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5C - Using PBIS to Build Staff Capacity for De-escalating Student Behaviors

Presenters:

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Bob Putnam, May Institute (MA);
Meagan Dwyer, Special Education District of Lake County (IL);
Joyce West & Amber Casavant, Gardner Public School District (MA)

- Oct 27, 2023
- Topics: Classroom PBIS
- Keywords: Discipline, Alternative Settings, Behavior





5C Learning Objectives

- Understand how the essential elements of PBIS (Systems, Practices, and Data) are organized to prevent and respond to disruptive behavior
- Understand how the phases of de-escalation are defined as related to student behavior, brain functioning, trauma, and equity
- Learn how to support staff by developing consistent deescalation routines, aligned with your current PBIS framework



As you get seated, Please read and reflect on why you are here today

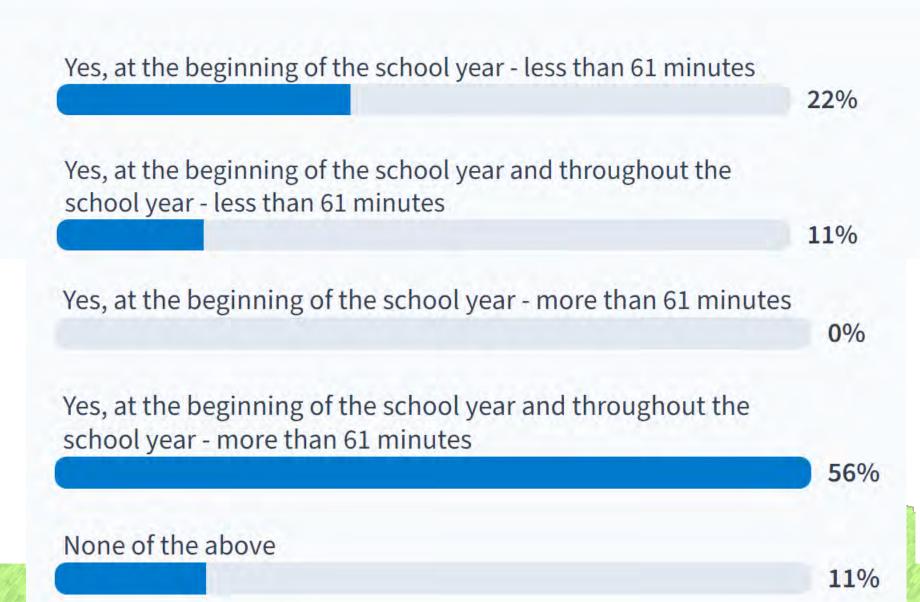
- Sydney is having a mental breakdown in a special education classroom when the 9-year-old girl tries but fails to pelt a police officer with a cracker.
- "Not very good aim," responds the officer... the police department in South St. Paul, Minnesota, called in for backup that day by school staff.
- "What are you going to do?" the brash fourth-grader spits back before taking another shot.
- Sydney, a victim of child abuse and neglect, suffers from multiple disorders and, as a result, struggles to regulate her behavior and emotions. She fell into an hours-long fit of rage after not wanting to go to Spanish class, including wielding a pair of scissors, throwing a chair against a classroom window and biting and kicking her teacher. She landed blows on several of the adults in the room and by the time the cops arrived, school staff had already restrained Sydney in an effort to deescalate the situation.
- "If you get it into my mouth, I'll eat it," the officer tells the overwrought girl in an exchange that student disabilities experts saw as taunting, and one called "really disturbing."
- Sydney throws two more crackers before she climbs onto a high cabinet, rips a speaker off the wall and flings it to the ground. At this moment, it seems most likely the student could hurt herself, yet it isn't until she scampers down and jabs a SMART Board with a marker that the adults move in.
- As teachers press down on her arms and shoulders, two police officers join in. The officers hold Sydney to the carpet by her kneecaps as she tries to break free, squirming and whimpering in distress. Eventually, she lets go of the marker, stops resisting and her 75-pound body goes limp.

 Published: March 3, 2022. The 74Million

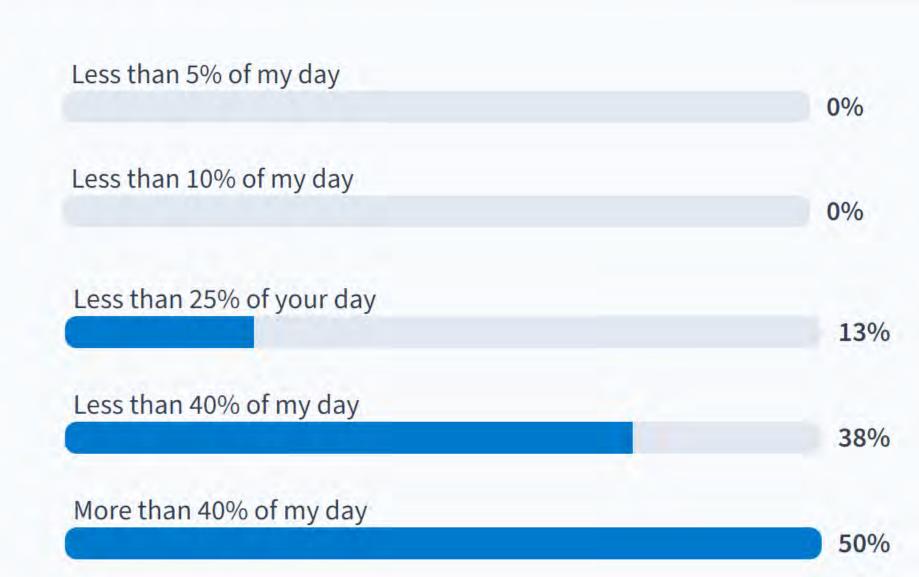
How much time do you spend preventing problem behavior vs. responding to problem behavior?



