# SLPs: Making Sense of MTSS – A System of Supports for ALL Students

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# Disclosures

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**Financial  Beaufort County School District, Salaried**

**Non-Financial: ASHA Member**

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# Learning Outcomes

Explore the MTSS framework for early identification of students who may benefit SLP services.

Learn strategies for collaboration between SLPs and other educators to provide targeted support.

Identify how SLPs can track student progress and adjust interventions as needed.

# How did we get here?

**“Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them and it will change your life forever.”**

Amy Poehler

# How do I feel?

**Dread** | **Overwhelmed** | **Anxious**

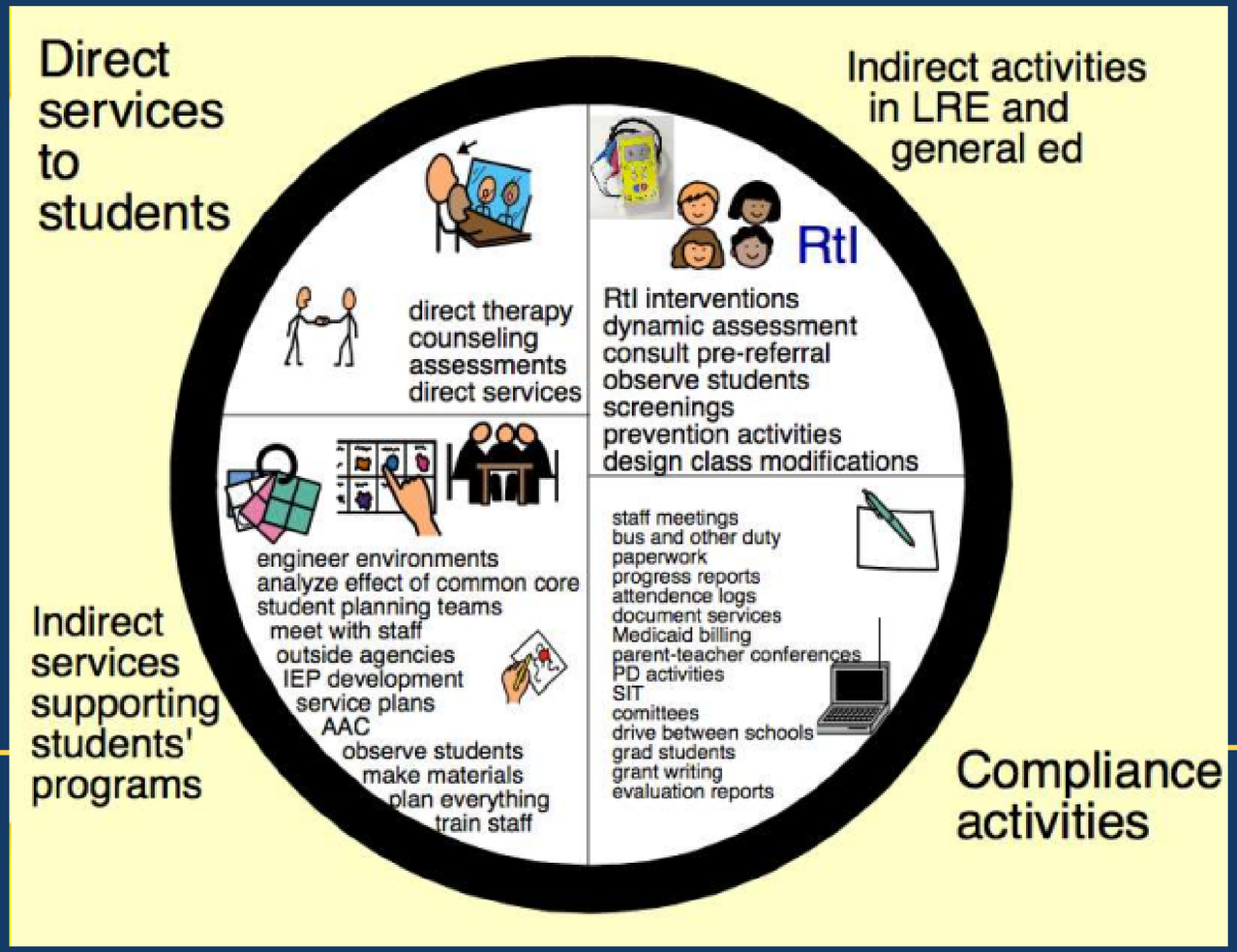
S P E E C H

# It isn’t just for Special Education anymore…

# Role of SLPs in Schools

- SLPs play a crucial role in schools by providing language and communication interventions to students who struggle with speech, language, social communication, and literacy skills. ASHA reiterates in it's 2010 Professional Statement how evolving our role has become.

# ASHA Workload Activity Cluster




Adapted from: Perry Flynn, Professor UNCG, Consultant to NC-DPI

# What is MTSS?

MTSS stands for Multi-Tiered System of Supports.

MTSS is a comprehensive framework for addressing the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all students.

MTSS utilizes a data-driven, problem-solving approach to provide targeted interventions and supports to students.

# SLPs & MTSS

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) can be confusing, but with the right resources, every student can benefit from this approach to education.

By implementing Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) in speech-language therapy, we can provide equitable opportunities and resources for all students to succeed.

# Why is MTSS important?

MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) is important because it benefits ALL students by providing a framework for early intervention and support.

