New Mexico Multi-Layered System of Supports



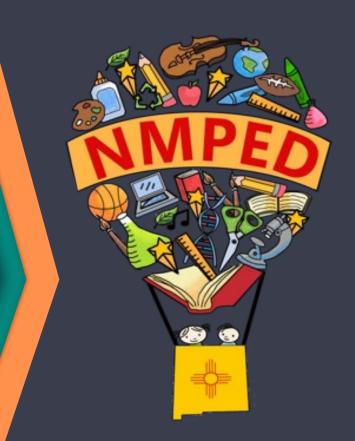
New Mexico's Multi-Layered System of Supports
An Overview for Building Successful Schools

Presenter:

Kenneth Stowe
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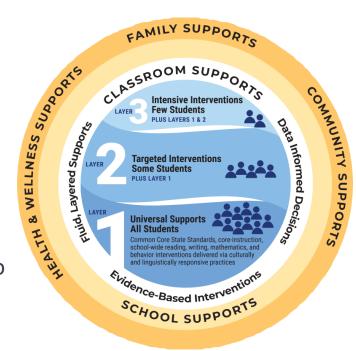
Division of Curriculum and Instruction

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.



Session Objectives

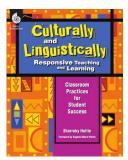
- recognize the seven core elements of MLSS;
- understand and be able to describe the MLSS graphic components and how each component is coordinated to aid all students in being ready for college, career, life, secure in their identity and healthy;
- collaborate with government and education leaders;
 and
- make connections to the positive work of New Mexico educators!





Where were you? *Equity and Education*

- Think about the first time you realized not all students receive an equitable education.
 - Year
 - Place
 - Your role
 - Brief context: 2-3 sentences
 - ✓ You can apply it to your own experience, education or discuss a specific instance

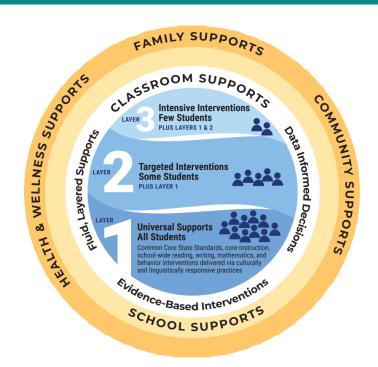


Author: Sharroky Hollie

Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning (2nd Edition)(2017)

What is the MLSS?

- New Mexico's **overhaul** of the Response to Intervention (RtI) framework.
- This support is accomplished by identifying and supporting students' learning and behavioral needs, and by recognizing and providing the resources teachers, health and wellness personnel and school administrators require for full implementation and long-term sustainability of MLSS.



What is in NMAC?

- Updates the instructional framework and guidance on the response to intervention (6.29.1.9 NMAC) process in New Mexico to be less burdensome, more comprehensive, and to include resources available at each layer of support.
 - All students shall have access to layer 1, 2, and 3 interventions without a need to convene a SAT team or a referral to special education or related services.
 - At any layer, a parent may request initial evaluation to determine whether a student is a child with a disability requiring special education and related service.
 - There are no additional documentation requirements under the MLSS outside of what is already required for education professionals.



Seven Core Components of MLSS DASH Aligned

Classroom Supports

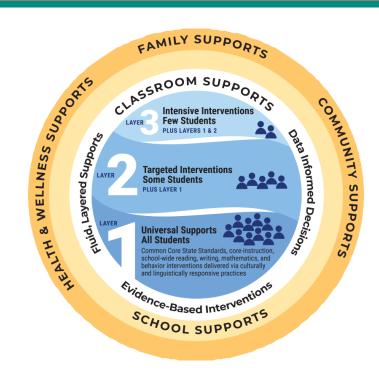
- Data-driven Instruction and Data-informed Decision Making
- 2. High-Quality Core Instruction and Intervention

School Supports

- 3. Informed and Effective School Leadership and Systems
- 4. Collaboration and Processes for Providing Layered Supports
- 5. Positive School Culture and Climate

Health and Wellness Supports

- Student Wellness
- Family and Community Supports
 - 7. Family and Community Engagement





Why MLSS?

