea:

Establish a process for office referral for a classroom disciplinary concern

Features:

1. Teacher alert to the office of a student issue.
2. Protocol for paperwork to be completed (e.g., referral form; timing).
3. Arrival to office protocol (what happens at arrival).
4. Behavioral processing protocol (administrator processing with student).
5. Communication to parent(s) and teacher(s).
6. Return to class (or school) protocol.



Alert Example:

- At point of 'major' (i.e., the point at which a behavior requires referral to the office), the teacher alerts the office by intercom:
 1. Teacher alert to office for typical referral: "Sending Johnny for an 'Office Talk': He should arrive in 1 minute".
 2. For urgent/emergency support : "I need assistance in room ____".



Data Completion Protocol Example:

1. Teacher completes office referral form within 10 minutes.
 - Provide discipline data form to office with student (if completed immediately) or with messenger within 10 minutes (note: electronic submission may be possible).
2. Implement differentiated (individualized) process for students with individualized behavioral support needs.



Arrival to Office Protocol Example:

1. A non-public space is ready for student upon arrival (w/ contingent private areas for multiple students). Students know where to go or are directed/guided to the correct place.
2. The behavioral expectations for waiting are posted in waiting area for students to see:



Arrival to Office: While Waiting EXAMPLE:

Posted:

While waiting for an 'Office Talk':

1. Take a deep breath; relax.
2. Please sit silently.
3. Mr. ____ or Ms. ____ will be with you soon (within 10 minutes).
4. While you wait, you may complete a 'ThinkSheet' or a 'Student Perspective Sheet' (these will help provide Mr. ____ or Mrs. ____ with your point of view).
5. If you are feeling angry, agitated, worried or uncomfortable, you can try a 'Deal with Stress' suggestion (see 'Deal with Stress' sheet).

Incident Information : Student Perspective (for classroom misbehavior)

From Your Perspective:

Why were you sent to the office?

- I don't know why I was sent here
- I disrupted the class
- I was disrespectful to the teacher or to students
- I refused to do my work
- I had a conflict with a peer
- My teacher was unreasonable, unfair, or wouldn't listen to me
- Other _____

Is this a one-time problem or is this a repeated problem?

- Just this once, it won't happen again
- I have a lot of problems in this class
- I have a lot of problems with this teacher
- I have a lot of problems with this peer

Is there something your teacher needs to know about you that he/she doesn't know?

- I hate the subject (math, science, LA, etc. ...)
- I often don't understand what the teacher is trying to teach me
- I have a lot of trouble doing the homework or the classwork
- There is something that is really bothering me (could be a school thing or a home thing or a peer/social thing)
- Other _____

Problem solving:

Think about how you can solve the problem with your teacher or with your peer(s). If you want to write a problem-solving solution, you can write it here and on the back of this form.



Maximum wait time

- Determine the maximum time a student should wait for an 'Office Talk'.
- Develop contingency plans for when administrators are going to be unavailable within the expected timeframe.
- Train other staff to handle a basic 'Office Talk'.



Quick Assessment of Emotional Needs

- The time needed to support a student's emotional needs following a major behavioral event will vary.
- A quick assessment provides an educated guess as to whether:
 - The student will be able to resolve with minimal intervention and be ready to return to class within 15 minutes, or
 - De-escalation and readiness to return will be time and/or staff intensive.
- Highly concerning mental health issues, or dangerous behavior, require a different response even if the student arrives to the support room/office looking ready to calmly discuss the behavioral event.



Quick Assessment of Emotional Needs

After arrival and initial drain-off strategies are used (< 5 minutes), assess emotional status:

1. Student is:
 - Calm (body and voice are relaxed; is communicating effectively using words)
 - Agitated or defensive (body is rigid or energized; easily angers or shuts-down verbal communication)
 - Accelerated (in a highly emotional state unable to calm)
 - Peak (may be unsafe to self or others; may require physical containment)
2. Apply intervention appropriate to level of emotional readiness to process information.



Communication to Staff and Parents

- Determine and implement protocol for effective communication to teachers and parents after process is completed.



Communication to Staff and Parents

Communication Form (to Teacher)

Mann, 2012, revised 7-2014

1. Behavior triggering referral:
 - Disruption
 - Inappropriate language
 - Non-Compliance
 - Physical Contact/Aggression
 - Disrespect
 - Other: _____
2. Student emotional level on arrival to office:
 - Calm (body and voice are relaxed; is communicating effectively using words)
 - Agitated or defensive (body is rigid or energetic; easily angers or shuts-down verbal communication)
 - Accelerated (in a highly emotional state unable to calm)
 - Peak (may be unsafe to self or others; may require physical containment)
3. Student was able to:
 - Clearly describe his/her perspective of the incident that led to the referral.
 - Clearly describe his/her perspective of prior circumstances that may have led to the incident (i.e., provide a timeline of events that occurred prior to the incident).
 - Identify stress he/she was experiencing that may have led to the concerning behavior: _____
 - Identify a positive way to make things better (fix the problem; resolve the conflict; manage the stress., etc.): _____
 - Show through positive behavior that he/she is Calm (per 'Calm' definition above) and ready to return to class.
 - Practice returning to class calmly with a plan to avoid repeating or escalating the concerning behavior.

If the above items in #3 were not achieved, briefly explain why student is returning to class: _____

4. An additional consequence (beyond being sent to the office) was assigned: _____

5. The plan to contact home (teacher, behavioral support, or administrator) is: _____
