

WHAT IS I & RS?

The Intervention & Referral Services (I & RS) is a committee of educators, administration and support staff who work together to provide assistance to teachers and students. The purpose of I & RS is to provide insight, interventions, and strategies to aid a classroom teacher who have identified a student as needing some specific assistance. Common issues discussed include academic failure or lack of progress, health issues, behaviors issues and social or emotional issues. The presenting problem may be something very general (such as not paying attention in class) or something very specific (such as missing homework assignments). The committee evaluates the situation and presents a plan to address the concern(s). The goal of the committee is to achieve student improvement in targeted areas. The process is intended to be collaborative in nature by including teachers and parents.

HOW IS A STUDENT REFERRED AND WHAT IS THE TIMELINE OF THE PROCESS?

- A problem is identified by either a teacher or parent and reported to the school counselor.
- Referral packet is completed by teacher and parent.
- Data is collected by the case coordinator. This includes state test scores, report cards etc.
- I & RS team meets to create an action plan.
- Action plan is implemented for approximately 8 weeks.
- Action Plan is reviewed by committee. Committee will determine what the next steps include.

WHAT TYPES OF RECOMMENDATIONS ARE MADE BY THE I & RS TEAM?

There are a wide variety of recommendations the committee may suggest. In class accommodations may include extra time on assignments, frequent breaks, and positive reinforcement strategies. Outside support strategies may include a peer tutoring group or counseling groups. More intensive recommendations may include a Section 504 Plan or referral to the Child Study Team for a full evaluation.

WHAT ARE SOME BENEFITS TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER USING THE I & RS COMMITTEE?

- The team process increases the chance of an accurate assessment of the issues and provides a large repertoire of strategies to help the teacher and student.
- The action plans completed in meetings give the students additional support in areas where they are struggling.
- The I & RS process yields descriptive documentation to support whether a child may require additional services outside of the general education programming.