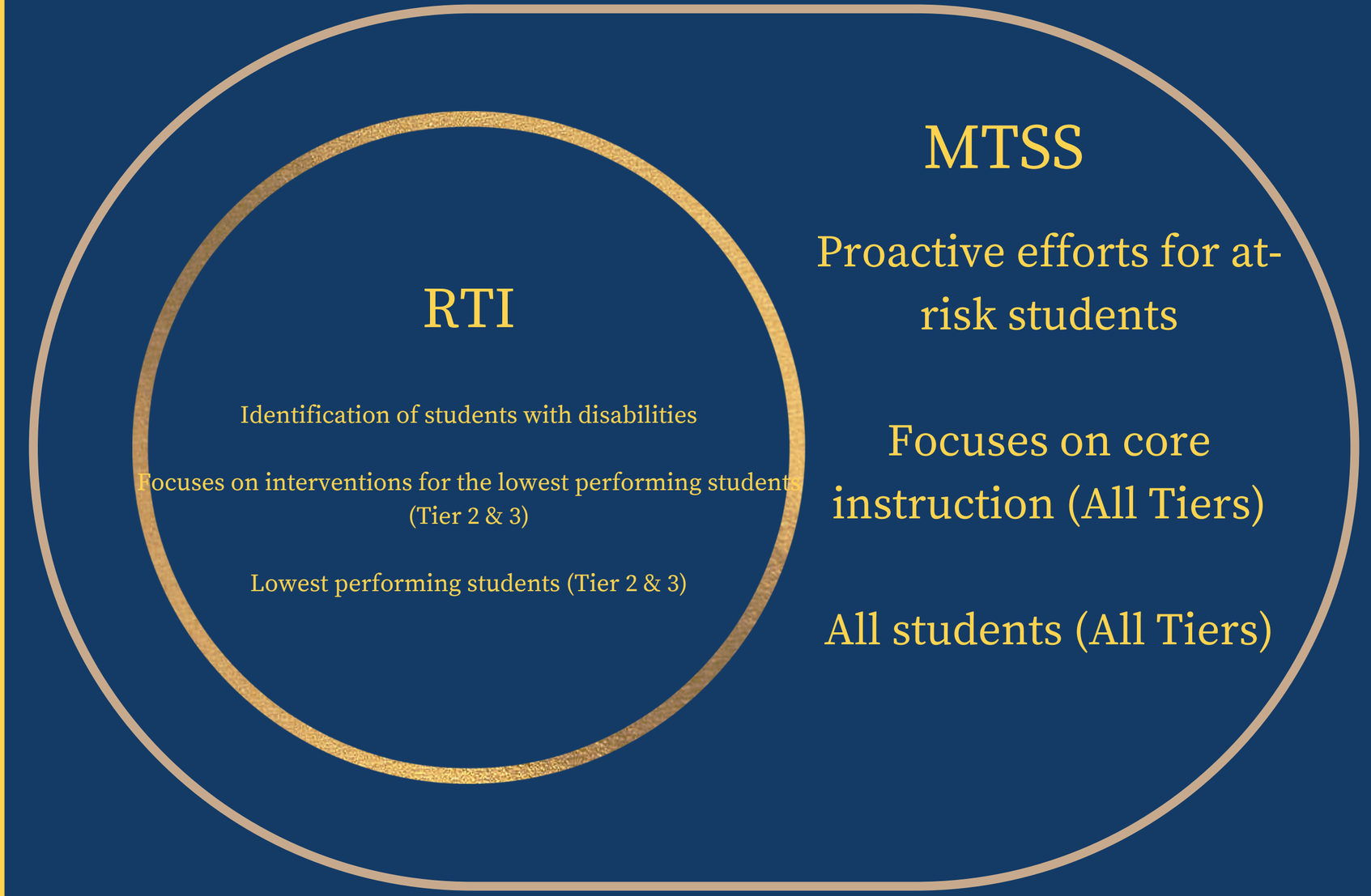



Figure 1-1. The relationship between RTI & MTSS
(Mulit-tiered Systems of Support: Implementation Tools for Speech-Language Pathologists in Education)

# Our Approach

We believe in a proactive and collaborative approach to ensure all students succeed. Our MTSS framework is designed to support all learners.

# Benefits of MTSS for ALL students

MTSS provides a framework for early identification and support of students' academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs. It promotes student success and prevents failure.

# Benefits of SLPs involvement in MTSS

SLPs provide valuable expertise in identifying and supporting students with speech and language needs in a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). They can help prevent academic failure and improve student outcomes.

# TIME STUDY

## Traditional Model

### TWO HOURS
- TEACHER REFERRAL
- CHART REVIEW
- SCREEN THE STUDENT
- ATTEND RTI MEETING: **REFER FOR EVALUATION**

### SEVEN HOURS
- EVALUATE STUDENT (2 HOURS)
- WRITE EVALUATION (1 HOUR)
- WRITE IEP (1 HOUR)
- ATTEND ELIGIBILITY & INITIAL IEP MEETING (2 HOURS)
- RELATED PAPERWORK, COPIES, FILINGS (1 HOUR)

### NINE HOURS
- INITIATE THERAPY

## VS.

## MTSS

### TWO HOURS
- TEACHER REFERRAL
- CHART REVIEW
- SCREEN THE STUDENT
- ATTEND RTI MEETING : **INITIATE INTERVENTION**

### SEVEN HOURS
- FLEXIBLE SERVICE DELIVERY
- 20 MINUTES 2 OR 3 X/MONTH FOR 4-5 MONTHS (4 HOURS)
- HOME PROGRAM (1 HOUR)
- MONITOR PROGRAM, RECORD DATA (1 HOUR)
- TEACHER COLLABORATION, GENERALIZE SKILL (1 HOUR)