- The MLSS model will provide support to ALL students including students who are migrant, in foster care, experiencing homelessness, and students with disabilities. MLSS will allow teachers and health and wellness staff to intervene quickly when students are struggling academically or behaviorally by providing immediate support to those students in an educational crisis.
 - Dufour discusses the need to get away from the "if" that determines success
 - ✓ If you have: a good home, an IEP, good behavior, etc.
- MLSS empowers teachers to use their professional judgement and make data-informed decisions regarding the students in their classrooms.
- Decisions regarding layered interventions are made by the classroom teachers and support personnel closest to the students.
- MLSS reinforces the fact that **ALL students are general education students first**.



How is MLSS different from Rtl?

- Some of the differences between MLSS and the former Response to Intervention (RtI) model:
 - Layer 3 is not Special Education. Layer 3 intensive supports are for ANY student who needs them.
 - There is **no specified minimum amount of time** for a student receiving a layer of supports to wait before determining the effectiveness, or lack thereof, of the interventions.
 - Students may move up and down the layers of supports as data indicate.

| (PREVIOUS) | MLSS (CUR | MLSS (CURRENT) | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| TIER 1 Core Instruction | LAYER 1 Core Instruction | SAT at any layer of intervention | | | | |
| TIER 2 SAT Referral | LAYER 2 Core + Targeted Interventions | (no requirement | | | | |
| TIER 3 SPED | Core + Targeted Interventions + Intensive Intervention | increase/ decrease layer(s) | | | | |



The Efficacy of Rtl

| | Tier | Tier 2 Math Academic Interventions | | | | Tier 2 Behavior Interventions | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | # Students Participating in Tier 2 | # Students who remained in Tier 2 | # Students Who moved Tier 2 to Tier 1 | # Students who were referred for Tier 3 testing (not to include Gifted) | # Students who were referred for testing who qualified for Special Education Services (not to include Gifted) | # Students Participating in Tier 2 | # Students who remained in Tier 2 | # Students Who moved Tier 2 to Tier 1 | # Students who were referred for Tier 3 testing (not to include Gifted) | # Students who were referred for testing who qualified for Special Education Services (not to include Gifted) | # Students Participating in Tier 2 | # Students who remained in Tier 2 | # Students Who moved Tier 2 to Tier 1 | # Students who were referred for Tier 3 testing (not to include Gifted) | # Students who were referred for testing who qualified for Special Education Services (not to include Gifted) |
| Total | 473 | 327 | 69 | 29 | 11 | 393 | 108 | 29 | 16 | 11 | 67 | 44 | 4 | 8 | 2 |



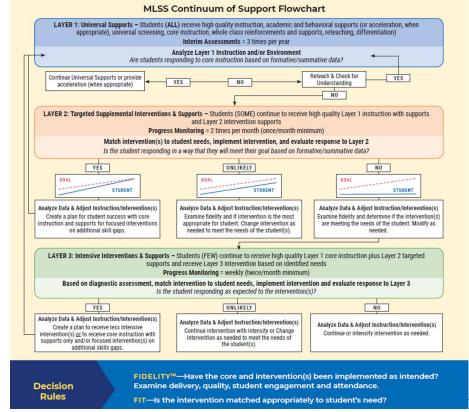
ALL MEANS ALL

- Under the previous RtI model:
 - students with disabilities could not get services until they reached Tier 3;
 - once a student was moved to Tier 3, a student would no longer receive Tier 1 & 2 interventions;
 - Students with disabilities who were also identified as English Learners (EL) would no longer receive Tier 1 & 2 interventions.
- MLSS directly confronts structures that stifle equity and limit opportunities for ALL
 populations by making intensive intervention systems available to ALL struggling learners
 and reducing the number of harmful pullout situations.



Moving Through the Layers

- As educators see a need for more intensive academic and behavioral supports it is essential to remember that:
 - students may now move up and down through the layers without having to "live" in one area;
 - though our students are diverse and have a variety of strengths and needs, they all have a right to access universal, Layer 1, interventions;
 - at each layer, interventions must have evidence to support their effectiveness.