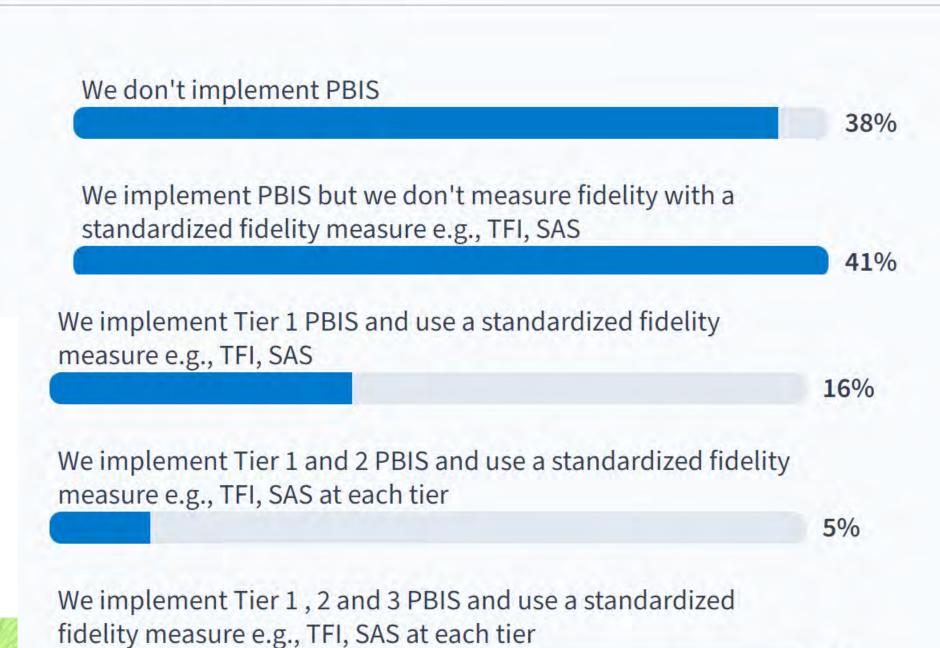
Do you provide faculty wide training on the de-escalation of challenging behavior?



If you are a behavioral responders (e.g. having a walkie talkie) how much time on the average do you spend responding, completing paper work, and following up (6 hour day)



How well do you implement PBIS?



Improving Tier 3 Implementation and Outcomes in a High-Needs School

This brief summarizes a model demonstration examining the impact of both (a) improved Tier 3 implementation fidelity, as measured by Tiered Implementation Fidelity (TFI) and the Self-Assessment Survey (SAS) 4.0, and (b) an improved implementation of individual behavior support practices in a high-needs elementary school in a rural area in the northeast. The information learned from this model demonstration may assist others working in and supporting schools in similar settings.

Students with Disabilities Mental Health/Social-Emotional-Behavioral Well-Being Topic(s):

Published: July 31, 2023 July 31, 2023 Revised:

Keywords: Assessment Behavior FBA/BIP/BSP Fidelity Intensive Tier 3

Suggested St. Joseph, S., Putnam, R., Racine, J., West. J., & Casavant, A. (July, 2023). Improving Tier 3 Implementation and Citation:

Outcomes in a High-Needs School. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org.



Evaluation Briefs: PDF

https://www.pbis.org/resource/improving-tier-3-implementation-and-outcomes-in-a-high-needs-school



Yesterday's Presentation at this Forum

3H - Scaling Up Tier 3: A Model Demonstration

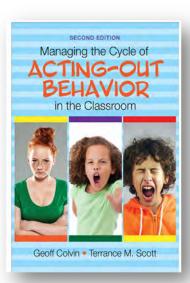
Stephanie St. Joseph & Bob Putnam, May Institute (MA); Amber Casavant, Gardner Public Schools (MA)



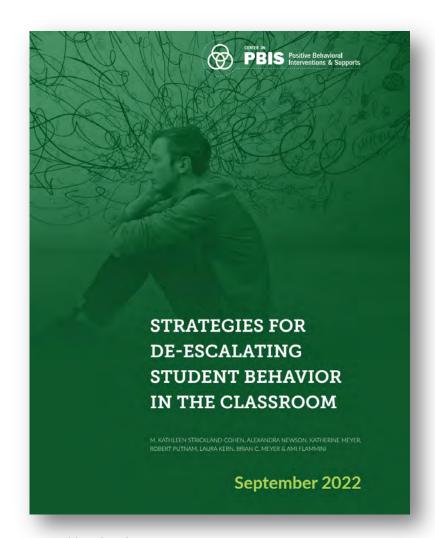


THANK YOU

- Katherine Strickland-Cohen (UO), Katherine Meyer (Uconn), Bob Putnam (May Institute), Laura Kern (USF), Brian Meyer & Ami Flammini (MWPBIS)
- Terry Scott, University of Louisville
- Cindy Anderson, University of Oregon
- Rob Horner, University of Oregon
- Loman, Strickland-Cohen, Borgmeier, & Horner, 2013



Colvin, G., & Scott, T. M. (2015).
Managing the
Cycle of Acting-Out
Behavior in the
classroom, Second
Edition. Thousand
Oaks: Corwin A
SAGE Company.



Strickland-Cohen, m.K., Newson, A., Meyer, K., Putnam, R., Kern, L., Meyer, B. C., & Flammini, A. (September 2022). **Strategies for De-escalating Student Behavior in the Classroom**. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org

https://www.pbis.org/resource/strategies-for-de-escalating-student-behavior-in-the-classroom

What do we think went wrong in Sydney's case?

