

What is Response to Intervention (RtI)?

Response to Intervention (RtI) is a model that we are using throughout our schools in the Ken-Ton School District. As defined by New York State Education Department (NYSED), “RtI is a process used in schools to provide well-designed instruction, closely monitor all students’ progress and provide additional instructional supports to students who are struggling. This additional help is to assist those students to keep up with learning in their classrooms, particularly in the areas of reading and math.”¹

Response to Intervention is one way to ensure all learners achieve their full potential. If a child is struggling academically, the RtI model exists to help determine if the struggle is an *instructional* deficit, rather than a *learning* deficit. If the student isn’t responsive to the core instruction in the classroom, s/he may benefit from receiving the instruction in a different way to be more successful. We are currently applying the RtI model to the areas of Reading and Math in our elementary schools.

Universal screening tools are utilized three times per year with students at the elementary level to identify students who are not making academic progress at expected rates in reading and math. Based on the results of the screening, students may qualify different levels of instructional support, also referred to as “tiers.” The specific needs of each student are addressed through increasingly intensive levels of targeted, focused instruction. Tier 1 instruction is delivered by the classroom teachers, while higher-tiered interventions (Tier 2 and 3) are delivered by reading and math interventionists in a small group setting.

Individual student progress and achievement are carefully monitored and revisited on a cyclical basis to determine if the instruction that is being delivered and the interventions being used are positively affecting student learning outcomes. We work to continually identify, plan, and deliver instruction that best meets student needs.

If you wish to know more about RtI, please contact your child’s teacher, interventionist, or feel free to visit any of the following websites:

- <http://www.rti4success.org/>
- <https://nysrti.org/parents-and-families/>
- <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/RTI/parent.htm>
- <http://www.nysrti.org/>



¹ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/RTI/parent.htm>