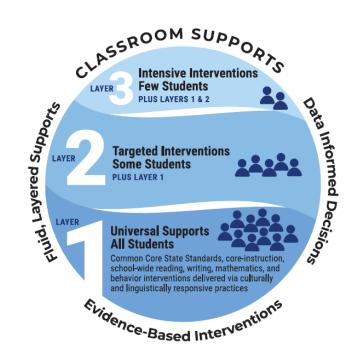




Classroom Supports

- Classroom supports are provided by the instructor in a responsive, data-driven, and efficient manner. Each of the three-layers of the MLSS takes part in the classroom.
 - High-quality core instruction and interventions
 - Data-driven instruction and data-informed decision making

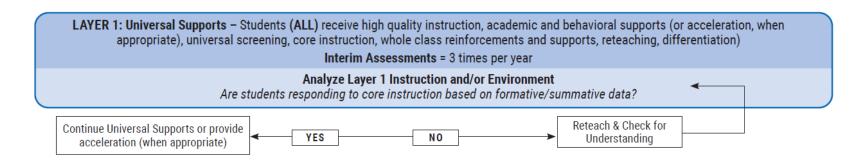
Note: All supports and interventions that live inside the classroom are supplemented by the school, health & wellness, community, and family supports in a fluid and consistent manner.





Layer 1: Supports for ALL students

6.21.1.9 (E) (1): In layer 1, the school and school district shall ensure that adequate *universal screening in the areas of general health and well-being, language proficiency status, and academic* levels of proficiency has been completed for each student enrolled. *If* data from universal screening and progress monitoring suggests that a particular student is in need of additional behavioral and academic supports, *then* teacher teams shall make a determination on whether or not the student would benefit from layer 2 interventions. *Teacher teams*, when making a determination for moving a student up or down a layer may consult with non-teacher staff such as *counselors, paraprofessionals, administrators, and ancillary personnel* to inform the teacher team on how to plan and implement relevant learner interventions in the general education environment.





Layer 1: Supports for ALL students



| Intervention Type | Intervention |
|-------------------|---|
| Academic | High quality differentiated core instruction |
| | High quality differentiated materials |
| | Differentiating work products to better meet student need |
| | Smaller group instruction |
| Behavior | 5:1 positive reinforcement to corrective feedback |
| | Effective anti-bullying policies and messaging |
| | Positive social interaction with each student each day |
| | Processes and procedures for common classroom functions |
| | Social contracts |
| | Character development curriculum |
| | Explicit behavior expectations for common areas |



Layer 1: Supports for ALL students

 All levels of educator leadership have a direct part in ensuring that Layer 1 (Universal) supports are provided to ALL students, especially students with IEPs, BIPs and AIPs

| wно | RESPONSIBILITIES | RESOURCES/TOOLS | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| District Leadership | Plan and provide training for classroom teachers and school leaders in the areas of high-quality instruction, elements of a good lesson, reteaching, and other reinforcements Assist school leaders in articulation and implementing appropriate, evidence-based Layer 1 reinforcements and supports with staff | <u>NMPED High Quality Instructional</u> <u>Materials Department</u> Florida Center for Reading Research | | |
| School Leader | Establish expectations for elements of high-quality instructional lessons Assist grade level/department teams in identifying, understanding, and articulating appropriate Layer 1 reinforcements and supports Provide non-evaluative feedback and support to teachers | NM Statewide Literacy Framework School Leadership Implementation Checklist (pps. 56-57) Planning for Effective Instruction | | |
| School Leadership Team | Support expectations for the elements of high-quality instructional lessons Assist grade level/department teams in identifying, understanding, and articulating appropriate Layer 1 reinforcements and supports Create a bank of Layer 1 reinforcements and supports | NM Statewide Literacy Framework School Leadership Implementation Checklist (pps. 56-57) Tools Planning for Effective Instruction Reinforcements (examples of) | | |
| Classroom Teacher | Identify and utilize effective whole group teaching skills Ensure high levels of engagement for all students Review, practice, and implement elements of high-quality instructional lessons Provide the best, first instruction | CAST—Universal Design for Learning Tool(s) Reinforcements (examples of) | | |
| PLCs | Identify, understand, articulate, and implement appropriate Layer 1 reinforcements and supports Collaborate with teams to identify what is working | Planning for Effective Instruction Florida Center for Reading Research | | |

Layer 1: Cultural Awareness and Inclusion

- **»** How knowledgeable is staff about the cultural and linguistic needs of the students in the school and in the classroom?
- >> How are cultural differences in this school respected, supported, and celebrated?
- >>> What are some ways that district and/or school staff collaborate and communicate with families and the local community?
- What community and/or parent organizations or resources can be leverage for cultural understanding?