Poor Policy

Missing Professional Development

Stigma of "Mental Health"

Ineffective

Practices

Lack of

Family

Inconsistency

Adult

Not "Predicting and Preventing" / Data-based Decision

Making

Engagement

Relying on Police to

De-escalate

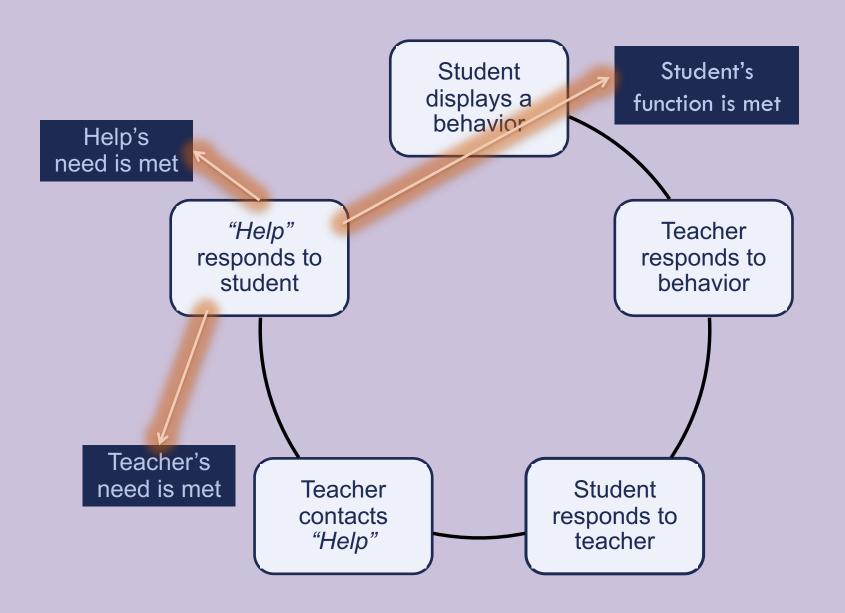
Low Staff Confidence

Relying on Administrator to

Low Staff Competence

De-escalate

The "Crisis Cycle" in a school



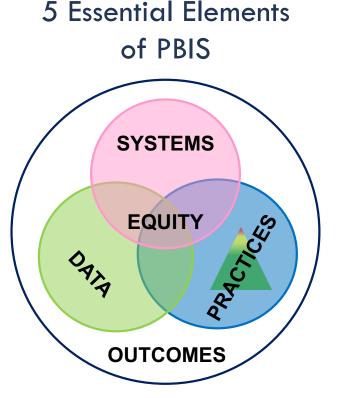
Problems with current approaches to de-escalation

- X Misuse of restraint/seclusion
- X Bad policies -or- Policy without supports
- X Inconsistent adults
- X Only focusing on interventions
- X More about responding, less prevention
- X Over reliance on "referral" logic
- X Complicated for staff
- X Blame



Q: How would you conceptualize de-escalation within the PBIS framework?

PBIS organizes your school, and integrates your initiatives, to achieve desired **outcomes** through understanding your **data**, implementing a continuum of **practices**, supporting staff through **systems**, and prioritizing **equity**.



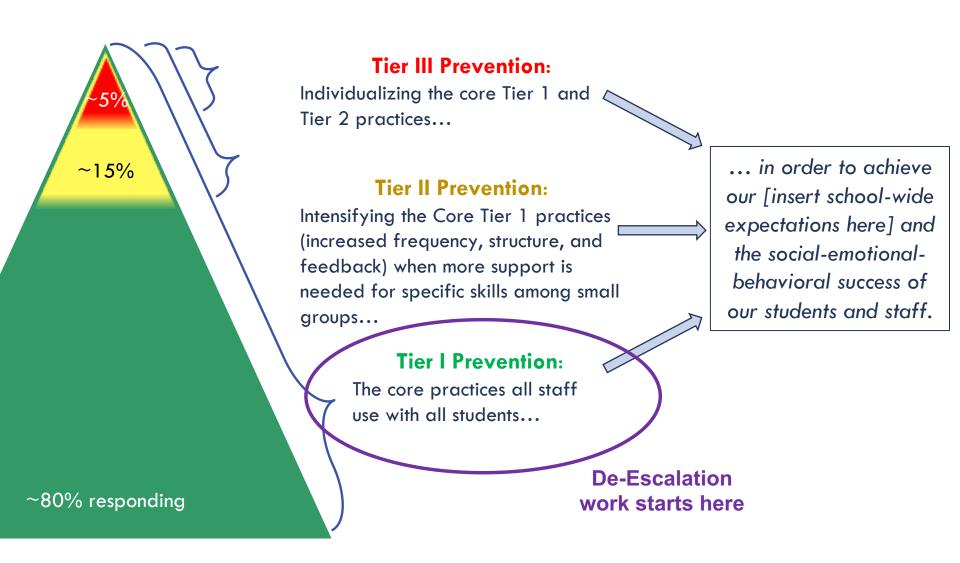


Advantages of a PBIS Framework

- Promotes effective decision making
- Improves climate & learning environment
- Changes adult behavior
- Reduces punitive approaches
- Evaluates effectiveness of current practices
- Improves student academic performance



Multi-Tiered Practices means...



Getting Started: Align and simplify your CURRENT multitiered practices into FOUR Phases of De-Escalation

