



Georgia Department of Education

Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students

Essential Components

Leadership



Leadership, a critical component of **Infrastructure** within **Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students**, is in alignment with [Effective Leadership](#) and crucial to the [School Improvement Process](#). *Effective Leadership* and the *School Improvement Process* are part of **Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement**.

Effective **Leadership** is a major system of the complex school organization that sets the direction for the school, ensures that the school's staff is capable of meeting that direction, and makes sure the organization functions according to its mission. Leadership is essential to ensuring that any initiative or improvement activity is successful and the Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students framework is no exception. Strong leadership will assist in ensuring that district and school infrastructure, resources and processes are aligned to make certain that the needs of all students are met through use of this framework. Setting a clear vision and gaining the full commitment of the district's leadership and school's leadership is the most critical element in Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students.

Essential Component: Leadership

District and school leadership provide the infrastructure and support systems necessary to ensure the essential components of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) for students are in place and implemented with fidelity.

Sample Performance Indicators

Performance Indicators for district-based leadership include, but are not limited to ensuring:

- Creates and enforces policies that are supportive of, and not barriers to, MTSS implementation
- Reviews both district-wide and school level data on a regular basis
- Makes recommendations based on the district-wide and school level data regarding district policies related to implementation
- Evaluates implementation effectiveness, identifies strengths, problem-solves and determines areas of need, and provides overall guidance and support to schools
- Defines roles and responsibilities for all individuals vital to successful implementation
- Designates a person(s) to oversee and manage the district's implementation of the Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students

Performance Indicators for school-based leadership include but are not limited to:

- Serves as the driving force for instructional decision making in the building and purposeful provision of instructional supports and resources
- Reviews student data and making instructional decisions for all students
- Reviews student data and determines the effectiveness of the core curriculum and Tier I
- Supports the instructional staff in identifying ways to strengthen the core curriculum if there are fewer than 80% of students responding to universal instruction/core program (i.e., Tier I)
- Meets to provide support to students who are having academic or behavioral difficulties in school
- Implements a problem-solving approach to identify and intervene in response to student needs and measure the effectiveness of the interventions they recommend
- Establishes clearly defined roles and responsibilities for all individuals vital to successful implementation
- Designates a person(s) to oversee and manage the school's implementation of the Georgia Tiered System of Supports



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Essential Components



Infrastructure - Knowledge, resources, and organizational structures necessary to operationalize all components of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students in a unified system to meet the established goals.

Measures	1	2	3	4	5 (Evident)
Leadership Personnel	Support for implementation of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students by district leaders is not very evident.	Support for implementation of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students by district leaders is emerging.	Decisions and actions by school and district leaders are inconsistent and only somewhat supportive of the essential components of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students.	Decisions and actions by school and district leaders are reactive but supportive of the essential components of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students.	Decisions and actions by school and district leaders proactively support the essential components of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students and help make the framework more effective. Support for implementation of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students is a high priority.

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For additional information, see **Leadership** in [Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students Implementation Step-By-Step Guidance](#).



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