### NINE HOURS
- GOAL MET
- INITIATE NEW GOAL OR...
- DISCONTINUE MTSS

# Our services

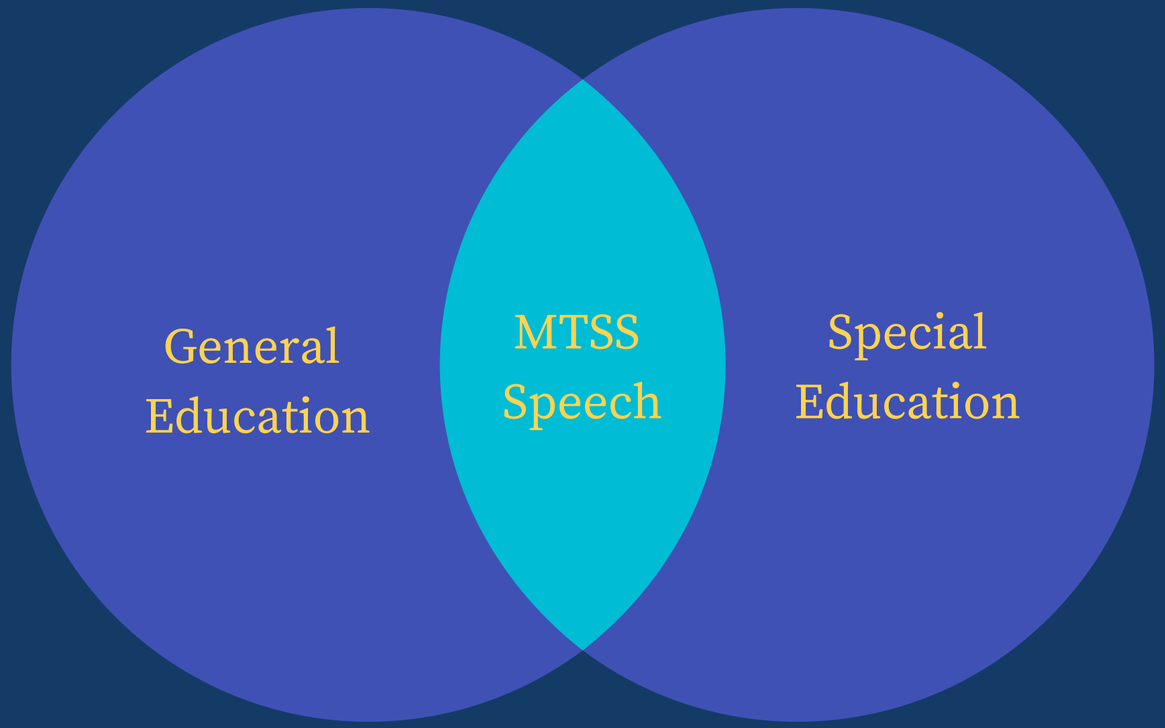
“Rather than thinking of MTSS as adding more to an already full plate, SLP’s might think about it as the impetus for getting to a different place – an opportunity for doing things differently in school settings.”

Barbara J. Ehren, Ed.D, CCC-SLP, BCS – CL

Identification and assessment of speech, language, and communication disorders.

Development and implementation of evidence-based interventions and strategies.

Collaboration with teachers, families, and other professionals to support students' academic and social success.




# Connected Services

Our SLP team members are highly trained professionals, dedicated to providing the best communication support for all students.

# MTSS for SLPS

(Guide for fluency and articulation)

**Tier 1-Universal Support (all students)**
**Educate, Collaborate, Consult**

- Teacher shares concern with parent
- Teacher completes input prescreening form (SLP-MTSS 2)
- SLP observe child in classroom (cannot single out)

Tier 2-Targeted Intervention (some students)
Consult
(approximately 6-8 weeks)

Did not meet

Met Criterion

provide resources and strategies to the teacher

Contact RTI coordinator-permission to screen-RTI-8 form

SCREEN

Met Criterion

provide resources and strategies to the teacher

Did not meet

<u>Considerations</u>
? Impact Intelligibility
? Educational Impact
? Compare to Same-Age Peers
? Developmental
? Language Difference
? Stimulable

Articulation

- exhibits few sound errors
- stimulable
- common (typical) sound substitutions

BEGIN INTERVENTION

OR

TIER 3-Intensive Intervention

- numerous sound errors
- non developmental
- non stimulable
- atypical sound errors

