



CARMEL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 15, 2018

JOHN PISCITELLA
Principal

Dear Parent or Guardian,

George Fischer Middle School is currently engaged in a project to clarify and publicize the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) that we use in our school. MTSS is best described as giving children the tools and interventions they need to be both academically and socially/emotionally successful. To this end, our building has adopted the following MTSS mission statement:

"George Fischer recognizes that middle school children come to us in many different stages of social, emotional, and academic development. Therefore, we aim to identify the strengths and needs of individual students and provide multi-tiered instruction and interventions to ensure their success."

A large part of achieving success in this area is increasing our parent communication as it pertains to our three-tiered approach to instruction known as the Multi-Tiered System of Support/MTSS. Within the three tiers, students will continue to participate in the core curriculum even if they need the support of Tier 2 or Tier 3 interventions. The Tiers are designed as follows:

- In Tier 1, teachers will use different strategies within the core curriculum to address students' needs.
- In Tier 2, students who are not progressing at a rate that allows them to meet end of year benchmarks in Tier 1 will be provided interventions matched to their needs. Tier 2 interventions take place in a small group and occur for a minimum of six weeks, but may continue as needed to help students succeed in the core program. The MTSS team may make adjustments to the intervention plan based on the student's needs and progress such as: changing the intervention or increasing the frequency, time, or intensity of the intervention.
- In Tier 3, the level of intervention is more intense. Students are placed in smaller groups than in Tier 2 and may receive additional targeted instructional time.

At each Tier, students receiving supplemental instruction/intervention will be monitored frequently to ensure that they are progressing towards meeting grade level expectations. *Please see the diagram on the next page that outlines the current intervention strategies we use at GFMS.* For additional information on MTSS, please visit the New York State Parent Information link at <http://www.nysrti.org> Click link that says "Parents and Family".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Piscitella'.

John Piscitella,
Principal



Cultivating Opportunities



Tier 3

Our most intense supports, often in 1:1 settings. The remaining 5% of students should be successful using these strategies.

Tier 2

With the use of more intense techniques, another 15% of our student population should be successful. While classroom teachers can employ some of the interventions, it is more likely that these students will require a "pull-out" setting with smaller class sizes and more intensive teaching and behavioral practices.

Tier 1

With the use of differentiated instruction and classroom management techniques, 80% of our student population should be successful within the classroom environment. Teachers employ a variety of teaching and classroom management "best practices" to ensure this rate of success.