A FREE CSAS LEADERSHIP TOOL | TEN MINUTES

The Tier 1 Health Check

Your intervention list is not a list of struggling students; it is a report card on Tier 1. Ten minutes: the rule, the leak signs, and the five questions that locate the gap.

SCHOOL	COMPLETED BY	DATE

Step 1: Read your number

STUDENTS ENROLLED	STUDENTS FLAGGED FOR INTERVENTION	PERCENTAGE FLAGGED

THE 20 TO 25 PERCENT RULE

MTSS is built on a proportion: strong Tier 1 meets the needs of roughly 75 to 80 percent of students, so intervention stays small, skill-targeted, and genuinely intensive for the 20 to 25 percent who need more. When 40, 50, or 60 percent land on the list, the arithmetic collapses.

Step 2: Check for the three leak signs

- ☐ **The same gap, everywhere.** When half a grade needs help with the same decoding skills, that is not fifty individual learning problems. That is one instructional gap, photographed fifty times.
- ☐ **Intervention that never shrinks.** Healthy systems graduate students: groups move every six to eight weeks and the list gets shorter by spring. A list that only grows is backfilling a leak.
- ☐ **Interventionists reteaching the core.** If intervention groups deliver grade-level first instruction rather than targeted skill work, your most expensive staff are doing Tier 1's job in a smaller room.

THE READING

Your number at 25 percent or below with no leak signs: protect Tier 1. Above 25 percent, or any sign checked: the leak is in the core, and the fix runs core first.

STEP 3

The five questions that locate the gap

1 **What percentage of students met benchmark through core instruction alone, by grade?** The grade with the lowest number is where the walk starts.

ANSWER

2 **What skill gap repeats across classrooms, and can you name it specifically?** A gap you cannot name is a gap you cannot teach.

ANSWER

3 **Since the last screening window, did the intervention list shrink, hold, or grow?**

☐ Shrank ☐ Held ☐ Grew

4 **What actually happens inside intervention groups: targeted skill work, or the core retaught in a smaller room?** Listen for ten minutes first.

ANSWER

5 **Can you find the protected daily foundational skills block on every master schedule?** If you cannot find the minutes, neither can students.

☐ Yes, every schedule ☐ Some schedules ☐ No

STEP 4, THE CORE-FIRST MOVE: THE MOVE, ITS OWNER, AND ITS START DATE

Read your number with us

A 30-minute strategy call, no obligation.

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