

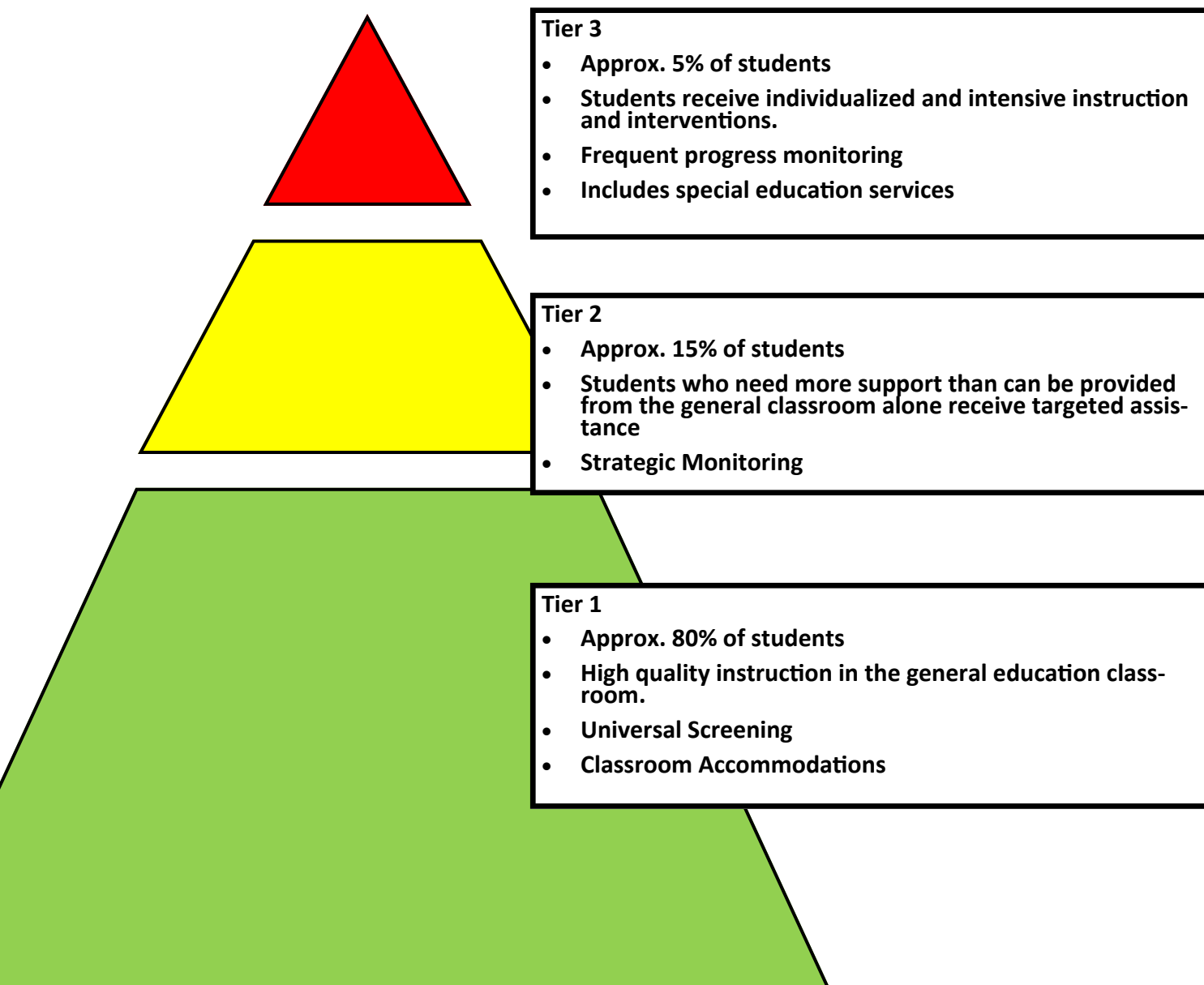
Response to Intervention and the Sandite Intervention Team



Sand Springs Special Services

What is Response to Intervention?

Sand Springs Public Schools is committed to helping every student succeed. Response to Intervention, or RTI, is the framework our district uses to effectively organize the supports and services available to our students. At its core, RTI means that students are provided with evidence-based academic and behavioral interventions that are matched to their specific needs. Student progress is monitored and this data is used to make decisions regarding the student's educational program. Interventions and supports are organized into a three-tiered model. Each tier provides differing levels of support.



Key Components of RTI

The key component of any RTI process is that all students receive **high-quality curriculum and instruction** in the general education classroom.

Another important component of RTI is **universal screenings**. Universal screenings review the progress of all students through state and district assessments. Sand Springs Public Schools uses AIMS-web assessments for universal screening at all elementary school sites. As a result of universal screening, students may be identified as needing targeted assistance (Tier 2 level of support) in addition to general education instruction (Tier1).

Evidence-based interventions are used to support students in the area they are struggling. There are many types of interventions that can take place in the classroom, outside the classroom, and in small groups.

Progress monitoring is a way to track how a student is improving on a specific skill. It shows how well the intervention is working and helps teams decide if an intervention needs to be changed. When a student meets the goals set by the team, the intervention is no longer needed and the child continues to receive support from the general education curriculum. However, when an intervention is not successful and more support is needed, students are given a more individualized instructional plan (Tier 3). This individualized support may include a referral for special education.

Is RTI the same at all schools?

RTI is not implemented in the same way at all schools but the core components should exist at every school that is implementing the process.

What is the Sandite Intervention Team?

The Sandite Intervention Team (SIT) is a school-based problem-solving team that includes the student's parents, teacher, school counselor, principal, and specialists such as a Speech-Language Pathologist, School Psychologist, special education teacher, and reading specialist. The SIT meets regularly to review school wide benchmark data and guides the RTI process for individual students. This team works together to (1) identify the problem in specific, measureable, observable terms; (2) analyze the problem to explain why the problem is occurring; (3) design an evidence-based intervention plan to assist the student; and (4) evaluate progress on an ongoing basis to determine if the plan helps the student to reach academic or behavioral goals.



Questions Parents Should Ask to Learn More about RTI

- What curriculum is being taught in my child's classroom?
- What are the interventions that are being used?
- What are the formal guidelines that the school is using for progress monitoring?
- How will I be informed of my child's progress?
- What will happen if an intervention is not effective?

What can parents do to support the RTI process?

- Read daily with your child and encourage them to read independently
- Communicate with your child's teacher
- Monitor and assist with homework assignments
- Attend parent/teacher conferences and other meetings at your child's school
- Review the progress monitoring reports
- Celebrate your child's successes
- Learn more about the curriculum and interventions being used at your child's school

What if I think my child needs special education services?

RTI does not replace the special education process. If at any time a parent believes their child may have an educational disability and needs special education services, they may request an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services. RTI cannot be used to delay or deny the evaluation. In addition to the information gathered during the RTI process, other forms of evaluation must occur to determine if a child is eligible for special education and written parent consent is required. Please request a formal evaluation for special education eligibility if you suspect that your child has an educational disability and needs special education services.

For more information about special education, parents rights in the process, and how RTI may be used to inform the process please contact Jamie Guthrie, Director of Special Services at 918-246-1426.



Where can I find out more about RTI and Special Education Services?

RTI Action Network

<http://www.rtinetwork.org/>

Center on Response to Intervention

<http://www.rti4success.org/>

Oklahoma State Department of Education

<http://sde.ok.gov/sde/special-education>

Talk to your child's teacher, principal, or school counselor for more information about how RTI is being implemented in your child's school.