

Multi-Layered System of Supports (MLSS)

All Students Ready for Success
College, Career, Life, Secure in their Identity and Healthy

From the Desk of the Deputy Secretary of Education....

Dear Educational Leaders of New Mexico,

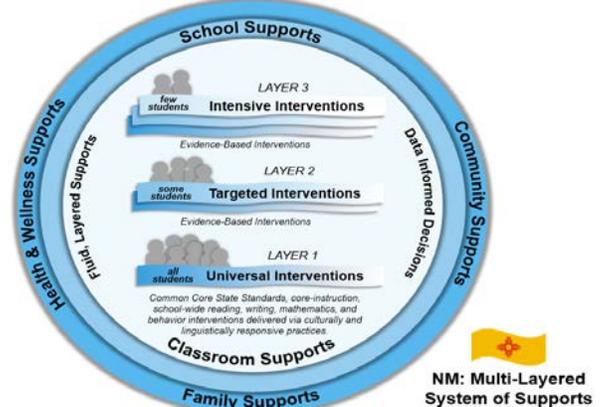
As you know, in school year 2020-21 New Mexico will transition to implementing MLSS by focusing on technical assistance and professional development to all schools and districts. In school year 2019-20, PED implemented a pilot year of MLSS implementation where some districts received technical assistance and professional development, and given your input and the pandemic, it was clear to us that we needed to provide another year of support across the state. New Mexico will fully implement MLSS during the 2021-22 school year.

I am very excited about MLSS and its model of support for both academics and behavior. MLSS empowers teachers to use their professional judgement and make data-informed decisions regarding the students in their classrooms **without** the need for a referral to SAT. MLSS also provides school and district administrators with a framework to make systems-level changes to improve student outcomes.

Please continue to refer to our PED MLSS website for updated and ongoing resources throughout the year, and don't hesitate to reach out to Ken Stowe as your main point of contact for all things MLSS. Thank you!

Katarina Sandoval
Deputy Secretary of Education
Academic Engagement & Student Success
NM PED Cell (505) 469-2061

All Students Ready for Success:
College, Career, Life, Secure in their Identity and Healthy



What is MLSS?

Multi-Layered System of Supports (MLSS) is New Mexico's adaptation of the Response to Intervention Framework (RtI). MLSS is a coordinated and comprehensive framework that educators use to organize their schools and school systems to support student learning. This support is accomplished by identifying and supporting students' needs and by providing the resources teachers, health and wellness personnel, and school administrators require for full implementation and long-term sustainability of MLSS. MLSS supports high-quality instruction and intervention, healthy students, and safe learning environments.

MLSS is a framework for school personnel to support students by delivering a range of layered interventions based on data driven and data-informed student needs. MLSS includes high-quality instruction and interventions with progress monitoring for impact.

Superintendent Voices... “How All Students Succeed”

Students come to school today with more barriers to learning than the average adult has experiences in his/her lifetime. As educators, this means we have to change how we provide instruction and most importantly how we provide immediate interventions to those not meeting with success.

MLSS is a key component to ensuring ALL students meet with academic success. I have had the opportunity to see first how the powerful effects that quality 1st instruction and timely and targeted interventions has had on student growth. When ALL students are exposed to the core, when data is used to drive instructional practices and when meaningful and targeted interventions are put into place, the sky's the limit! My former school implemented these strategies and we went from a D to an A school in one year! Our student growth was phenomenal!

As educators, our focus must be on doing what is best for kids, always! MLSS requires us to change how we instruct so that learning becomes meaningful and engaging and it is what is best for kids!!

Superintendent Julie Crum in Springer

Principal tells how... “Data Drives our Decisions”

At Governor Bent Elementary School, we are in our 2nd year of MLSS implementation. In May 2020, we reviewed our math and English Language Arts (ELA) end of the year common summative assessment data. Our instructional council (shared leadership team) analyzed the data and decided that ELA was an area of need for school-wide improvement. Therefore, ELA will be our 2020-21 instructional focus in our New Mexico DASH 90-day plan that is aligned to MLSS. We started to align our ELA instructional time to the MLSS implementation guide as well. We streamlined our common formative and summative assessments using Istation and its instructional components for kindergarten through 5th grade. Teachers will have ongoing ELA data conversations with a resource teacher once per month, analyzing students' needs at each MLSS layer. Each teacher and grade level will develop an Instructional Action Plan for their students based on the common formative assessment data. We have designated two ELA interventionists to support students in kindergarten through 5th-grade. The ELA interventionists will use the ELA intervention curriculum (Layer 2) that aligns with the core curriculum (Layer 1). We have implemented ELA partnerships with our families by creating a 20-minute nightly reading initiative that will dovetail with our trimester “One School, One Book” initiative. In collaboration with our community partners, we have built and placed a Little Free Library in front of our school for the community to access free books. We are on the road to full MLSS implementation and excited about the progress we make to meet ALL students' needs.

Jonathan Saiz, Ed.S.
Principal
Governor Bent Elementary School
Albuquerque Public Schools

Teacher says...“Meeting The Needs Of ALL My Students”

I believe MLSS will serve the needs of my students during this distance learning. It is more flexible because students can move through tiers depending on the support they need. The Multi-layered Systems of Support (MLSS) makes a major change for the better. MLSS takes an aggressive step in allowing the teacher to make judgement calls. Part of my duties in the Teacher Ambassador program was to work with a team to take a deep dive into the MLSS framework and together we broke down MLSS in a system by identifying what areas may be most difficult for teachers to implement and provided NMPED leadership with guidance on how to best address these issues to ensure that MLSS is a system to work for teachers, made by teachers. Throughout this next school year, I am going to use the MLSS framework to guide my instruction in response to student needs.

**Parents, Teachers, Principals: NMPED want to hear from you!
Contact us with any questions you may have about MLSS.**

Multi.LayeredSS@state.nm.us

NMPED recognizes that the current health crisis highlighted complex needs with regards to documenting and providing student supports. The demand for distance learning means that a variety of challenges will arise with elements of academic and behavioral supports being new to both teachers and students. As the school year begins, teachers should work with students to provide instruction with an emphasis on minimizing distractions and increasing engagement.

Traditional back to school



School during a pandemic



Resources:

Click here for more information on MLSS

https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/MLSS_Manual_8.27.19-1.pdf

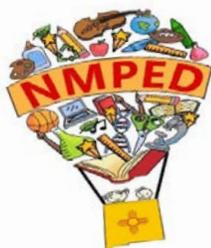
NMPED has provided materials on reentry guidance for district and schools,

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/reentry-district-and-school-guidance/>

NMPED is excited to roll out a self-paced professional development course entitled, “Making Virtual Learning Accessible for All Students” to all New Mexico educators! There are three “cohorts” of this same course for you to choose from: Elementary, Middle and High School.

Please choose the grade band course that best fits your role/situation

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/professional-development/making-virtual-learning-accessible-for-all-students/>



For more information contact:

Kenneth Stowe:
Program Director for the
New Mexico's Multi-Layered System of Supports
(505) 412-9979 cell

Multi.LayeredSS@state.nm.us