Layer 1: Cultural Awareness and Inclusion

L1.8 Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction

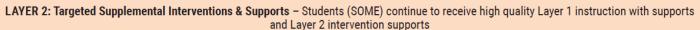
At **full implementation**, there are schoolwide implementation expectations for CLR instruction and behavior interventions. School staff validate, legitimize, and affirm the home culture and language of students. Additionally, school staff make intentional and consistent efforts to reverse negative stereotypes on non-dominant cultures and languages. There are connections between the home and school culture and expectations set for student success. Students determine the cultural and linguistic behaviors most appropriate for each situation. Implementation is systematically monitored by administrators.

| | wно | RESPONSIBILITIES | RESOURCES/TOOLS |
|---|------------------------------|--|---|
| | District Leadership | Provide systemic guidance and expectations for CLR Identify CLR requirements associated with educator effectiveness (NM Teacher Observation Tool with CLR practices highlighted) Communicate expectations for schools to implement CLR in the DASH plan | NMPED Culturally and Linguistic Responsive Instruction NMPED CLR Guidance Handbook |
| , | School Leader | Ensure school staff is knowledgeable in CLR practices Provide professional learning opportunities for CLR Promote a learning environment that is grounded in CLR practices Set the expectation(s) for CLR as part of educator effectiveness (teacher evaluation) | NMPED Culturally and Linguistic Responsive Instruction NMPED CLR Schooling by Design Tool |
| | School Leadership Team | Support the implementation of CLR practices Determine and deliver CLR professional learning in CLR Ensure students in need of support have been given equitable opportunities grounded in CLR principles | NMPED Culturally and Linguistic Responsive Instruction NMPED CLR Schooling by Design Tool |
| | Classroom Teacher PLCs | Understand students' cultural identities and how it relates to teacher's own culture Identify students' assets (school, home, community) Encourage students to share information about their lives and cultures Create a supportive and welcoming classroom environment Make connections with student's families16 | NMPED Culturally and Linguistic Responsive Instruction NMPED CLR Schooling by Design Tool |



Layer 2: Targeted Interventions for SOME students

6.21.1.9 (E) (2): In layer 2, a properly-constituted *teacher team* shall conduct the *student study process* and consider, implement, and document the effectiveness of *appropriate evidence-based interventions utilizing curriculum-based measures*. As part of this process, the teacher team shall address *culture and acculturation*, *socioeconomic status*, *possible lack of appropriate instruction* in reading or math, teaching and learning styles and instructional delivery mechanisms in order to rule out other possible causes of the student's educational difficulties.



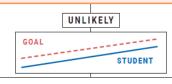
Progress Monitoring = 2 times per month (once/month minimum)

Match intervention(s) to student needs, implement intervention, and evaluate response to Layer 2 Is the student responding in a way that they will meet their goal based on formative/summative data?

GOAL STUDENT

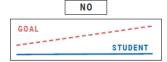
Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Create a plan for student success with core instruction and supports for focused interventions on additional skill gaps.



Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Examine fidelity and if intervention is the most appropriate for student. Change intervention as needed to meet the needs of the student(s).



Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Examine fidelity and determine if the intervention(s) are meeting the needs of the student. Modify as needed.



Layer 2: Targeted Interventions for SOME students



| Intervention Type | Intervention |
|-------------------|--|
| Academic | High quality supplemental instructional programs or curricula |
| | Push in staff supports to provide smaller group instruction, more time in small group or more frequent small group instruction |
| Behavior | Self-monitoring |
| | Token economies |
| | Counseling |
| | Small groups focused on social issues that may precipitate changes in behavior (e.g. divorce, grief, body image issues, anger management, etc) |
| | Daily behavior logs |
| | Behavior contracts |
| | Sensory tools |
| | Organizational tools |



Layer 3: Interventions for FEW students

6.21.1.9 (E) (3): In layer 3, students are provided with *intensive academic and behavioral supports* that are progress monitored on a bi-weekly basis. At the end of each progress monitoring cycle, the teacher team shall *evaluate the efficacy of the supports provided* using all available data. At that time, the teacher team may decide whether to *continue with the current support, change the intensity, or nature of support.* If progress monitoring data suggests that the learner has benefited from provided layer 3 supports and does not show concern for recidivism, than the teacher team may decide to *move the student out of receiving layer 3 supports.*

LAYER 3: Intensive Interventions & Supports – Students (FEW) continue to receive high quality Layer 1 core instruction plus Layer 2 targeted supports and receive Layer 3 intervention based on identified needs

Progress Monitoring = weekly (twice/month minimum)

Based on diagnostic assessment, match intervention to student needs, implement intervention and evaluate response to Layer 3

Is the student responding as expected to the intervention(s)?