REFER
begin intervention to support student

Fluency

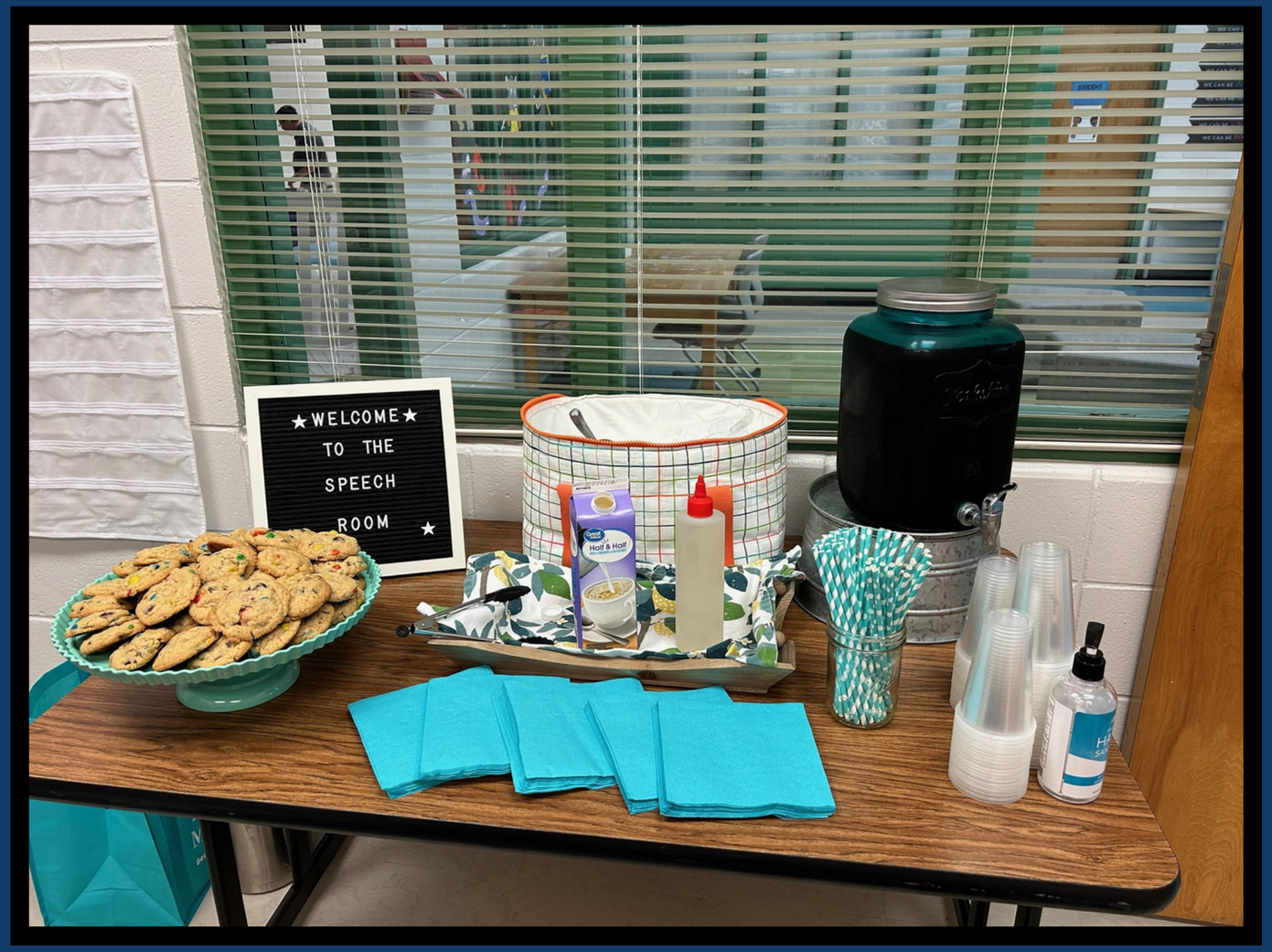
- Mild-begin interventions (tier 2)

OR

TIER 3
- Moderate to severe-refer and begin interventions

# MTSS in Practice

## Tier 1 and Tier 2




# Coffee Drop-in for Colleagues

*Making connections for Tier 1*

# More Tier 1 ideas...

Resource available for FREE at www.heykidswhatsfordinner.com/family-dinner-conversation-starters/

# Tier 1: Talk Like a Pirate Lesson!

**“I just wanted to share a little MTSS success. At our MTSS in-service, Elizabeth shared the idea of going into classrooms for Talk Like a Pirate Day and I loved that idea! I developed a little lesson about production of "aarrrr" with some fun activities and offered it to our PreK and K teachers and they were very receptive. Yesterday, I dressed as a pirate and went in to do lessons with all 4 of our PreK classes and 3 of our kindergarten classes and had a ball! Such a good way to get in some Tier 1 interventions with these groups! 🙂”**
**-Summer Tucker**

