

SERVING OUR STUDENTS: RTII, SPECIAL EDUCATION, & 504 PLANS

**Penn Hills Charter School of Entrepreneurship
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WHY DO STUDENTS NEED SERVED INDIVIDUALLY?

Students who struggle in school may need individualized help to help them succeed. Individual assistance in academics comes in 3 forms:

- ~Child Study Program/Response to Instruction & Intervention (RTII)
- ~504 Plans
- ~Special Education



Learning Knows No Bounds

Fair Isn't

everyone getting
the same thing.

Fair Is

everyone getting
what they need in order
to be

Successful!

WHAT IS CHILD STUDY/RTII?

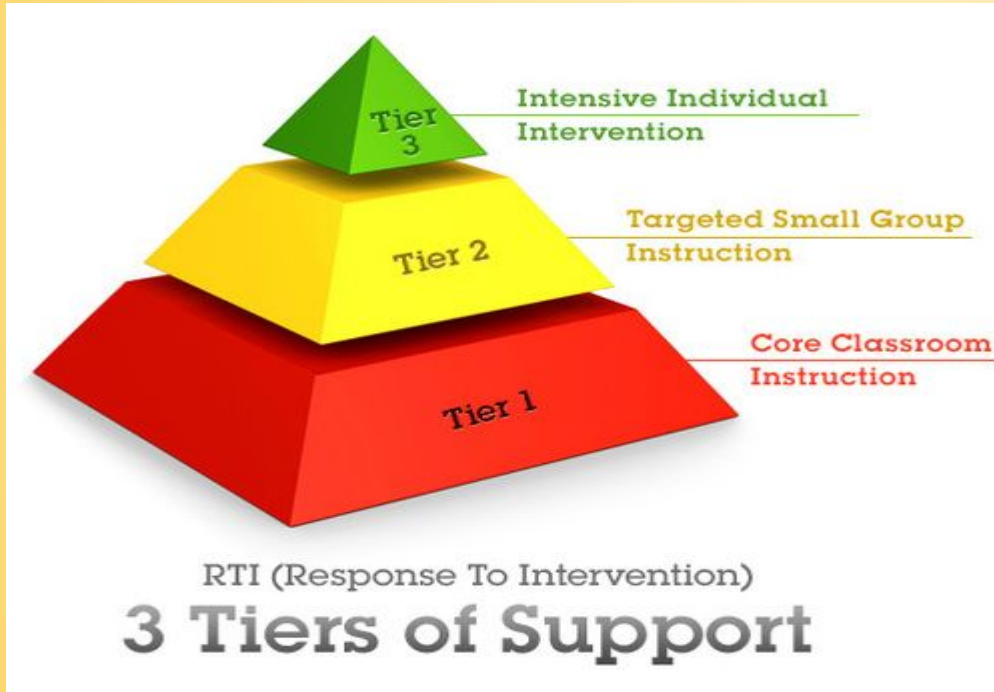
Child Study Team



The Child Study/RTII program is a school - based program. It is NOT a legal agreement between the school and parent, but rather an intervention program to assist students who are struggling in an area.

A student is referred to the team by school staff when he/she is having difficulty with academics. The team (teachers, administration, parents, & sometimes student) gets together to discuss the student's strengths and needs. Then, researched - based interventions are put into place in the regular education classroom to help the student.

WHAT IS CHILD STUDY/RTII?



The team puts Tier 2 & Tier 3 interventions into place to help the student. The student's progress is tracked. If the student is successful, the student will stay in the program until he/she develops the skills to continue successfully on his/her own.

WHAT IS CHILD STUDY/RTII?

Examples of Tier 1 Interventions (School Wide)

- ~ PBIS
- ~ Eagle Feathers/Bucks
- ~ Clip System in the Classroom

Examples of Tier 2 Interventions

- ~ Assisted practice of skills
- ~ Differentiated skilled groups in the classroom
- ~ Re-enforcement with teacher

Examples of Tier 3 Interventions

- ~ Individualized behavior plan
- ~ Check in/Check out
- ~ Pulled intervention small groups during intervention time



**KEEP
CALM
AND
PBIS
ON**

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CHILD STUDY/RTII MAY NOT BE ENOUGH?

A child who is suspected of needing more support and who may have a diagnosis is referred for an evaluation to take a look at the child's strengths, needs, and whether they qualify for special education services.



WHAT IS SPECIAL EDUCATION?