YES

Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Create a plan to receive less intensive intervention(s) or to receive core instruction with supports only and/or focused intervention(s) on additional skills gaps.

UNLIKELY

Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Continue intervention with intensity or Change intervention as needed to meet the needs of the student(s).

NO.

Analyze Data & Adjust Instruction/Intervention(s)

Continue or intensify intervention as needed.



Layer 3: Intensive Interventions for FEW students



| Intervention Type | Intervention |
|-------------------|---|
| Academic | Pull out services to meet individualized needs |
| | Longer, more frequent, smaller group, or otherwise more intensive interventions |
| Behavior | Continuous adult supervision |
| | Social stories |
| | Individual schedule |
| | Structured breaks |
| | Communication log with family |
| | Proximity control |
| | Behavioral Contract |



SAT Overview

- What is staying the same?
 - All of the requirements for SAT in NMSA & NMAC
- What has changed?
 - What has changed is the method to which students get to SAT:
 - ✓ PLC Referrals: PLCs are the first line of defense against of the overreferral of students to SAT and Special Education
- Are NMPED approved forms required for SAT?
 - No. LEAs (districts & state-authorized charters) may use whichever forms they have developed that best meet the needs of their students and teachers.
 - Sample forms are provided in the Supplemental SAT Guide (MLSS Webpage)

SAT within MLSS

SAT is only required for the situations specified by law:

- » Obvious disability
- » Gifted referral
- » Student has been retained
- » Student is in danger of being retained (must follow NMAC requirements)
- » Student has been exited from Special Education
- » Student has been restrained two or more times in a 30-day period

A parent who requests his/her child be in SAT or referred for an evaluation of a learning disability

A student can be referred to SAT at any layer in MLSS

Targeted interventions can be accessed at any layer

Based on data, a teacher can adjust or change an intervention that is not effective at any time

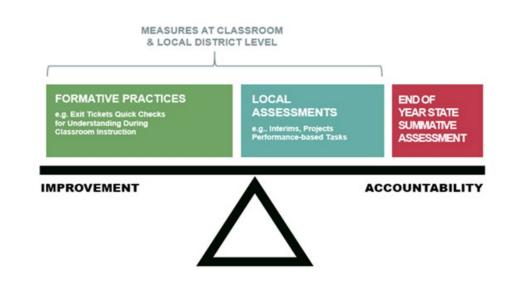
Accommodations and interventions can be included in the Student Support Plan (Academic Improvement Plan or Behavior Intervention Plan)

Teacher PLCs collaborate weekly/biweekly to study student performance and create school-wide supports for interventions instead of just a SAT team doing this



Balanced Assessment System

- Gauge current status of student achievement status by using multiple measures / sources of evidence
- Assessments should not be used to withhold grade-level content.



Assessment Resources

Istation

K-2 Math
K-3 ELA, SLA
formative progress
monitoring tools

Cognia

Math, ELA, Science Formative Item Sets & Interims in Math and ELA

College Board High School

Math & ELA: Khan Academy, SSQB item bank, released operational forms

Dynamic Learning Maps

3-High School
Significantly cognitive
disabled students

Math, ELA, Science Instructionally Embedded Formatives

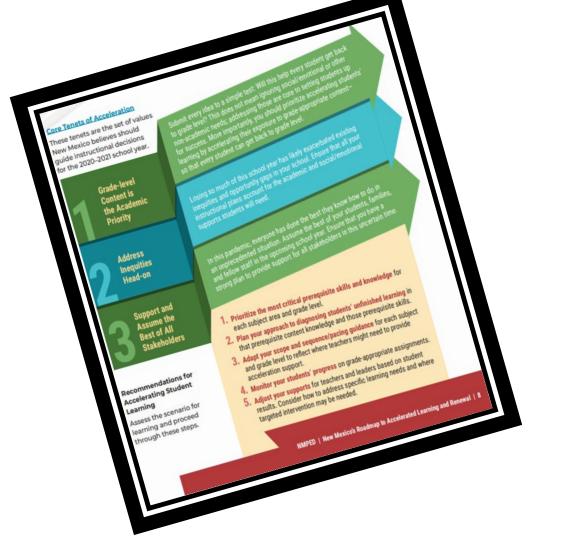
Mindset Shift

Remediation

- Instruction focused on repetition and drill on very specific skills
- Instruction is separate from the current grade level content
- Instruction is connected to skills from previous years
- Focus is below grade level rather than at grade level