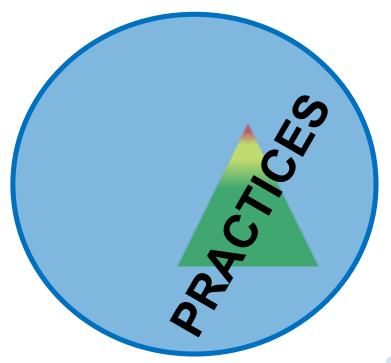
Phase 1: Prevention

Phase 2: Escalation

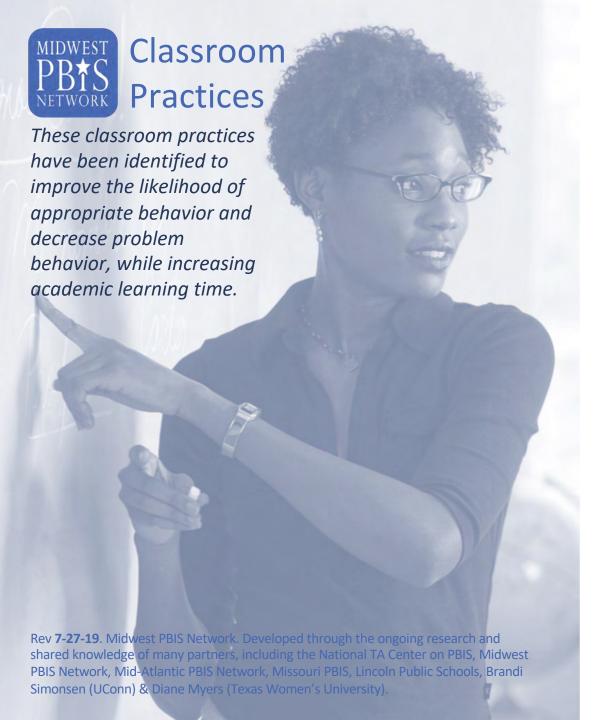
Phase 3: Crisis

Phase 4: Recovery

& Restoration







6 Classroom Practices

- 1. Physical environment
- 2. Establish Expectations, Rules, Routines (i.e. Classroom Teaching Matrix)
- 3. Active Supervision
- 4. Encouraging Appropriate Behavior Strategy examples:
 - Direct instruction of expectations, rules, routines
 - Preventative Prompts
 - Specific Praise for Behavior
 - Individual Reinforcers
 - Class-Wide Group Contingency
- 5. Continuum of Responses for Inappropriate Behaviors

 Strategy examples:
 - Praise other students/groups
 - Specific Error Correction
 - Regulate, Relate, Reason
 - Etc.
- 6. Engagement & Opportunities to Respond



Youth

Behavior

MIDWEST PB†S	De-Escalation	Matrix
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Prevention

Calm

Recovery & Restoration

(C&S,2015)The Brain Regulated **Active Supervision** Teacher **Encouraging App. Practices Behavior:** Instruction of behavior • Instruction of regulation routines • Specific Praise Individual Reinforcers • Group Contingencies • Proactive Circles (RP) **Academic Engagement** & Opp to Respond Routines Y: Regulation Routines Y: Relationship Routines Adult/Youth Y: Self-Awareness Routines YOUTH INTENSITY Installation and fidelity **Systems** of classroom practices

Agitation Acceleration Regulated or Dysregulated Continuum of **Strategies** to Respond to **Inappropriate Behavior:** Physical Proximity Signal Praise behavior in others Praise approximations • Specific Error Correction Prompt use of regulation. routines · Etc.

Escalation

Y: Accept Feedback Routine Y: Regulation Routines A: Self-Regulation Routine Classroom Practices

Staff Self-Care

Y: Regulation Routine A: Safety Routine A: Crisis Routine A: Self-Regulation Routine

Crisis

Peak

Dysregulated

Safety Routine

Safety Procedures

De-escalation Recovery

Regulated

Crisis Support Recovery Practices Routine

Regulate

• Use of regulation routine

Relate (Connect with youth)

Specific Praise

Reason

- Affective Questions (RP)
- Instruction of Behavior
- Restore/Restitution

A: Re-integration Routine

Data Collection/ **Document** Post-Event Analysis/ **FBA**



YOUR **Classroom**Teaching Matrix

Teaching all youth regulation routines is Tier 1

The	Classroom	Classroom 214 Routines rev 8-15-23						
Williams HS Way	214 Rules (Examples)	Welcome	Group Work	Online		When you feel upset	Low to Transition	
Raise handTrack the speakerFollow	 Say "good morning" to teacher and classmates 	• Listen to your peers Example R	• Consider feelings of outine	e I	 Stop; take slow deep breath Signal use of Regulation Routine 	Clean up your area		
Killa	directions		from School's Curriculum How to Calm Down					
Responsible	 Walk quietly Keep hands and feet to self 	 Put personatel belongings designated areas Take your set 	Can Can	124		 Scan body Use regulation strategy (e.g., How to Calm Down) Re-scan body 	 Stand, Push in your Chair Or, listen for direction to next activity 	
Achieving	Stay on taskOffer to helpApologize for mistakes		Stop- use your	down:	k re	 Express feelings with I statements Ask for break or more support as needed 	Eyes on meWait to be called	
Teacher's Role (Conditions for Learning)	Supervise all areas of classroom	Greet Studen warmly Bell to bell activity posted	small group activities	breathe count use positive self-talk second-114:	ce ly	Practice regulation routine 2x/week; whole group at neutral time	Teach, practice, reinforce transitions	



Know what triggers you (it takes two to argue)

What is it?

Efforts by a youth following an error correction, to avoid something or get something. May also be a flight-fight-freeze trauma response.

Why does it work?

These behaviors push the buttons of the adult; adults become dysregulated. Adults take the behavior personally. Students learn to keep doing the behaviors when they are successful.

Acceleration Behaviors¹:

1. Badgering

"please, please, please, please?"

2. Intimidation

 Temper tantrums, aggression, threats

3. Threat

• "I'm going to run away"

4. Martyrdom

• "Why do you hate me?"

5. Butter Up

• "You are my favorite teacher"

6. Physical*

• Fighting, property damage

¹Phelan, T. W. (1995). 1-2-3 Magic: Effective discipline for children. Glen Ellyn, IL

Response Strategies*

A) Ignore the "content" of the behavior

 Do not respond to the youth tactic.

B) Teach to the original behavior/Stay on topic

- Specific Error Correction
- Reminder of regulation routine
- Offer space and/or time Use Crisis Teaching if the behavior continues or escalates.
- C) [As needed] Use your own previously practiced self-regulation routine



Big IdeasPrevention & Escalation Phases

Are these strategies new?

Are they being implemented?

Are they implemented with fidelity?

Are they working?

How do you know?

Practice "Avoiding Content" when addressing accelerated behaviors



This is how we know!

Audit of Current Social Emotional Behavioral Supports



10/24 walk-through; 92% in place 11/4 self-report: 72% in place	10/24 84% of students knew the expectations, and could point to the rules	
11/4 self-report: 72% in place		
	11/21: 18% reduction in behaviors related to the previous skill of the week (SWIS data)	
9/30 peer-observation: 54% in place	9/30: 12% of students earned an ODR in past 30 days	
We haven't		
10/5 direct observation tool; 86% avg	10/5 Duration of crisis events decreased by 21% compared to prev year at this time.	
10/15 CICO-FIM 83%; 87% Student Questionnaires	10/15: 73% on CICO earned goal	
r you from this activity?		
	10/5 direct observation tool; 86% avg 10/15 CICO-FIM 83%; 87% Student Questionnaires	

Crisis

Youth **Behavior** (C&S,2015)

The Brain

Teacher **Practices**

Routines Adult/Youth

A: Safety Routine A: Crisis Routine

Systems

Safety Procedures

Peak

Dysregulated

Crisis Support Routine

Safety Routine

Y: Regulation Routine

A: Self-Regulation Routine

Dysregulation



Student needs support to regulate their behavior and emotions.