Special Education is the practice of educating students with special needs in a way that addresses their individual differences and needs in the least restrictive environment for that individual student. It is governed by Pa Chapter 14 state law & Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA.)



WHAT IS SPECIAL EDUCATION?

In order to qualify for special education, a student must show a significant need for specially and specifically designed instruction and meet the criteria of a disability, as outlined in Chapter 14 of PA state law and the IDEA federal act. The following disability categories have been recognized for school-aged students by the state and by IDEA:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Autism | Deafness | Emotional Disturbance | Hearing Impairment |
| Intellectual Disability | Multiple Disabilities | Orthopedic Impairment | |
| Other Health Impairment | Specific Learning Disability | | |
| Speech/Language | Traumatic Brain Injury | | |

WHAT IS SPECIAL EDUCATION?

Think of special education this way...

It's when a child has a diagnosed disability AND needs to have the curriculum **CHANGED** for them so that they can learn. It's not just for children who may need some extra "help" in the classroom; but rather, in order for them to be successful, they actually need **DIFFERENT** curriculum. That curriculum is outlined in an IEP.



WHAT'S AN IEP?

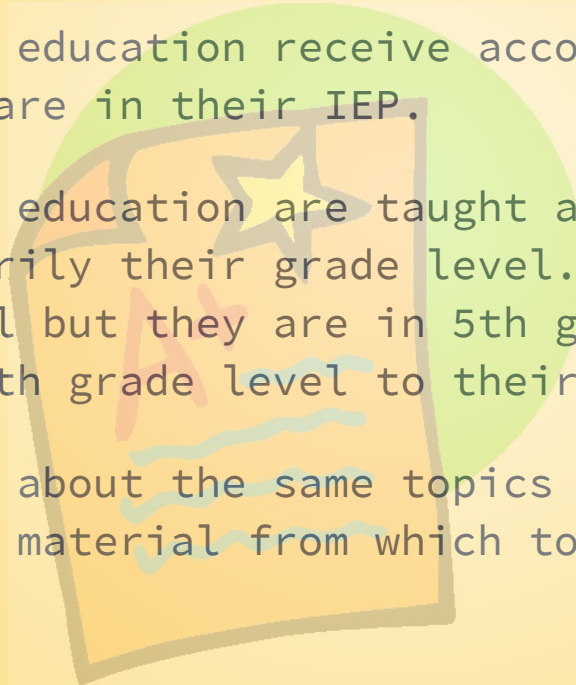
- **IEP's are legal documents.**
 - If something is written in the IEP, it must occur.
 - This includes all accommodations & modifications.
- Each student in the special education program has an IEP. This document highlights the student's strengths, needs, and progress towards their individualized goals. All services documented in the IEP are provided by the school and are free of charge to the student's parent/guardian.
- PHCS ensures that each student's individualized needs are addressed by following and monitoring each student's IEP. Specific services for students vary and are specific to each student's needs.

WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPECIAL EDUCATION & GRADES?

Students in special education receive accommodations & modifications that are in their IEP.

Students in special education are taught at their instructional level & not necessarily their grade level. (If a child is reading at a 2nd grade level but they are in 5th grade, material will be modified from the 5th grade level to their instructional level.)

Students will learn about the same topics as their classmates but will have different material from which to learn



WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPECIAL EDUCATION & GRADES?

Students in special education are graded on their work and participation.

This means, though, that their grades are a reflection of their individualized curriculum in the core subject areas such as math, reading, social studies, and science.

Thus, report cards reflect the student's individual progress and work completion in regards to their individualized goals in the IEP.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT HAS A DISABILITY BUT DOES NOT NEED SPECIALLY DESIGNED INSTRUCTION / A CHANGE IN CURRICULUM?

- A student may have a disability and may need assistance.
- If this is the case, the student can receive a 504 evaluation to determine if the student needs a 504 plan.



WHAT IS A 504 PLAN?

A 504 Plan is a plan for a student with a disability who needs accommodations and modifications in the regular education program.

It is a legal document that falls under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to assist in stopping discrimination against people with disabilities.

People with both physical and mental health disabilities may receive a 504 plan.

WHEN IS A 504 PLAN NEEDED?

- A 504 Plan is needed when a student has a disability and needs assistance in the classroom due to activities of a major life event being hindered due to the said disability.
- This means that if a student needs a medical plan or educational accommodations, that student can get a legal plan for which the school is responsible.
- This plan allows the school to add and change the educational environment (within reason) to assist the student and give the student what he or she needs.

INCLUSION is within Everyone's ABILITY

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