Acceleration

- Instruction is targeted to supporting students for success with on-grade level content
- Instruction targets what students need at the current time to tackle the grade level standard
- Instruction prepares students for new learning with a strong pre-teach related to on grade-level standard
- Missing skills and concepts from previous grade levels are addressed in the context of on-grade level learning





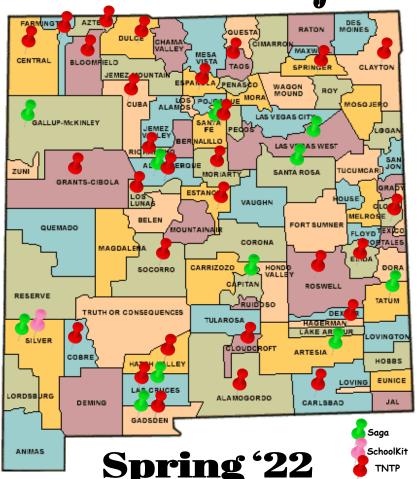
NM Instructional Acceleration
Guidance:

https://webnew.ped.state. nm.us/wpcontent/uploads/2020/07/ NMPED_SupportDoc_Ins tructionalAcceleration-1.pdf Research suggests that four key resources are critical to students' success and are correlated to better academic outcomes.

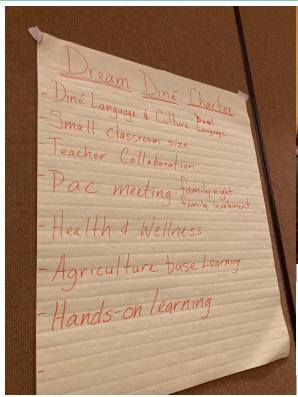
These must be built into the daily instructional environment:

- Consistent opportunities to work on GRADE-APPROPRIATE ASSIGNMENTS
- Students need consistent access to STRONG INSTRUCTION that lets students do most of the thinking in lesson
- A sense of **DEEP ENGAGEMENT** in what they are learning
- Teachers who hold HIGH EXPECTATIONS for students and truly believe they can meet gradelevel standards.

ACCELerate NM Projects

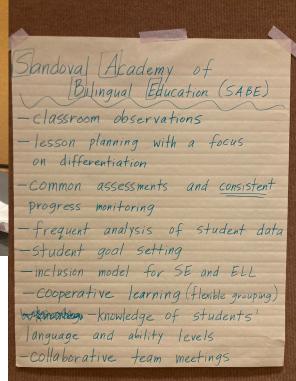


ACCELerate NM – Structure of Supports









School Supports

- School supports provide educational professionals with the climate and systems necessary to address student needs within the classroom:
 - Informed and effective school leadership and systems
 - Collaboration and processes for providing a layered continuum of supports
 - Positive school culture and climate





School Supports – PLCs

- Teachers and other team members, such as a school counselor and specialists in different areas, meet to identify students in need of interventions and determine what interventions should be used.
- This helps make support for individual students part of every classroom, rather than instructional interventions taking place only in isolated environments.
- As teachers systematically apply supports, collect data, and monitor results, a team meets regularly to discuss student progress.
- **Dufour:** The school should be a PLC, not just have PLCs





School Supports – PLCs

- Collaborative teacher meetings are purposeful, data-driven, and supported by district and school administrators.
- PLCs are inclusive of support staff and meet to identify students in need of interventions and determine what interventions should be used.
- As teachers systematically apply supports, collect data, and monitor results, a team meets regularly to discuss student progress.