# Student Motivation!

## How can this work for a fluency student in a Tier 2?

# Tier 3

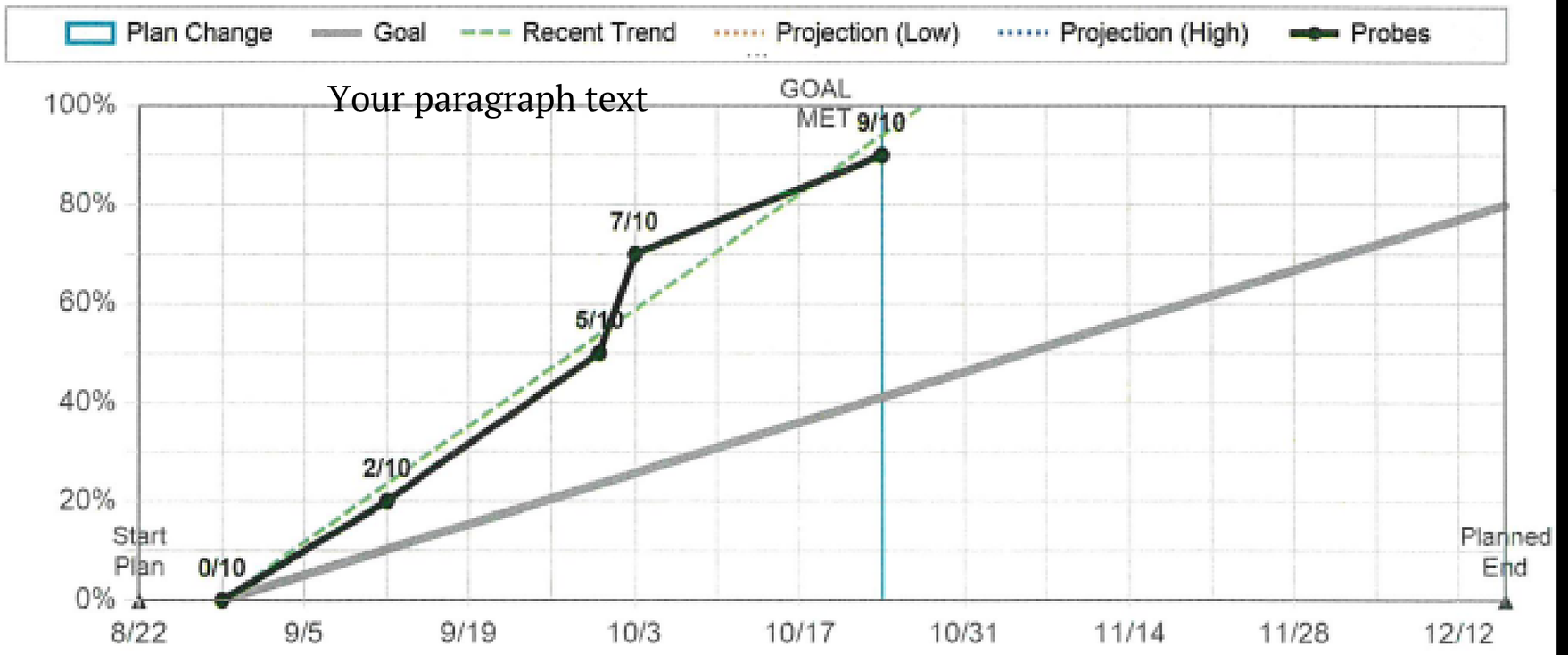
# Tier 2

## Language Delay Goals Progress

Targeted Goal Achievement Date: 12/16/2022 or earlier

| Goal | Baseline | Target | Progress | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L Sound | 0 out of 10 | 8 out of 10 | 9 out of 10 | Met |

**Goal 1) L Sound - Target: 8 out of 10** **Status: Met**



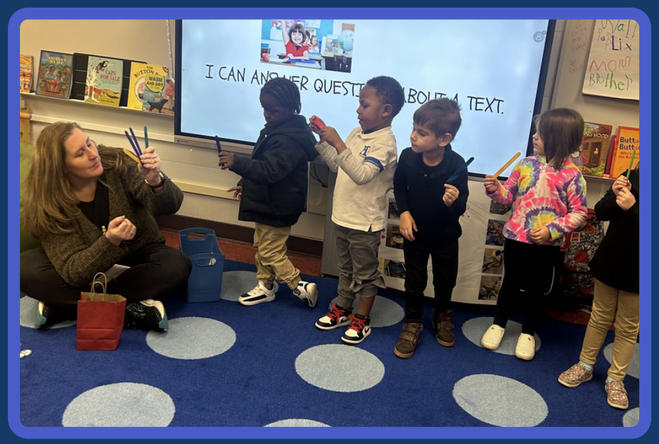

Your paragraph text

# Tier 1

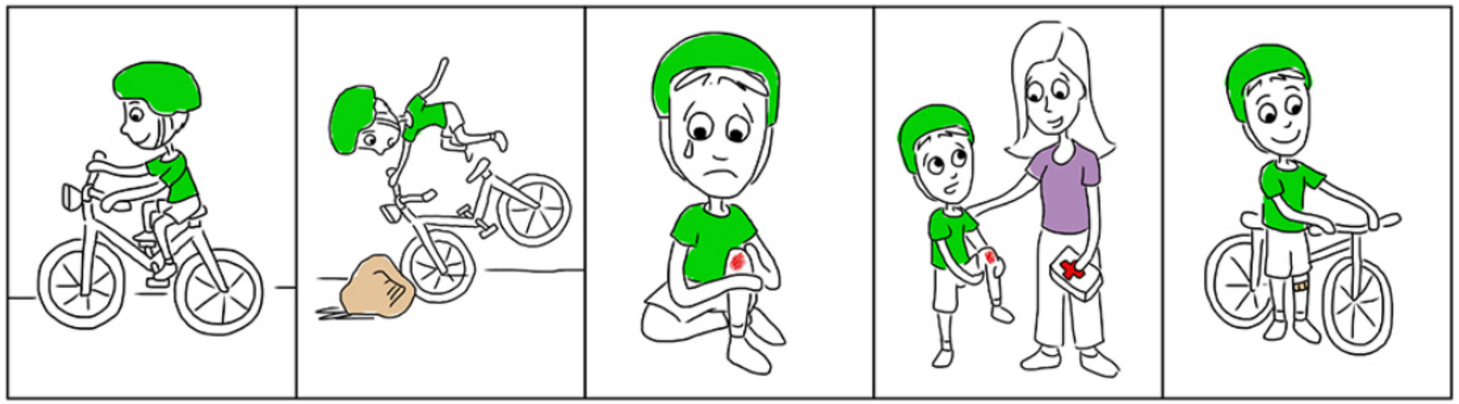
Practical Language Strategies
For Early Childhood Teachers
Betsy Strickland MSR, CCC-SLP