Student is unable to follow simple instruction.



What teachers can do

- o Use the established Crisis Support Routine
- o Follow the established Safety Routine



What PBIS Teams can do





Crisis Support Routine

What is it?

An adult routine to help staff stay regulated, maintain patience, ensure consistent adult implementation, and support students in behavioral crisis/dysregulation to regain self-control.

Midwest PBIS Network 4/1/22





Example Crisis Support Routine

Step 1: Regulate [choose one]:
Praise approximations -or- i.e. Praise any component of behavior
Non-Verbal prompt of regulation routine -or- Previously taught and practiced
Offer time and space
Step 2: Relate to Student [choose one]:
☐ Sincere words of empathy (brief) -or-
☐ Express concern (brief)
Focus on overall SW expectations (e.g. Be Safe);
Limit attention to inappropriate behavior
Step 3: Simple Instruction
One simple instruction to assess regulation
Focus on what student should do, rather than stop doing





Crisis Support Routine What does it look or sound like?

- 1. "Good job lowering your voice"
- 2. "I know this can be hard"
- 3. "A good decision is to put your hands at your side
 - 1. Non-Verbal [Staff demonstrate filling lungs and slow exhale to a count of four]
 - 2. I want to help you Be Safe"
 - 3. "Show me you understand and step down from the table"

- 1. Offer time and space [Non-Verbal or Verbal]
- 2. "You are staring out the window and seem frustrated
- 3. "Can you show me the square breathing routine we use?





Crisis Phase Big Ideas

- ☐ Establish a SIMPLE **Crisis Support Routine** for Adults to follow
- ☐ Establish a consistent **Safety Routine**
- Practice
- Decision Rules Needed:
 - When is a student considered in crisis? (e.g. "not responding to three Specific Error Corrections in a row")
 - When is a student considered starting recovery? (e.g. "starting to follow simple neutral instructions 3 times")
 - Consequences/amends are not discussed during phase



Recovery & Restoration

Youth Behavior (C&S,2015)

The Brain

Teacher Practices

TOUR WIE

Reason

Regulate

vouth)

Affective Questions (RP)

De-escalation

Recovery

Regulated

Recovery Practices

• Use of regulation routine

Relate (Connect with

Specific Praise

- Instruction of Behavior
- Restore/Restitution

Routines
Adult/Youth

A: Re-integration Routine

Systems

Data Collection/
Document
Post-Event Analysis/
FBA

De-escalation and Reconnection



Student is able to regulate and reintegrate back into the classroom



What teachers can do

- Assessing regulation by ability to follow simple neutral instruction
- Regulate/Relate/Reason:
 - Restorative Questions
 - Restorative Circle
- o Document data; Debrief with team

(Perry, 2013)



What PBIS Teams can do



Recovery & Restoration Big Ideas

- ☐ Check your regulation
- Welcome student
- ☐ Teach/Practice skills
- ☐ Restorative Conversation/Circle?
- ☐ Build Relationships



Exemplar from SEDOL Who We Are...

- Public Therapeutic Day School in Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL)
- Services two programs: Shaping Appropriate Behavior and ED Alt.
- Average 60-70 students in total, from 31 member districts
- Year 5 of implementation with PBIS, All 3 Tiers



What We Learned...

- Intentional Training in De-escalation is an absolute must
 - We could not rely on NCI/CPI to be enough
- Communicating on the stage of the Brain helps drive the approach
- Identifying when "in crisis" was individualized if the student was requiring higher level of support (Tier 3)
- Change is slow and steady, it took time to see the results

What We Did...

To comply with Public Act 102-0339: ISBE requires anyone who has used ITO/TO/PR in the last 3 years to have 8 hours of training in 5 areas, Crisis De-Escalation as one

- -We adapted the PBIS materials to meet our population and culture/climate
- -The staff abandoned in-person training and moved to virtual mini-lessons
 - *We <u>used short videos</u>, released on Sundays to coach on practices
 - *Teachers committed to having team conversations with the support staff and completed activities based on the videos to engage conversations
 - *Tier 1 Team is working on fidelity checks and ensuring we are following using the tools



What We Are Working On...

"GLS" School (IL), PBIS Framework for organizing De-Escalation

DEESCALATION PHASES	Before time with students	Prevention	Problem Behaviors	Crisis	Recovery	After time with students
→ Students	students	"Calm"	"Agitation Acceleration"	"Peak"	"De-Escalation Recovery"	
PRACTICES						
Core Classroom Practices	*Trauma Awareness *Adult Wellness	*Active Supervision *Encouraging Appropriate Behavior *Engagement & Opportunities to Respond	*Continuum of Strategies to Respond to Inappropriate Behavior	*Crisis Teaching Routine	*Recovery Routine	*Adult Wellness
Ukeru/ NCI/ CPI	*Trauma Awareness		*Supportive *Directive (Verbal Escalation Continuum)	*Use of blocking mats	*Therapeutic Rapport (COPING model)	*Debrief
DATA	- Monthly Team review of intervention/ systems data					Incident Referral Documentation
SYSTEMS	Monthly Team Meeting *ALSUP	*Create Plan B with student	*Use Plan B	- Coaching (Crisis Teaching Routine)		Incident debrief by student team
	- Training (Trauma Awareness *Adult Wellness					(Adult Wellness)

How it's Helped our Students...