| w | УНО | RESPONSIBILITIES | RESOURCES/TOOLS |
|------|-------------------------|--|---|
| | strict dership | Demonstrate commitment to continuous improvement through participation in training and data-driven action to improve instructional practice Align expectations and requirements across the district to improve efficiency, consistency, and effectiveness of instruction Provide a framework for collaborative teacher teams that serves as the district model for schools | |
| | chool eader | Promote a culture of continuous improvement and collaboration Establish expectations and designate specific time for teachers to collaborate, review student data, and plan for instructional strategies/ preventions/interventions Ensure agendas are focused on student monitoring with actionable outcomes to guide teacher decision-making Participate in the data meeting (at least twice per month) | Template for PLC Meeting |
| Lead | chool dership eam | Review data regularly to ensure effectiveness of Layers 1, 2 and 3 and evaluate effectiveness of school's systems Discuss data and monitor student progress (at least twice per month) Ensure there is guidance and support on the use of data for teachers Develop an agenda that can be used by grade level/PLC teams Support classroom teachers with solutions for struggling students | • Intensive Intervention • Sample Agenda • Template for PLC Meeting |
| 0.00 | ssroom acher | Determine instructional practices/interventions that are aligned to NM Content Standards and have high yield outcomes Collaborate with teams to identify best practices Implement instructional practices that are culturally and linguistically responsive for ALL learners Discuss, monitor, and record student progress at least twice monthly | Template for PLC Meeting |
| P | PLCs | Provide feedback to SLT on effectiveness of PLC structure | |



Wrap Around Supports

- Students often require supports that exist outside of the school walls. Therefore, when
 addressing the academic and behavior needs of students, it is imperative that we consider
 the following:
 - Health and Wellness Supports
 - Family Supports
 - Community Supports

• **Note:** It is important to remember that these are SUPPORTS to the interventions that we provide in the classroom. The responsibility to address a student's needs lives within the walls of the school.



Health and Wellness Supports

- Coordinated school health programs provide a collaborative framework for linking health and education:
 - Partnerships with community-based organizations to enhance learning
 - Health education and life skills
 - Healthy and safe environment
 - Social and emotional wellbeing
 - Staff wellness
 - Family, school, and community partnerships
 - Health services
 - Physical education and activity
 - School-based and school-linked health care services.





Family Supports

- Family support and engagement supports student success by providing parents with strategies and skills to support their children in meeting learning targets:
 - Quiet time at home
 - Volunteering at school
 - Reading to students
 - Communicating with teachers
 - Parent teacher conferences
 - Family stability
 - Case management





Community Supports

- Community schools address the holistic needs of the student and the community at large:
 - Integrated student supports
 - Expanded and enriched learning time and opportunities
 - Active family and community engagement
 - Collaborative leadership and practice



Resources

- Resources available on our updated webpage:
 - Manuals and Guidance:
 - ✓ MLSS Manual
 - ✓ MLSS Implementation Guide
 - ✓ SAT Forms & Process
 - Trainings, Resources and Tools:
 - √ Four MLSS Canvas Courses
 - Designed for all stakeholders and educators
 - ✓ Updated MLSS Self-Assessment
 - ✓ MLSS Continuum of Support Flowchart
 - ✓ Updated MLSS Implementation Rubric

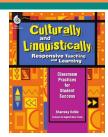


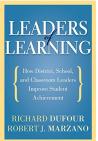
Resources – Continued

 Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning (2nd Edition)(2017)

 Leaders of Learning: How District, School, and Classroom Leaders Improve Student Achievement (2011)

Revisiting Professional Learning Communities at Work: Proven Insights for Sustained, Substantive School Improvement (2nd Edition)(2021)









2022-2023 Principles of Practice

- Collaborating with education leaders to continuously refine and improve the MLSS framework
- Building teacher collaborative teams (PLC) to act as the first line of defense against the over-referral of students to SAT and Special Education
- Focus on accelerated learning practices to ensure equitable access to grade-level instruction and resources
 - "Grade-level standards are the floor, not the ceiling"
- Implementation of high-dosage tutoring to support Layer 2 & Layer 3 interventions
- Use of the New Mexico Instructional Scope (NMIS) to ensure that instructional planning utilizes the principals of the Universal Design for Learning (UDL)



Community-Centered Collaboration & Coaching

Access this survey to tell how your thoughts and how we can best collaborate to ensure MLSS meets the needs of your community, school, teachers, and students!

- Assign a community member to act as the MLSS Coach
- Provide collaboration and guidance on how to improve the MLSS
- Clarifying guidance and assist schools with understanding the MLSS Self-Assessment
- Developing teacher PLCs at community schools
- Create implementation plans
- ...and much more!



https://tinyurl.com/2p94mswd



Thank YOU - Q&A

Resources:

- Please access the MLSS Webpage (link below) for the most up-to-date guidance on MLSS and related programs:
 - **√** https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/multi-layered-system-of-supports-mlss/

Contact:

- Kenneth Stowe
 - **√** 505-412-9979
 - ✓ kenneth.stowe@state.nm.us