Speech
Spoken Language
Understanding
Attention & Listening
Play
Pre-verbal

# Tier 1-Story Champs

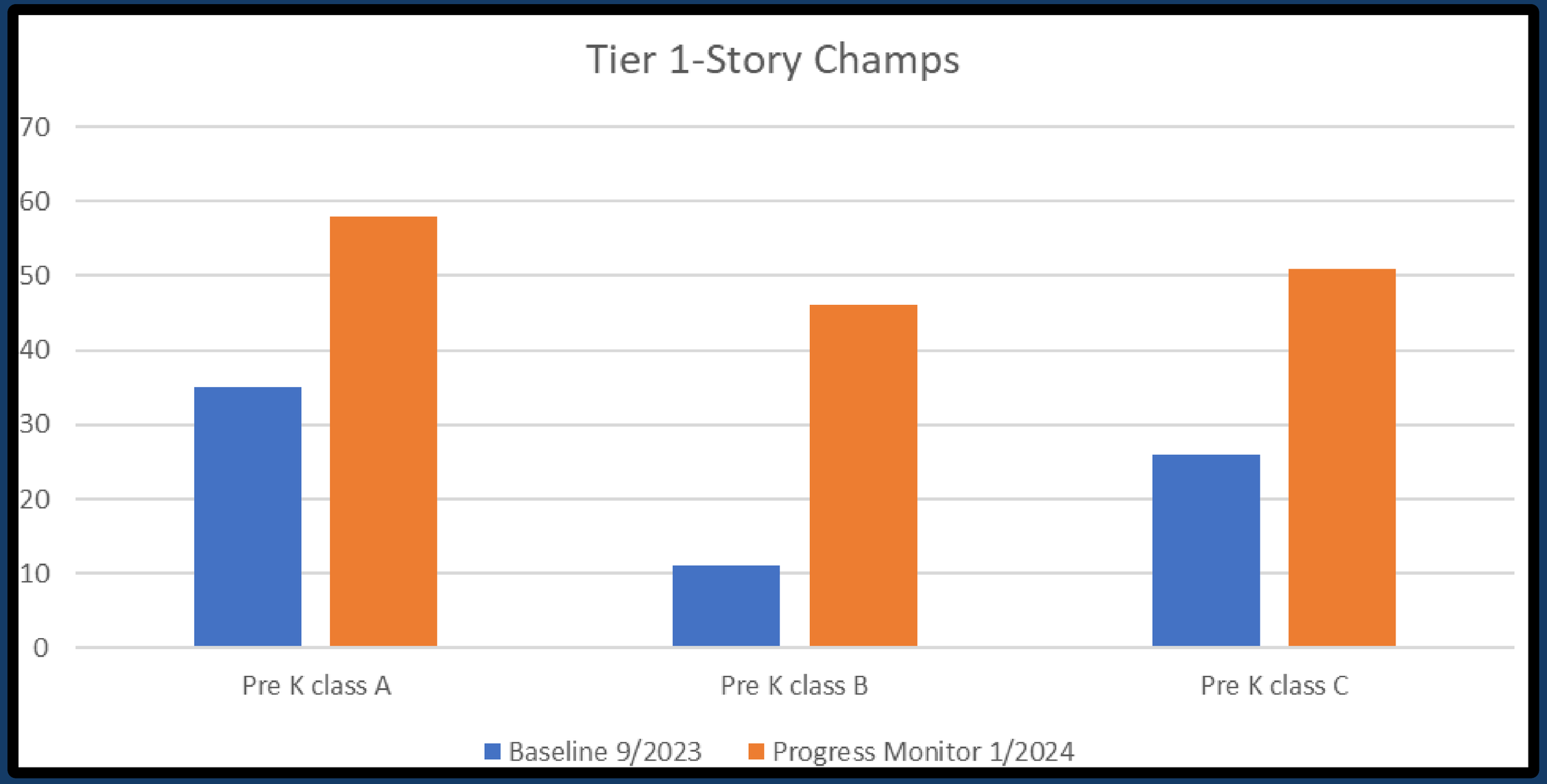


# Story Champs

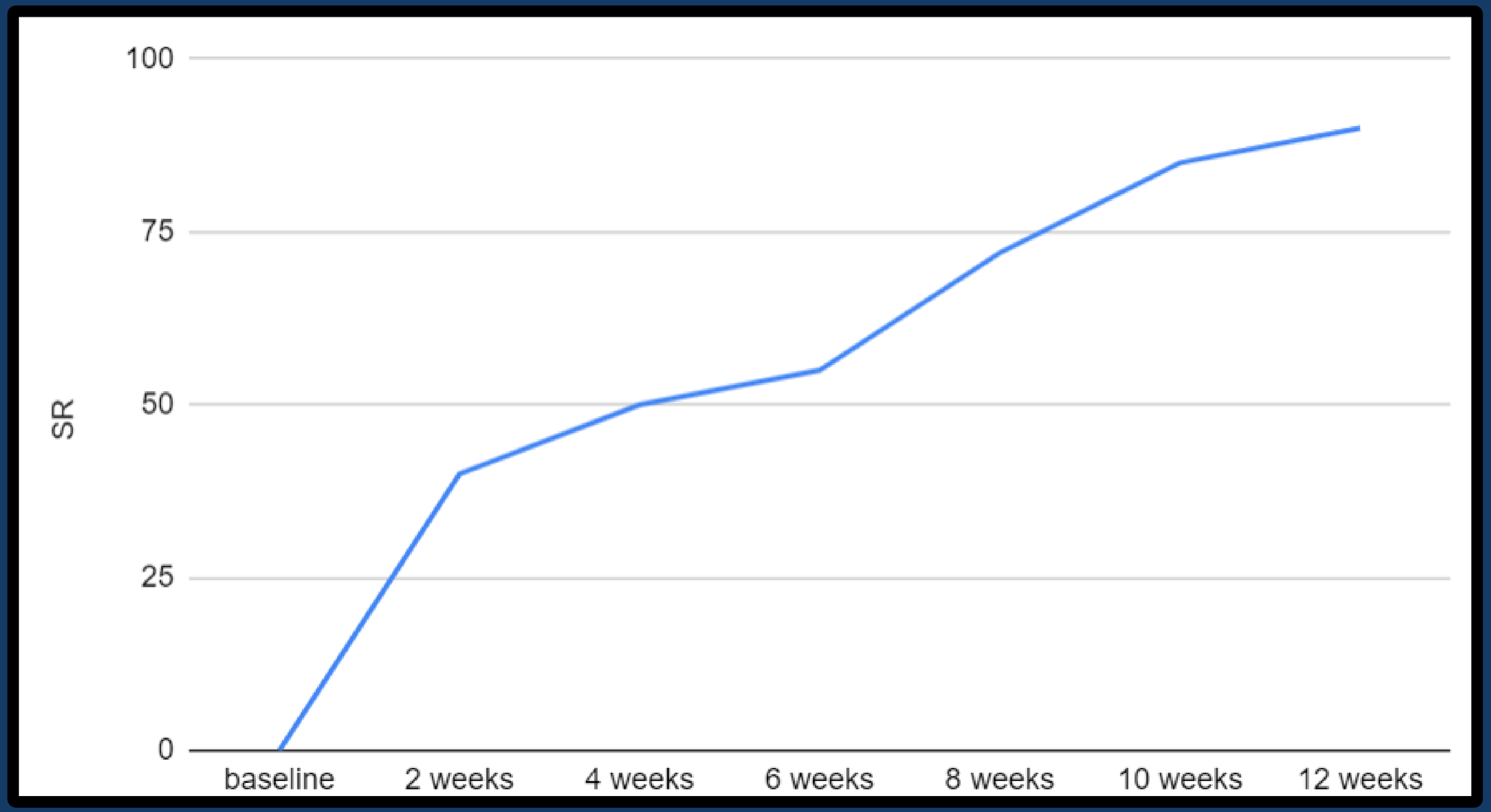