- Our students are increasing their use of coping skills with physical aggressive behaviors
 - 2022/23 SY= 359 physical restraints
 - 2023/24 SY= 59 physical restraints, 29 referrals
- Crisis are becoming more predictable and quiet for students



Gardner Elementary Case Example: Strategies for De-escalating Behavior



National PBIS Leadership Forum
October 26-27, 2023
Robert Putnam - May Institute
Amber Casavant - MTSS/PBIS District Coordinator

Gardner Public Schools



Who We Are

Gardner Public Schools



Student enrollment: 2400

4 Schools:

Elementary PK-4
Middle School 5-7
High School 8-12
Alternative School 9-12



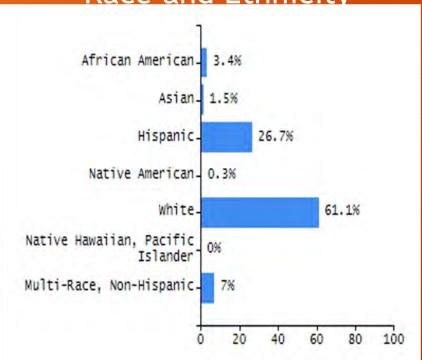




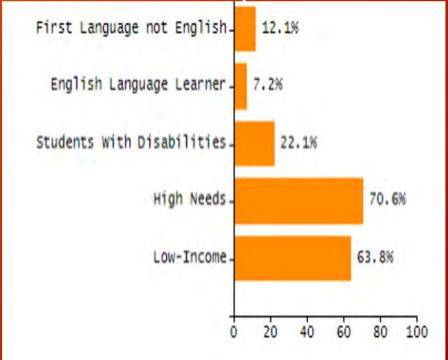
Student Demographics



Race and Ethnicity



Selected Populations



Baseline Annual Strategies/Interventions for Deescalation Prior to MTSS/PBIS



Escalation/Crisis

Mandatory Training All Staff - 1st week school (physical proximity, verbal de-escalation, safety procedures, crisis support, district policies/protocols)

Escalation/Crisis/Recovery

Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training to all Admin and sub separate program staff - 1st week of school and ongoing refreshers as needed

	Recovery &		
Prevention	Escalation	Crisis	Restoration

20-21 & 21-22 Strategies/Interventions for Deescalation with MTSS/PBIS



Continued with Escalation/Crisis/Recovery and Added

Prevention and Increased Escalation Strategies

- **Active Supervision**
- **Encouraging Appropriate Behavior**
- Core Elements of PBIS
- Calm Corners and Take a Break for Staff
- Data Based Decision Making SWIS

De-Escalation Recovery & Prevention Escalation Crisis Restoration









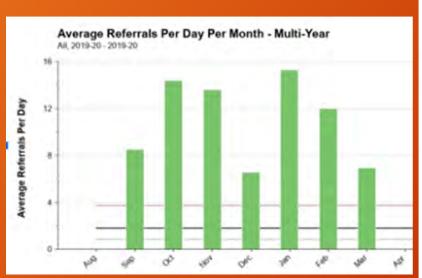
Initial Outcomes

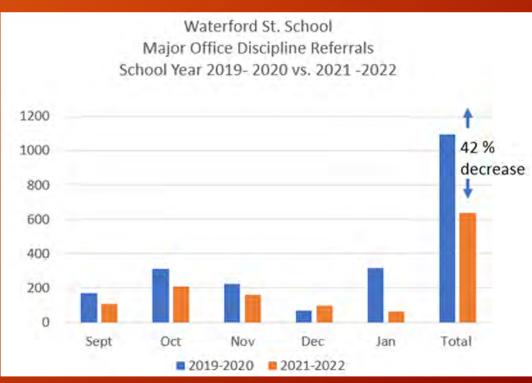


Following 20-21 & 21-22 Strategies and Interventions with MTSS/PBIS

Decreasing Exclusionary Practices

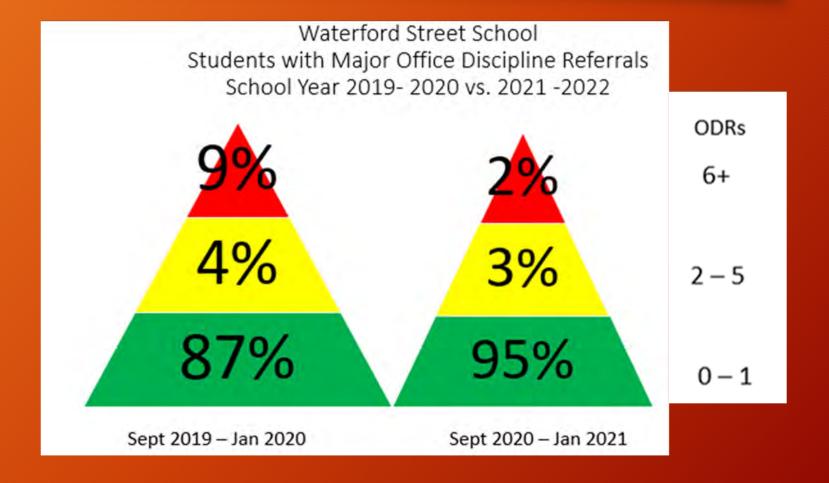






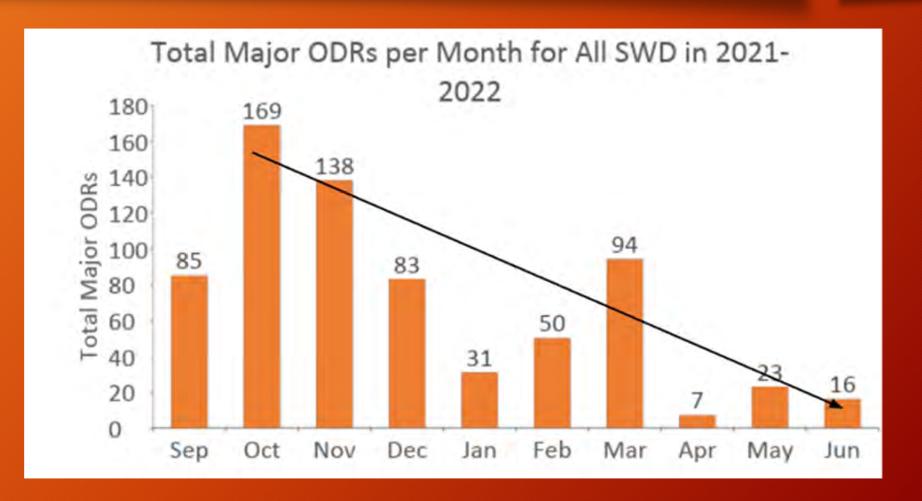
Distribution of ODR's





Decrease in ODR's for SWD





Improvement in Restraint Data Elementary Schools Combined





22-23 SY Unintended Reversal: Return to Baseline



MTSS/PBIS Strategies and Interventions were no longer in place with <u>FIDELITY</u>

WHY? 22-23 Context and Variables



- Two Elementary Schools merged into one over 1,000 students grades preK-4
- Annual 1st week of PD for all staff not completed for prevention PBIS/MTSS
- Two teams of mental health staff/admin merged into one team
- Physical environment of new school posed safety risks for students eloping/bolting

22-23 SY Return to Baseline



Prevention Strategies No longer in place (PBIS/MTSS trainings did not occur at start of school year, not in place with fidelity)

	De-Escalation		
Prevention	Escalation	Crisis	Recovery & Restoration

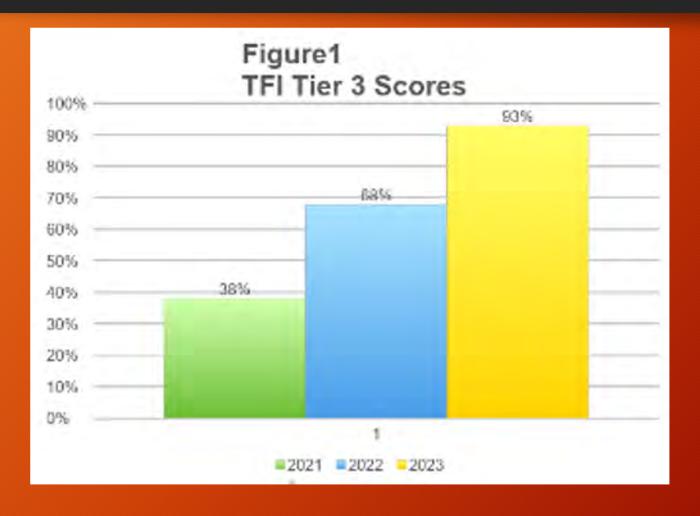
Change in Outcomes 22-23SY



Following Unintended Reversal (i.e. MTSS/PBIS Prevention Strategies/Supports no longer in place with FIDELITY)

Tier 3 Fidelity of Implementation Improvements



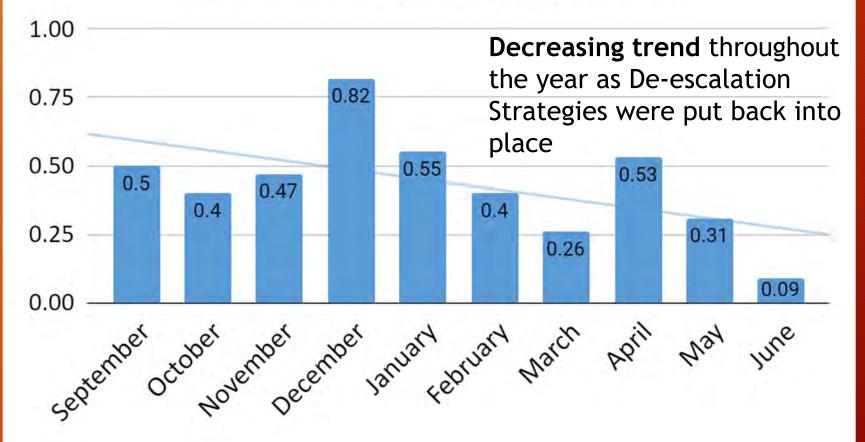


Increased focus on MTSS/PBIS Tier 3 - TFI Scores increased by 55% since 2021

Restraint Data 22-23 SY Improvements in Frequency throughout the year



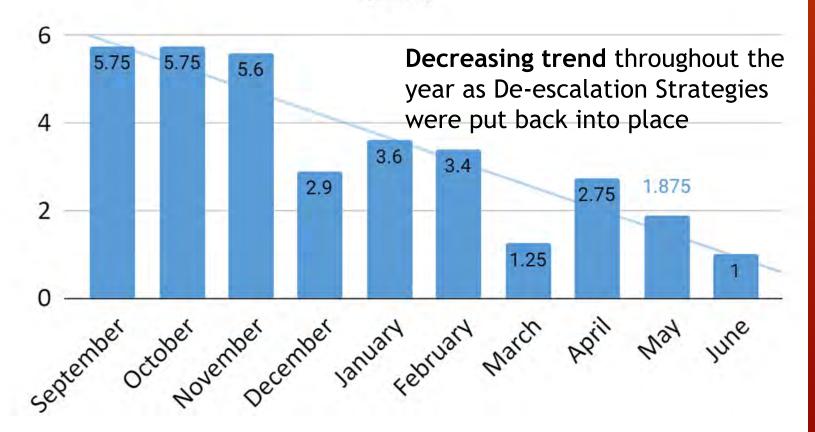
GES 22-23 SY Average # Restraints Whole School per day per month (total/number of school days in the month)



Restraint Data 22-23 SY Improvements in **Duration** throughout the year



GES 22-23SY Restraint Average Duration (Minutes) Per Restraint, Per Month



23-24 SY Return to Intervention



Learning From Mistakes - Continuous Improvement MTSS/PBIS Strategies/Supports In place with <u>FIDELITY</u>

23-24 Strategies/Interventions for De-escalation



Prevention focus with MTSS/PBIS core elements back in place at start of school year



23-24 Additional MTSS/PBIS Prevention Strategies/Interventions





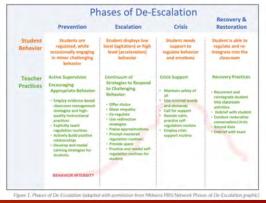
Trauma Informed Care and Compassionate ABA Training(s) for all staff