https://www.languagedynamicsgroup.com/story-champs-2/story-champs-video-resources/

# The results are in……



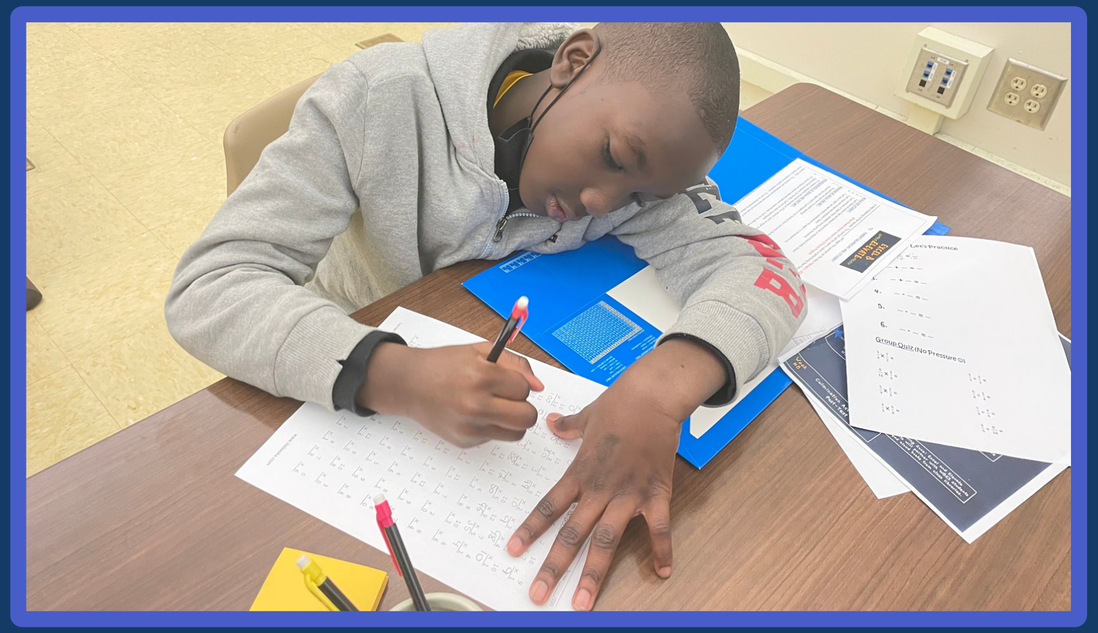
# Tier 2-Intense articulation intervention