All PBIS coaches trained in additional de-escalation

strategies presented in today's PD

- ♦ 4 Phases of de-escalation
- ◆ Calm/Regulated /Staff Self Management
- Vulnerable Decision Points
- Neutralizing Routines
- Reframing





PBIS coaches created PD plan for training all staff in additional de-escalation at 1st Coaches Meeting 10/2 to be rolled out at November ½ day PD at all schools

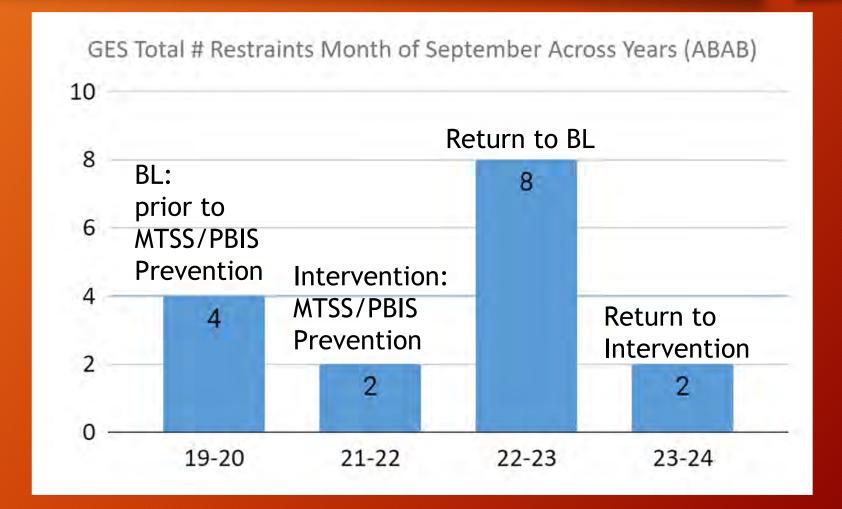
23-24 SY Preliminary Outcome Data



Return to Intervention

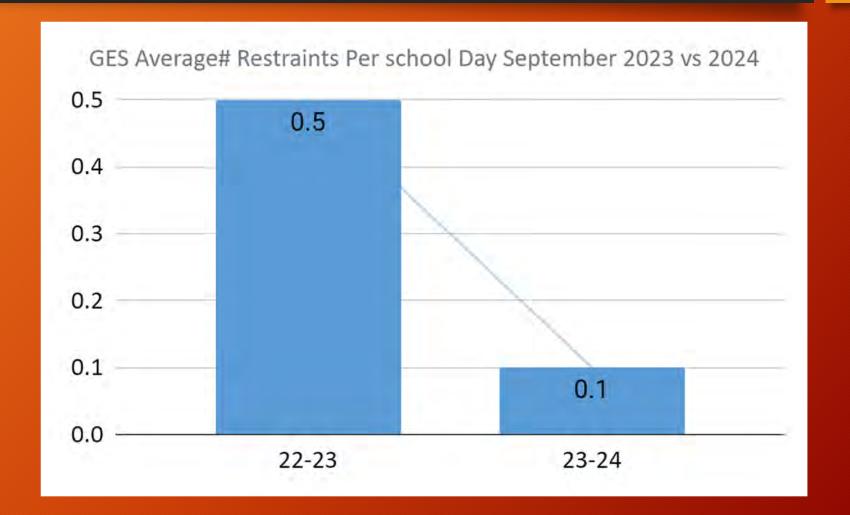
Restraint Data (September) Across Years: ABAB





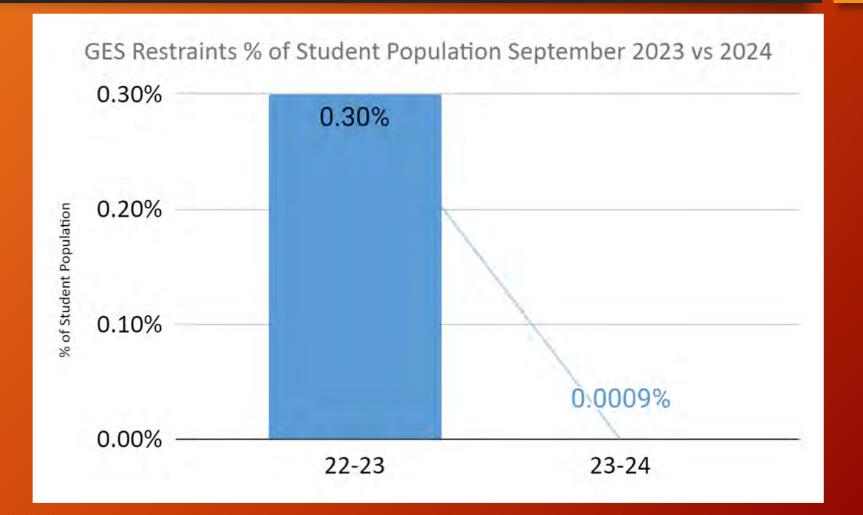
Current Restraint Data (September) Avg per School Day





Current Restraint Data (September) % Student Population





Takeaways



- ★ Focus on Prevention (tier 1 level PBIS/MTSS) for de-escalation strategies/routines at the Classroom Level
- ★ Focus on Staff de-escalation/regulation as well as Students
- ★ Anytime you can create SW expected routines for de-escalation strategies and work on fidelity of those routines

Q & A

- What has reinforced your thinking?
- What has challenged your thinking?



Please Complete this Session's Evaluation

10/27/2023

Session ID- 5C - Using PBIS to Build Staff Capacity for De-escalating Student Behaviors

Four options, pick one!

1. Mobile App

Click "Take Survey" under the session description. 2. QR Code Scan the code on this slide.



3. Online

Click on the link located next to the downloadable session materials posted online at:

www.pbis.org/conferenceand-presentations/pbisleadership-forum

4. Direct Link

Click the link provided in the email reminder you receive after your session ends.



After you submit each session evaluation, click the link to enter the **gift card raffle**!

Evaluations are **anonymous**! We send reminder emails to all participants.