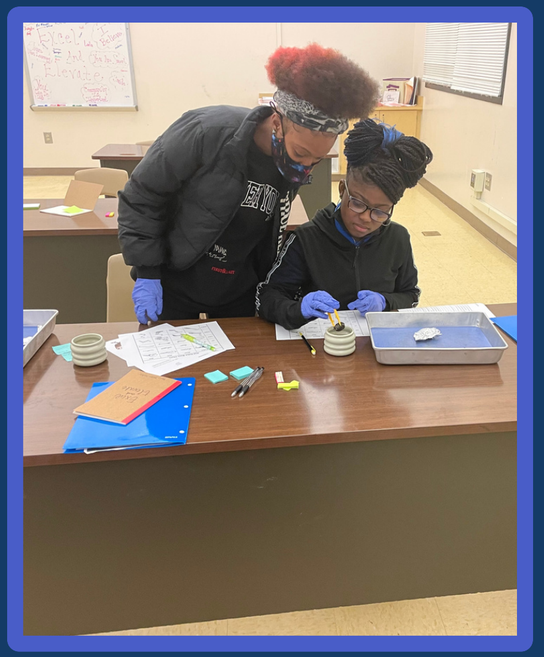



30 min/wk in small group

# Tier 1 Excel & Elevate

Dynamic Assessment informing MTSS





# Tier 1

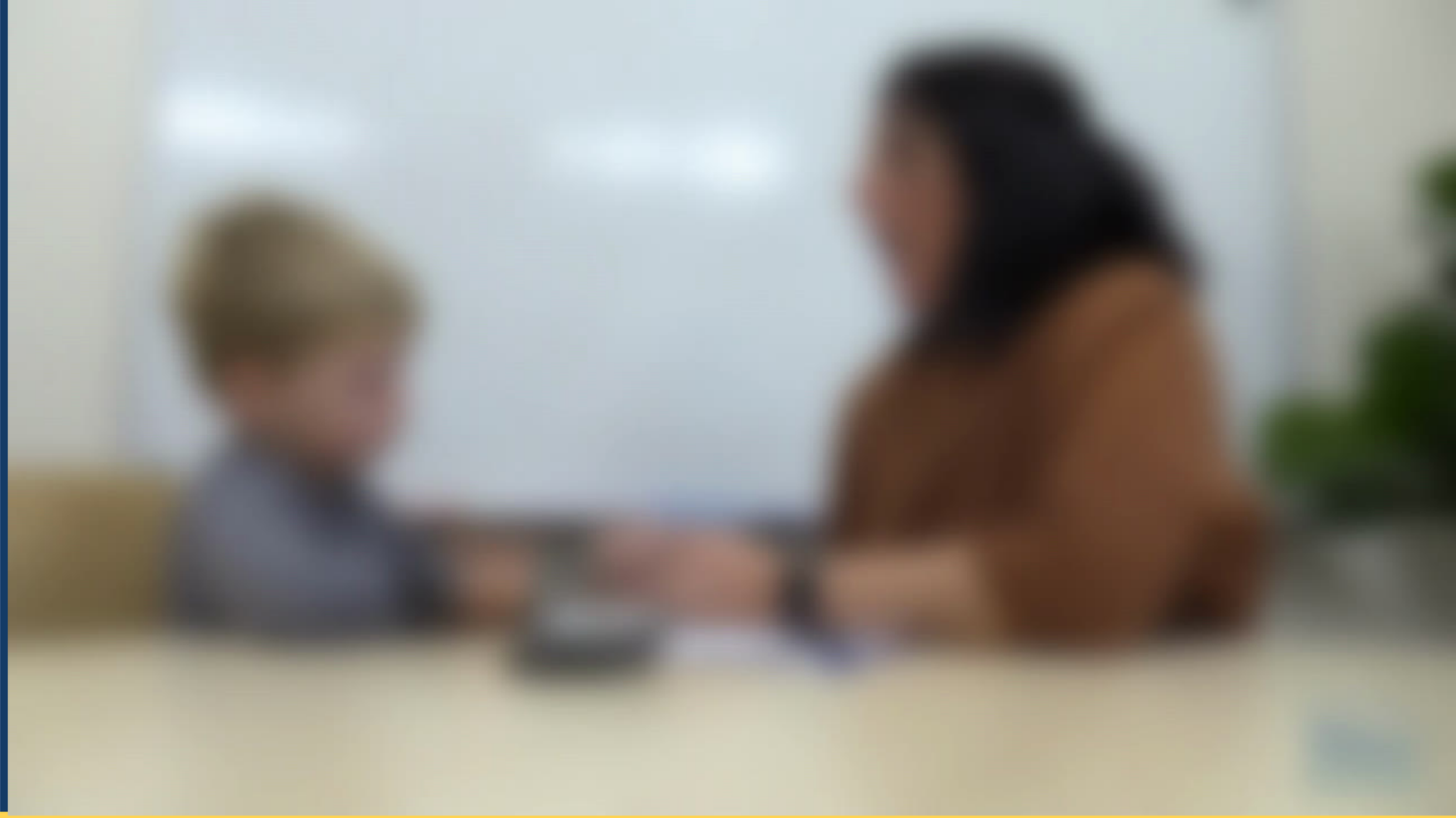
## Middle School Vocabulary Program

# Girl Power

## Tier 1: 5th Grade STEM Project

STEM Project for fifth grade girls who collaborated with a local high scl to learn more about 3 D Printing.

# Parting Thoughts....



**“MTSS can be very successful based on how well the school team works together and organizes the process.”**

**Wendy Walsh. CCC-SLP**

**St. Helena Elementary**

**Beaufort County School District**

# Power of One

# Thank you for allowing us to share our knowledge on multi-tiered systems of support and its benefits for all students.

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# Resources

# Resources

## Articles

Flynn, P. (2010). New Service Delivery Models: Connecting SLPs with Teachers and Curriculum.

McKenna, M., Castillo, J., et.al., (2011). Speech-language pathologists involvement in multi-tiered systems of support questionnaire: Advances in inter-professional practice.

Meaux, A., et al., (2020). Morphological Knowledge: Opportunities for collaboration through multi-tiered system of supports.

Meaux, A., Norris, J. (2018). Curriculum-Based Language Interventions: What, Who, Why, Where and How?

Milewski, Erin (2023). How an SLP supports students with classroom-based interventions.

Nunez, Loretta (2021). Achieving quality and improved outcomes through inter-professional collaboration.

Sylvan, L., et.al., (2023). A Balancing Act: How school-based speech-language pathologists navigate their efforts related to Individual Education Plans and multi-tiered systems of support.

Sylvan, L. (2023). Overcoming the research-practice gap: Key considerations for speech-language pathologists related to multi-tiered systems of support.

Sylvan, Lesley (2021). New Facebook Group focuses on MTSS.

Sylvan, Lesley (2018). Tiers to communication success: How can SLPs join in MTSS framework many schools are adopting to catch students' special education needs earlier and provide levels of intervention.

## Resources for Speech Sound Treatment

Sexton, S., & Seth, L. (2009). 5-minute therapy: An alternative service delivery model for speech sound disorders. http://www.5minutekids.com/ResearchArticle

SLP Toolkit. https://www.slptoolkit.com/blog/rti-and-mtss-for-speech-sound-disorders

Speedy Speech. www.speedyspeechtherapy.com

## Resources for Language Treatment

ASHA Product - RTI in Action: Oral Language Activities for K–2 Classrooms. A practical response to intervention (RTI) activity book with a focus on oral language.

ASHA Product - RTI in Action: Grades 3–5: Oral and Written Language Activities for the Common Core State Standards. This book and accompanying CD provide background, activities, and resources to incorporate the CCSS into your work with students. Watch an interview with ASHA's former Director of School Services, Deborah Dixon, for more information on the product.

Podcast: Essential Elements of MTSS for Language. https://www.slpnerdcast.com/episodes/mtss

## Resources for Fluency Treatment

ASHA Digital Toolkit: Stuttering 101 https://www.asha.org/public/stuttering-toolkit

Overall Assessment of the Speaker’s Experience of Stuttering (OASES) https://stutteringtherapyresources.com/pages/oases

Stuttering Help https://www.stutteringhelp.org